

“The Vitrine” cabinet of curiosities

We created a sound collage for the new installation of the vitrine with the sounds of the objects inside and the environment outside.

In the current action the visual artists Giorgos Gerontides and Dimitris Ameladiotis aim to an organisation as well as a synthesis of collected things in the space of the Vitrine (belonged to the pub La Stranda, located at 5 Armenopoulou Street in the historical centre of Thessaloniki, Greece).

The initiative of them is related historically to the collection of rare and unique objects from the artificial and the natural world by the aristocrats who annexed and deposited in the Cabinet rooms of Curiosities or in the vitrine furniture during the prime period of the Renaissance and later.

However, in this current action the access of the public inside the Vitrine space is impossible, but the objects are visible and perceived only via the viewing the vitrine from the side of the pavement out of it.

The viewer can perceive and observe the selected objects partly by sight in relation to the side in which are presented / deposited or based on their defined functional meaning.

Therefore, this action is not only related to the historical concept of the Cabinet room of Curiosity, but at the same time these visual artists mark basically the appropriation and the filing of things as being seen and found in the net world and the user deposits them in the disc of his / her computer.

The main differences between these ways of the things' collection are these:

- 1) In the case of the Cabinet rooms the completed knowledge of the object is possible via its well rounded visual observation, the perception of its functional meaning which is contained and also the rest of our senses such as the touch (feeling), taste and smell participate in this destination at the same time. On the other hand, in the case of our personal digital archive the information is reduced only in the partly sight of the object according to the side in which is presented in the digital world (internet or photo) ,in its sound and in its pre-defined concept without the participation of the rest senses such as the smell, the touch and the taste.
- 2) However, the digital filing of things is possible by everyone who prefer to do that while the organization of a cabinet room is possible only by the rich people.
- 3) Finally, the selected objects of the aristocrat collectors are supposed to be unique as in the digital word this fact is reduced because of their continual reproduction and publicity.

Dimitris Ameladiotis & Giorgos Gerontides

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