

Mark the date: Vorres Museum, May 30, 2024

Opening night of Allyson Glenn's solo exhibition "***Date with Hermes: journeying between Dreams and Reality***"



Figure 1

I first met Allyson Glenn in the spring of 2016 during her residency at the Vorres Museum. She was excited to be there amid so much contemporary art and magnificent gardens. Her sense of colour took me immediately—colour that came to vibrant life through her surehanded brushstrokes. We talked about art, walked through the Art Athina exhibit at the Tae Kwon Do stadium in Paleo Faliro, and finished our time together with a leisurely dinner in Mikrolimano.

We stayed in touch since then and worked on two exhibitions I curated: the first was titled ***Open Horizons***, an exhibit celebrating the creation of the Canadian Confederation and 75 years of Canada-Greece diplomacy. The artists were Allyson Glenn, Colleen Heslin, and Ron Moppett and the exhibition took place at The Cultural Foundation of Tinos, on the island of Tinos, from August 1 – 20, 2017. Two years later, we worked on a solo exhibition titled ***Passages***, an

exhibition shown at the Cultural Foundation of Tinos, and the Vorres Museum from June 13 to July 14, 2019. The seeds of our current collaboration, i.e., Allyson's focused interest in Greek mythology were sowed then.



Figure 2

Glenn works in a series of paintings and the themes of her work have centered on the examination of our entanglements with humans—identity, migration—nature, and the climate crises. The upcoming exhibition will feature works created between 2020 and 2024, a period of immense social upheavals on the planet. The COVID pandemic, climate crises, wars without an end in sight, and increased societal violence—all drastic changes that have sharpened Allyson's quiet spirituality. Now she dwells longer on our subconscious—collective or private—in search of human solutions. Glenn, an avid reader of Carl Jung, and a fanciful dreamer herself, has spent more time searching for Jungian archetypes in ancient Greek mythology.



Figure 3

Jung is known to have used architecture as a conceptual means to visualize the layers of human consciousness. In her new works, Allyson has increased both the presence of architectural elements and abstract spaces for us, her viewers, and uses the latter to rediscover forgotten archetypes. Like Jung, she has created works full of architectural elements, abodes to seek refuge, and big, empty, abstract spaces to take stock. Allyson Glenn had a dream where Hermes, yes that Hermes, the son of Zeus and most mischievous messenger of the Olympians, took her for a visit to the Metropolitan Museum in New York. She trusted him and a long journey started that transcended geographic and aesthetic

borders. The exhibition is fuelled by literal and imaginative experiences, with physical and tangible depictions of an intangible psyche. The exhibition is titled **“Date with Hermes: journeying between dreams and reality,”** and it opens at the Vorres Museum, in Paiania, Attica, Greece, on May 30th, 2024.

Stay tuned for more news.

Caterina Pizanias, PhD
Exhibition Curator

Works Index

- 01 Date with Hermes, I'm on Fire (diptych, 1st panel), acrylic on canvas, 91 x 50”, 2022
- 02 Needles for Fates, acrylic on canvas, 104 x 65”, 2021
- 03 Entanglement (polyptych, 1st panel), acrylic and oil on canvas, 66 x 90”, 2021