

# ANTI

# AB6

# ATHENS BIENNALE 2018

# 26.10—9.12

7 Pidnas str.  
118 55 Athens, Greece

[www.athensbiennale.org](http://www.athensbiennale.org)

+30 210 523 2222  
[press@athensbiennale.org](mailto:press@athensbiennale.org)

## 6<sup>th</sup> Athens Biennale 2018

Curators: Stefanie Hessler, Kostis Stafylakis, Poka-Yio

Athens Biennale launches its 6<sup>th</sup> edition on October 26, 2018, under the title **ANTI**.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Athens Biennale flirts with the term, the attitude, the (im)possibility of **ANTI**, asking: How does opposition play out today? What kind of identities does it forge? **ANTI** deals with phenomena of normalization of opposition and non-conformity, from politics to web culture, from videogames to Netflix, from Žižek to Rihanna.

Fall 2018 will mark a decade of crisis in which Athens has been an incubator of revolt, opposition, reaction and regression. In 2017, the Athens Biennale organized a series of performative events under the title *Waiting for the Barbarians*, and declared a strategic postponing of AB6 in a year of *"Active Waiting"*. *"Active Waiting"* was intended as a playful exercise on the political imagination of large-scale periodic exhibitions, and functioned as a prelude to **ANTI**.

**ANTI**, curated by Stefanie Hessler, Kostis Stafylakis and Poka-Yio, considers attitudes of opposition, non-conformity and marginality. Instead of assuming a position of critical detachment, **ANTI** introduces us to the pleasure and discomfort embodied in both revolt and reaction. It does not seek to merely outline such fantasies; we cannot fight reactionary culture and politics in the "post-truth" era with yet another **ANTI**. To deal with **ANTI** means to oscillate between power and revolt by internalizing, reenacting or cannibalizing both. As such, AB6 is designed as a distilled, intensified reality — a constellation of functional spaces that invites visitors to indulge in **ANTI**. These devices assume forms of actual domains shaping our lives today: the gym, the office, the tattoo studio, the dating website, the migration office, the shopping mall, the nightclub, the church, the dark room. The Athens Biennale aims to instigate the experience of ambiguity, polarity and contrariness inherent in **ANTI** by lubricating the absurd personification of such currents. The exhibition, here, becomes a purgatory without a purge.

More than 100 international artists, media creators and theorists will participate in **ANTI**. The exhibition venues and full participants' list will be announced soon.

Cabaret Negatif is programmed by FYTA with Nayia Yiakoumaki and will be running throughout the duration of **ANTI**.

Two limited-edition Crypto Certificates by Ed Fornieles Studios will be sold to help fund the production of a large-scale LARP *The Group* as well as the Athens Biennale itself. Collectors of these limited edition prints will be able to share future profits generated by the sale of work developed through *The Group* performance.