



**A project to promote the qualities of silence in an urban context.**

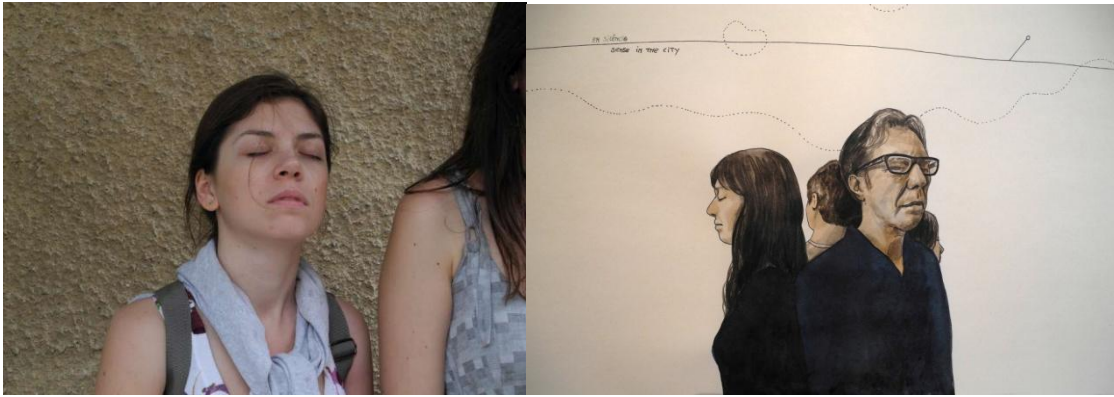
**[ Pilot project at Delphi and Athens Greece, May 2011 ].**

Participating artists and experts: Yiannis Melanitis (Greece) // Rhea Thönges-Stringari (Germany) // Jenny Marketou (US) // George Byron Davos (Italy) // Enrique Tomas (Austria) // TRES (Spain) // Geert Vermeire (Belgium) // Stefaan van Biesen (Belgium)

**[ Curated by the Milena principle ] invited by the Athens School of Fine Arts (ASFA)**

**Workshops, lectures, exhibitions and urban interventions in Athens, May 18<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup> 2011 at the Athens School of Fine Arts in Delphi and Athens, the Goethe Institut Athens and About, cultural centre and art gallery of the CMCP (Centre for Music, Composition and Performance) Athens.**





Our project departs out of the experience and importance of urban silence and the connection between space and silence.

Silence is connected with all domains of urban and contemporary life through economy, ecology, culture, welfare, education, justice and health care in a process which is socially integrated and transgressing.

In this project we focus on the experience of urban silence in a broad and multidisciplinary perspective.

The pilot of this project tries to involve young people in the making of and creating of (urban) silence. Approaching silence will explore silence in the city. The project will be developed in three stages:

### I. Sharing silence

Workshops, discussions and artistic performances exploring the relationship between city, space, silence and art. These activities are within our intention to start an Academy of Silence, a place for meetings/conferences with experts from the most diverse areas, talking and exchanging ideas about the importance of silence in their fields, stimulating to work on a interlinking way and to develop methods of transdisciplinary cooperation.

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#### Workshops – discussions in Delphi:

May 18<sup>th</sup> to May 21<sup>st</sup> 2011



#### Workshops – discussions in Athens:

May 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup> 2011



May 23

17.00 – 18.00 Jenny Marketou “You can hear the noise of one tree falling but you can not hear the silence of the forest growing”

18.00 – 19.00 Interview with TRES, “No more silence”

19.00 – 20.00 Geert Vermeire, Stefaan van Biesen, “Approaching Silence”



May 24

18.00 – 19.00 Yiannis Melanitis, “On Silence”

19.00 – 20.00 George Byron Davos, “Eloquentia Silentiarum: the substantial existence of silence”

May 25

18.00 – 19.00 Enrique Tomas, “Silence and (no)silence”

19.00 – 20.00 Rea Thönges–Striggari, “Silence in the work of Joseph Beuys”



May 27

19.00 – 20.00 Geert Vermeire, Stefaan van Biesen, presentation 'Silent actions'

## II. Spotting Silence

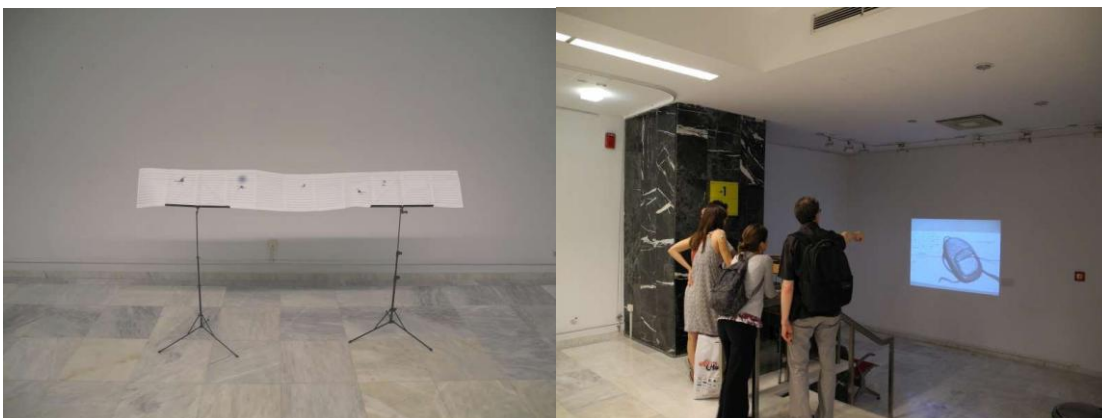
[ Phase 1 : 'Looking for silence' ]



[ Athens, May 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup> 2011 ] : Artist, students and young artists explored the city to discover and (re)design silent zones via artistic interactions and cooperate to create art works based on their experiences.



[ **About silence** ] performances and exhibition of the participating students at About, cultural centre Athens



[ **Growing silence** ] exhibition of the Milena principle at the Goethe-Institut Athens.



[ Urban silence interventions ]

Interventions of the Milena principle with students



[ Politics of the heart ] banner in situ



[ Whirling thoughts ] drawings with chalk of buildings and water



[ Urban Oracle ] speaking words in a tender gesture to the city of Athens.

## [ Phase 2 : 'Mapping silence' ].

planned 2012

An Athens map of silence will be made based on the experiences of the students. Our aim is to develop an artistic walk which connects the various ambiances of silence which were discovered and (re)designed by the artists and students. To realize this we will use (no)Tours, a project that allows editing a place with sounds. This means that you can attach sounds to a territory and that later, when you go physically to that place you can listen to them on an audio guide or smartphone. The trick is using our noTours Android application that detects your location (via GPS) and plays your audios exactly in the place where you decided. (no)Tours proposes an augmented aurality experience. In other words, you can add a new layer of reality to places.



## III. Silence online

planned 2012

In the next phase the project will work as well on the realization of interactive online tools that will allow young people to explore, share and shape the ways everyday sounds and silence influence our perception of city. We will realize a dynamic based website with sound art, sound and images, maps of silence walks, online publications, documentation and multimedia materials, facilities for exchange and communication about and within the project, online tools and software for the young artists, the whole as a creative tool, a learning and critical instrument for all users to reflect and contribute to the future development of their urban environment. This website will be the platform for international communication and exchange about the project.



The project will be concluded with a publication, documenting the project.