See Nature through the Eyes of Prassinos!

“What most resembles a landscape is still an ink stain—a coincidence emulating another one. This is why everything can be considered a landscape.” Mario Prassinos

In this workshop, young participants tried to look at nature through the eyes of Prassinos. Using techniques such as dripping-blowing ink on paper, they recreated images of nature by experimenting with the production stages of Prassinos. The young participants truly enjoyed this workshop in which they used their minds like that of an artist.

Imitation or Creativity?

In this workshop based on Mario Prassinos’ landscape series Les Alpilles, participants discussed if art imitates nature or is a product of the artist’s imagination and creative power. They exchanged ideas over questions such as “Which is more powerful? Imagination or imitation?” and “Which is better? The beauty of art or of nature?” Following this, they created paintings with color inks. Finally, they learned more practical uses of philosophy such as how to express their own ideas and how to react to counter opinions or those who do not share the same opinions with them. The workshop engaged in an exercise that developed the notion of skills and emotional flexibility of participants.

Reality, Imagination, or Memory?

In this workshop based on Mario Prassinos’ landscape series Les Alpilles, participants discussed if art imitates nature or is a product of the artist’s imagination and creative power. They exchanged ideas over questions such as “Which is more powerful? Imagination or imitation?” and “Which is better? The beauty of art or of nature?” Following this, they created paintings with color inks. Finally, they learned more practical uses of philosophy such as how to express their own ideas and how to react to counter opinions or those who do not share the same opinions with them. The workshop engaged in an exercise that develops the notion of skills and emotional flexibility of participants.

Summer Learning Programs

12 July - 24 July 2016

Pera Kids

Age 4-6

Touch Nature!

Inspired by the trees of Mario Prassinos, children created assemblages of nature. Combining leaves, tree barks, sand with lines and stains, children created the nature of their dreams. In addition to developing fine motor skills, the workshop also created an awareness of nature.

Come On, Print Again!

After reviewing “Bird and Flower” from the silkscreen series of Mario Prassinos, children created colorful print backgrounds. Then, they covered the background with a single color. They chose to
create a mono printing block and complete their prints by drawing figures on their blocks. They could repeat this magical and fun method as often as they liked.

**Flying Trees**
Inspired by the trees of Prassinos, children blew color ink using straws on paper to create trees. They experienced depth, light, and shadow in painting as part of this workshop.

**Natural Mini Toys**
Based on the Mario Prassinos series “Trees”, children studied the relationship between nature, trees, and equilibrium. In the workshop, they used burlap, rope, raffia, wicker, branches, and wooden pieces to create the mini toys and playground of their dreams and thus establish a relationship between object and space.

**Age 7-12**

**What Remains in Memory**
Holding a special place in Mario Prassinos’ oeuvre, portraits narrate the tale of memory and fiction. In *What Remains of Memory* workshop, participants visualized the scenes and landscapes that remained in their memories. They also created portraits of people they barely remember using cut-and-paste technique.

**Guess Who I am?**
After studying the portraits of Mario Prassinos, participants discussed the processes and techniques. They conducted a preliminary exercise of portraiture by learning about the friend they painted and discovering his/her characteristic features. They photographed one another to create a silhouette and filled the interior of this stencil with their “model’s” characteristic features into a fun collage using pencil, powder crayon and oil crayon on any other media they chose.

**Rewrite Your Book!**
Participants learned about the book covers and illustrations of Mario Prassinos. They redesigned the cover of a given book, reorganized its content, drew, paint, cut, pasted, sewed, and transformed it into their own book. Thus, the books participants created transformed into a work of art through a fresh perspective.

**Create Your Hero**
Introduced to the costumes Mario Prassinos designed for a production of renowned British poet and playwright William Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*, children designed costumes and accessories for the characters from the mini scenarios they wrote.