

PRESS RELEASE

YORGO ALEXOPOULOS: DRIFTING ON A MEMORY

September 21 – November 11, 2017

Opening Reception: Thursday, September 21, 6 - 8PM



Yorgo Alexopoulos, *How We Got Here* (detail), 2017, oil on canvas, 72 x 288 inches (183 x 732 cm)

San Francisco: Gallery Wendi Norris is pleased to present *Yorgo Alexopoulos: Drifting on a Memory*, the Los Angeles-based artist's second solo exhibition with the gallery.

Drifting on a Memory debuts large-scale oil paintings and works on paper that mark a conceptual voyage into the artist's past. Departing from his decades-long practice of creating video installations built-up from hundreds of original paintings, drawings and photographs rendered into digital compositions, *Drifting on a Memory* marks Alexopoulos' return to oil painting, a medium he has consistently utilized behind the scenes of these iconic moving image works in various, subtle ways.

Having relocated to his hometown of Los Angeles after living in New York City for over twenty years, Alexopoulos revisits the landscapes—both real and remembered—that mark the brief time spent with his father, who died prematurely when the artist was just seven years old.

Continuing his exploration of the universality of landscape symbols and archetypes, Alexopoulos roots his new paintings firmly in the private, emotional realm of his own memory. As such, he reveals a stripped down, “unplugged,” and deeply personal narrative thread in his ongoing artistic journey.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Yorgo Alexopoulos is an American-born artist of Greek descent. He is best known for his digitally animated works that combine painting, drawing, photography, and cinematography into immersive video installations and mixed-media sculptures. He often presents these works by combining and synchronizing multiple monitors or projections, inflecting each piece with his signature theme of the archetypal, often striking a transcendental chord. Though he is frequently referred to as a digital artist, his practice is rooted in painting, the artist’s primary medium.

Permanent public installations include a 27-channel video installation for Norman Foster’s Bow Building in Calgary, Alberta, as well as large-scale video installations in Chicago’s AMA Plaza designed by Mies Van Der Rohe, and New York’s Row Hotel in Times Square.

In 2011, he was commissioned by the Art Production Fund to produce a sprawling 432 LCD screen installation for the lobby of The Cosmopolitan Hotel in Las Vegas.

Alexopoulos’ work has been written about in *Artforum*, *The New York Times*, *The Creators Project (VICE Magazine)*, *Architectural Digest*, *Forbes* and *Fast Company Design*.

Yorgo Alexopoulos is a member of the legendary Los Angeles graffiti crew WCA (West Coast Artists), when during his youth he tagged ASH, helping to pioneer the graffiti movement in Southern California during the 1980s.

A graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, he currently lives and works in Los Angeles.

ABOUT GALLERY WENDI NORRIS

Gallery Wendi Norris presents a contemporary and modern program that showcases artists working over many geographic locations and in a wide array of media. Gallery Wendi Norris is active locally as well as internationally, working with collectors and museums alike in both primary and secondary markets. Founded with an emphasis on scholarship and education, the gallery produces researched exhibition catalogues, sponsors artist talks, hosts visiting academics, and engages in public art projects, among other initiatives. Learn more at gallerywendinorris.com.