

Ionion Center for the Art and Culture

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Exhibition Opening
22nd July 2016
8.30pm until late

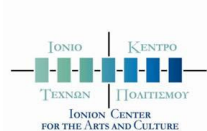
Opening Hours
Daily 11am- 1pm, 8pm-10pm

Special thanks to:

Mrs. Sophia Giannakis Kagadis
Coordinator Ionion Center for the Art Culture

Dr. Mark Titmarsh
Subject tutor/Team leader
University of Technology, Sydney, Australia

Curated by Mark Titmarsh
Designed by Yabo Zhang, Angela Yu,
Amanda Chan, Lucinda Huijjer



Centering on Kefalonia, we consider the future of the island with regard to the use and re-use of everyday plastic materials.

This exhibition begins as an exploration of plastic, the story of it's creation and how it has come to be ubiquitous in the design daily practices. It includes looking at the use of plastic on the island for business and recreational purposes and noting in particular any dependence on the use of single-use disposable plastic commodities.

The works in this exhibition are aimed at raising consciousness of plastic usage, steering behaviour towards potentially creating a working model for islands and island states to emulate.



THE GAIA PROJECT

Matthew Blaxland, Ely Blumentals, Amanda Chan, Antoinette El-Alam, Yizhuo Zhang

During the Summer months of Greece, tourism is at its peak and plastic consumption and disposal increases particularly through single use items such as water bottles. On the island of Kefalonia this increase occurs substantially from April to June.

The Gaia Project responds to this issue by reducing plastic waste through a system where plastic is recycled, adding value to it. Our slogan is Recycle, Revamp, Reward. The function of our machine draws from the idea of a vending machine in which the user will insert a plastic bottle and the machine will shred it into a continuous strip of plastic. The durability and spring like aesthetic of the shredded plastic allows it to serve many purposes. It can simply be cut into smaller lengths that become a bracelet that wraps around the wrist multiple times. It can be used to make unique jewellery and as a strong multi purpose rope. Other uses include its ability to be woven into baskets and mats and for other craft purposes. In this way plastic bottles are recycled into unique and useful souvenir items from Kefalonia that both locals and tourists can keep and take home with them .

We are proposing that this machine will be located in multiple places, including on all Kefalonian beaches. This will minimise plastic waste and it's detrimental impact on the environment. People are encouraged to use this machine not only for its ecological benefits but also for the reward they receive.

Found materials, foam, plastic, mussel shells, PVA glue



PSCI: PLASTIC CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS

Taubha MacNeill, Damon Astley, Yasmine Ghabbar, Angela Yu

We all are conscious on some level of the impact that plastics have on our environment and our bodies. Plastics permeate our entire lifestyle yet it is the truly invisible plastics which we cannot even see that are the most deadly. Micro fibres which are dispersed by washing synthetic fabrics and micro plastics found in cosmetic and skin care products are continually washed into the water system. These tiny plastic particles cannot be caught by current water filtration systems. Due to their size, these plastics infect the entirety of the eco-system and food chain. They have been found in air, bottled mineral water, beer and honey.

Our installation invites you to explore your individual plastic toxicity. Through an interactive crime scene experience we call for public aid in apprehending plastic criminals, part of a vast criminal network. Moving through the investigative process, the true cost of widespread plastic pollution on the island of Kefalonia is revealed. Testing of individual plastics allows us to provide alternatives and solutions for immediately actionable change.

Our solution successfully proposes a series of filters for bathroom drains and washing machines to be installed in the home, which prevent the pollution of waste water with micro fibres and plastics. The design fits onto a standard water pipe allowing it to be used worldwide. Local government would be propositioned to provide rebates as incentives to homeowners. A cleanable, sustainable design which addresses plastic on the smallest and most dangerous level.

Found plastics, plastic sheeting, film, photography



PAA: PLASTIC ADDICTS ANONYMOUS

Nicole Jedelsky, Lucinda Huijjer, Rosa Miller, Tanea Ke, Alexia Bucher

Plastics Addicts Anonymous (PAA) is a program for plastic addicts, based off the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, attempting to recreate a similar weaning off procedure of dealing with plastic bottles. Each stage highlights a step toward beginning a plastic free way of life. Setting the stages up as a clinic, six tables are used to represent each individual step toward addiction recovery.

Recovery starts with the patients acknowledging their addiction and broadening their awareness of plastic in their life. They then asked to abandon their old habits simply by throwing any single use plastics on them into a purpose built well.

They then begin to wean themselves off plastic using 'nicotine' like patches to medicate their withdrawal symptoms. They are then introduced to a new way of life as a plastic-free patron of society. Brochures are provided with places where they can purchase glass or metal bottles on the island. Once the patient has completed the five steps, they complete program by signing a contract that states their on going commitment to the project. Accompanying the program in the clinic is an at home program that can be accessed online as a pdf. This is for members of the community who may not be able to attend the exhibition but would still like to break their addiction to plastic.

We hope this program encourages people to recognise the crippling presence of plastic in our daily lives and make a decision to make a change.

Found materials, bottles, piping, tape, wire, felt, paper



MY PLASTIC PAL

Alicia Minter-Hunt, Lisa McCaskie, Lachlan Weier, Yabo Zhang

Personal accountability for environmental sustainability is integral to the longevity of human existence. The 'Plastic Pals' are a group of UTS students who have come to the island of Kefalonia to explore the way plastic becomes introduced to the Island, the way it is used on the Island and how it leaves the Island.

It became our groups goal to create an installation to physically and conceptually recreate the idea of plastic within plastic by having a total of 3 plastic rooms, sitting within each other. The first room is entitled 'import' and explores the way plastic is brought onto the island. The second stage is called 'consumption'. This confronts our viewers with the volume of plastic that our group has collected in just a few days. The smallest room explores 'disposal'.

Finally, once confronted by the lifecycle of plastic on the Island, we present our solution... the 'My Plastic Pal' app! We are encouraging the environmentally conscious residents of Kefalonia to download this app and integrate it into their daily plastic practice. The user would scan the barcode of the plastic item and then have access to our database which would include the type of plastic used in that item, it's ability to be reheated and remoulded for reuse, the weight of plastic and any other facts specific to that plastic. In the user's first week of use they would log their 'premier week', i.e. your regular plastic usage. It will then become your daily and weekly aim to reduce that amount. The app will graph your progress so that the user can become plastic-conscious and make better decisions regarding what plastic they should be using.

Found plastic, pvc piping, rope, plastic tarp and zip ties