

Press Release

HRH PRINCE NIKOLAOS – THE ROUND TOWER, COPENHAGEN



Celestial Choreography 2 March – 31 March 2019

Curated by Marilena Koutsoukou

The Round Tower presents the solo show of Greek photographer HRH Prince Nikolaos of Greece and Denmark.

When HRH Prince Nikolaos became a photographer, his inspiration and artistic direction became clear: he is intrigued by the grace of nature and light, which he constantly seeks to capture and recreate. He feels a drive to restore the moment exactly, to be able to convey the truth he experiences, the beauty that has been divinely created. Even though he plays with the camera aperture and speed, his images are never edited post. For the artist, a true romantic, light is transcendent, and everything he produces is an attempt to render it.

‘The Greek light naturally turns my eyes to the sky, which nature uses as her canvas to produce some of the most beautiful art one will ever see.’

Most of the artist's pictures are taken in Greece, where he finds inspiration from the five classical elements – light, sea, earth, fire and ether. The breathtaking views he has captured of his homeland purposefully show a different aspect from the blue and white Cycladic themes most audiences associate with the land. His photos are abstract depictions of the Greek light and the relationship it creates with the remaining four elements. His recent work has been revolving around 4 major themes: Fluidity, Horizon, Marbles and Big Sky. These themes are separate yet interchangeable, directly linked to each other, creating beautiful visual imagery.

Celestial Choreography consists of 48 images depicting the sky of Greece, with the clouds, stars and light performing a still but vivid dance. Prince Nikolaos explores the relationship of light – or lack thereof – with the sky. This series is as much a study in the ephemeral Greek skies as it is an effort to capture individual moments of dramatic composition. These abstract images evoke strong feelings and challenge what audiences usually envision when they think of the sky. His works display a vast array of colours.

The artist has always been fascinated by the playful nature of the architecture of the Round Tower, ever since he was a child. The ascension through the helical corridor, leading to the expansive and beautiful views over Copenhagen, make this an ideal space for Prince Nikolaos to exhibit his latest series of work. The fact that the Round Tower is an astronomical observatory has inspired Prince Nikolaos further, enabling him to title this series of works Celestial Choreography.

‘There is always light hidden behind the clouds just waiting to shine through’.



BIOGRAPHY

HRH Prince Nikolaos was born on 1 October 1969, in Rome, Italy. His parents, TM King Constantine and Queen Anne-Marie, had moved there in 1967. In 1975 the family settled in London, where Prince Nikolaos was home-educated for six years. He then attended the Hellenic College of London.

In 1988 he began his studies in International Relations at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, focusing on Diplomacy and National Security. During his sophomore year, he took a sabbatical to join the British Army on a Short Service Limited Commission, serving as 2nd Lieutenant with the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards. Upon his college graduation (1993), Prince Nikolaos moved into TV production for Fox News in New York. He returned to London in 1995 to work in the foreign exchange options department of NatWest Markets. From 1997 to 2003 he worked in King Constantine's Family Office. Since then he has been active in business consulting.

An avid photographer for all his life, Prince Nikolaos has passionately dedicated himself to photography since 2013. In November 2015 he exhibited his work for the first time at Christie's in London. In March 2016 his photography was featured at The New York Times 'Art for Tomorrow' conference in Doha, Qatar. A selection of his photographs were also published in the book *A Taste of Greece*, published by teNeues. In June 2018, Prince Nikolaos had his first solo museum exhibition at the Hellenic Museum in Melbourne, Australia. Prince Nikolaos was recently selected, according to the recommendations of Philippe Starck Studio, along with 6 other photographers, to exhibit their photographs in Spain, at La Almazara. In November 2018, the artist was invited by Sotheby's Jewelry to show 10 photographs from

his series Phos to a select audience. Sotheby's experts have dubbed Prince Nikolaos' photographs 'Jewels from Greece'.

Prince Nikolaos sits on the Board of Knightsbridge Schools International, established in 2008 to develop and operate a network of international schools around the world. He is an active member and Advisor to the Board of Axion Hellas, a Greek non-profit volunteer organization supporting local communities in remote parts of the country. Prince Nikolaos and his wife Princess Tatiana (née Tatiana Blatnik) married in 2010. Three years later, they moved to Athens, Greece, where they currently reside.

The Exhibition can be seen:

2 March to 31 March 2019

The Round Tower (Rundetaarn), Copenhagen

Købmagergade 52 A, 1150 Copenhagen K

Open daily 10–18

Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10–21

Admission: DKK 25/children (5–15 years): DKK 5

The Round Tower, built 1642 by King Christian IV of Denmark, is one of the most iconic edifices in Denmark and a landmark of Copenhagen. Originally erected to accommodate the university observatory, today the Round Tower also houses a rich programme of events for all ages, comprising exhibitions of contemporary art, modern craft and design and history as well as talks and concerts.

Tower Talk:

Tuesday 5 March 2019 at 17 in the Round Tower

HRH Prince Nikolaos will give a talk and show selected works from the exhibition.

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