

Giorgos Tigkas

Beholder

February 10—March 21, 2026

preview: Tuesday 10 February, 6—9 pm

I cannot say with certainty if what Giorgos Tigkas does to materials he finds and uses for his works is an act of appropriation or an act of dissolving appropriation.

In *Beholder*, his first one-person exhibition at Radio Athènes, objects sequestered for decades in an underground garage and in his drawers, resurface: archival photographs of ship holds—double bottoms loaded with iron bars—taken aboard the now defunct *M/V Admiral* in 2005 by a surveyor; a stash of discarded c-prints discovered in 2011 in a photographer's studio; black stereo frames extracted from *M/y Cariño*, built in 1984; cream-colored frames taken from air-conditioning controllers and ventilation units in the same yacht; vaults in dirty gold and metallic orange; a ship's bell.

The sensuous particularities of the collected objects—the glossy Agfa prints of alluring nudes, the shiny, saturated colours of the plastics covering the iron bars, the double-bottom pipes punctured by explosive liquids, the black radio frames with pinholes where knobs once sat, the painterly surfaces of the vaults—lend them a fetishistic significance, but more "magical portal" or "symbolic object", than obsessive commitment to an image. The framing contributes to a shifting construction of subjectivity: the artist's, the models', the onlookers'. In a recent email exchange Tigkas wrote that "framing becomes the central operation. The frame does not simply delimit the image; it actively produces it. Subtle shifts in cropping oscillate between revelation and concealment, exposure and shielding. Visibility is never stable but contingent".

Is he providing a surplus view into histories that were never meant to be preserved? Is he, with each exhibition, slowly scripting sequences for a quasi-documentary?

Bio

Giorgos Tigkas (born 1989) is an artist living and working in Athens, Greece. He initially studied Applied Mathematics and Physical Sciences at the NTUA, Athens and then Architecture at LMU, London.

Recent exhibitions: *Beatrice Bonino: In the main in the more*, curated by Catherine David, with works by Lutz Bacher, Jean-Pierre Bertrand, Matt Browning, Gianni Colombo, Giuseppe Desiato, Marisa Merz, Dieter Roth, and Giorgos Tigkas, Fondation Pernod Ricard, Paris; *Caspar Heinemann | Giorgos Tigkas: Works from the collections of Erling Kagge and Alexander Schröder*, nervi delle volpi, Genova; *The Living*, International Press, Athens (2025); *In and Out of Place. Land after Information 1992 – 2024*, curated by Milan Ther and Dr. Martin Karcher, Kunstverein in Hamburg (2024).