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MARIETTA MAVROKORDATOU THE ALREADY PICTURES

October 26, 2024 – December 18, 2024 Wednesday four – eight p.m., Saturday two – six p.m. and by appointment

> opening concurrently with Marietta Mavrokordatou: Tour Life at Radio Athènes (Petraki 15)

The Already Pictures consists of a series of digital photographs, each titled Eye, 2024, featuring glass marbles arranged in pairs. Each marble is positioned in front of another, allowing a view of one marble inside the other. This arrangement mirrors the alignments found in the game where players shoot marbles into a circle to knock others out, occurring before each turn; the fields of view of both the photographer and the player align. It also resembles an eye—a disembodied eye that floats freely, akin to a photographic lens detached from its camera, with no fixed perspective, making its orientation—left or right—indistinguishable. Thus, the props intended to be targeted in the game transform into apparently responsive perceivers of the forthcoming strike, as well as perceivers of the photographer and the viewer—all equally interloping, with the still life props capable of their own photographic expression, their own means of defense.

Distortion and refraction—optical effects produced by the marbles—are commonly exploited in the associated still life trope. However, here they are accentuated through the artist's macro lens with a sense of restraint, preserving a semblance of realism despite the unnaturally zoomed-in perspective. Sharp and blurry elements are distributed in unexpected ways, preventing the image from being entirely still or fixed to a single surface. A language of photographic fluidity emerges, where subjects, objects, and their environments hypnotically amalgamate. What remains discernible is the variation of light traveling through each marble composition—sometimes daylight, sometimes artificial. This light intertwines with the room's shifting illumination, dissolving the borders of the photographs and inviting contemplation on where the images might actually conclude.

Existing architecture from the previous exhibition, a series of shutters fixed on the windows to seal out light, is preserved yet reinterpreted by the artist. Several shutters have been retrofitted to open horizontally, allowing natural light to enter in specific ways. These are complemented by added spotlights that mirror the angles of natural light during the day, enabling an allied viewing of the photographs at night. Depending on the position of the viewer or time of day, the absence of ink on the archival pigment prints in the brightest areas reveals shapes unseen on screen through variations in texture, while the satin finish of the paper and ink elsewhere collects natural light in a sensor-like manner. Images register in space as space gently imprints itself on them. An overarching intention begins to emerge, where photography transforms into an epistemological principle through which everything else can be considered—an expression of photographic reverence.

Marietta Mavrokordatou (b. 1996, Cyprus) lives and works in London. Selected exhibitions include: Brunette Coleman, London (2024), wieoftnoch, Karlsruhe (2024), Thkio Ppalies, Nicosia (2023); Felix Gaudlitz, Vienna (2023), and Centralbanken, Oslo (2023).

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WORKS

FIRST ROOM TO THE LEFT clockwise MARIETTA MAVROKORDATOU, EYE, 2024 Archival pigment print, dibond, 60x90 cm

MARIETTA MAVROKORDATOU, UNTITLED(NIGHTTIME), 2024 Installation of spotlights Five PARcan 16 fixtures, cables of varying dimensions, E' colour 1/2 CT Orange ROS light gels

MARIETTA MAVROKORDATOU, UNTITLED(DAYTIME), 2024 Interventions on preexisting architecture by Maya Tounta, part of the exhibition Insect by Christos Tzivelos at Akwa Ibom (2024) MDF panels on hinges

OFFICE clockwise MARIETTA MAVROKORDATOU, EYE, 2024 Archival pigment print, dibond, 60x90 cm

MARIETTA MAVROKORDATOU, UNTITLED(NIGHTTIME), 2024 Installation of spotlights Five PARcan 16 fixtures, cables of varying dimensions, E' colour 1/2 CT Orange ROS light gels

MARIETTA MAVROKORDATOU, EYE, 2024 Archival pigment print, dibond, 60x90 cm MAIN ROOM clockwise from the left MARIETTA MAVROKORDATOU, EYE, 2024 Archival pigment print, dibond, 60x90 cm

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This exhibition was made possible through the generous support of the Republic of Cyprus, Deputy Ministry of Culture and Carved to Flow Foundation.