



UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN MACEDONIA
SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

Department of Fine and Applied Arts



WAC

International Encounters / Conference

International Encounters/Conference “Walking Practices/Walking Art/Walking Bodies”

The International Encounters/Conference will take place from Monday July 1st to Sunday 7th, 2019 in Prespes. During this week, there will be the development and presentation of artistic projects, workshops, scientific researches and posters that aim to research walking art as an artistic practice. Walking art is one of the main mediums for exploring the natural/historic/cultural environment. A significant number of artists and scholars from 23 countries and five continents will participate: establishing Prespes as an international point of artistic reference. The process aims to work towards establishing Prespes as an open workshop/meeting point of ideas and humans. The International Encounters/Conference are the continuation of the *Visual March to Prespes* that has taken place in the area since 2007 and was presented in the State Museum of contemporary Art in Thessaloniki in 2014. The process is realized as a collaboration, in a shared framework, between the *Visual March to Prespes* and *MADE OF WALKING (V)*: an international encounter, forum and network of artists, creatives and researchers dedicated to walking and sound practices, with gatherings in Greece, France and Cyprus since 2016 (<http://www.themilena.com/made-of-walking>).

Parallel to the **International Encounters/Conference “Walking Practices/Walking Art/Walking Bodies”** will be the educational process **Thess-Pres**. **Thess-Pres** will take the form of a journey from Monday June 24th to Wednesday July 3rd, in which 16 young people from the areas of Prespes, Thessaloniki and Florina will travel Thessaloniki–Veroia–Florina–Prespes in an experiential exploration of these locations. **Thess-Pres** is coordinated by the Department of Fine and Applied Arts of Florina as part of [Poliprespa](#) program, which is supported by a donation from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF).

There is an open call for those who want to attend the **International Encounters/Conference “Walking Practices/Walking Art/Walking Bodies”** in <http://icowaf.eetf.uowm.gr/>

Cooperating organizations for the International Encounters/Conference:

Department of Fine and Applied Arts (University of Western Macedonia)
Department of Fine and Applied Arts (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
École Cantonale d' art du Valais (Switzerland)
University of New Mexico (USA)
AICA Hellas
MOMus-Center of Contemporary of Art
School of Fine Arts of Athens
Ephorate of Antiquities of Florina

Greek Mounteneering Club of Florina
Institute of Vocational Training Florina (IEK)
National Documentation Center

Sponsors

Regional Unit of Florina
Municipality of Prespes

The 98 participants will present 42 visual projects, 49 papers and three posters.

They come from 24 countries in five continents: Australia (three participants), Austria (one), Belgium (three), Brazil (thirteen), Canada (one), China (one), Cyprus (one), Egypt (one), Germany (one), Greece (twenty eight), Ireland (one), Italy (four), Kosovo (two), Malta (two), Netherlands (two), Poland (one), Portugal (two), Romania (one), Spain (six), Switzerland (four), UK (ten), USA (eight), Turkey (one) and Venezuela (one).

The participants are affiliated with forty-two (42) universities, museums, research centers, and institutions:

Adam Mickiewicz University (Poland), AICA (Greece), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece), Bauhaus University (Germany), Box Hill Institute (Australia), Contemporary Art Center NauCôlea (Spain), édhea/Sierre (Switzerland), Estudios Criticos (Mexico), Helwan University (Egypt), Elastic City (USA), Federal University of Rio Grande (Brazil), Gabriel Caruana Foundation (Malta), IADT Dun Laoghaire (Ireland), IHAC/UFBA (Brazil), Institute of Applied Ecology (Australia), Ionian University (Greece), Maine College of Art (USA), Montclair State University (USA), National Museum of Contemporary Arts (Greece), Newcastle University (UK), Nogueira da Silva Museum (Portugal), Parson's School of Design, New School (USA), Sao Paulo University (Brazil), State University of Campinas (Brazil), Slade School of Art/UCL (UK), Transart Institute (Spain), Uminho University (Portugal), University of the Aegean (Greece), University of Barcelona (Spain), University of Brasilia (Brazil), University of Granada (Spain), University of Quebec (Canada), University of Lausanne (Switzerland), University of Minho, Braga and Guimarães (Portugal), University of New Mexico (USA), University of Nicosia (Cyprus), University of South Wales (UK), University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), University of South Florida (USA), University of Thessaly (Greece), University of West Attica (Greece), and University of Western Macedonia (Greece).



Cooperating organizations for Thess-Pres: Thess-Press is realized as part of the [Poliprespa](#) program. In Poliprespa, local organizations from Prespes participate with the aim of creating a model of growth that will keep the unique area of Prespes alive, establishing a common framework for actions related to economy, society, and environment. Poliprespa is supported by a donation from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) and the co-financing of local entities.

