

Stray Art Festival

Περιπλανώμενη Γιορτή της Τέχνης του Δρόμου

LOCATION

Ermoupoli, Greece

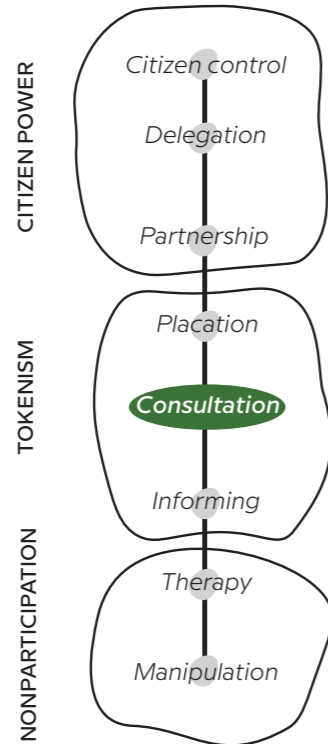
TIME PERIOD

In 2018



THE PROJECT

The project took place in the Sport's Center Dimitrios Vikelas where various infrastructures were used to host the creative work which was here the festival. Its main goal was to make a lasting creative impact offering an experience to the visitors. The festival tried to explore the possibilities of a symbiosis between the traditional and the new in order to show visitors that they have a lot in common.



used for the activity were given by the Municipality.

RESULT

Although no research was conducted, most feedback from inhabitants, visitors and the municipality were positive. The festival is now getting stronger and the organizers have received several proposals to hold the event in new venues. For the first time in this place, there was a **cultural and social interaction between visitors, artist and the local community**. The creation of this kind of open street art gallery puts today the region of Syros on the world map of street art and brings tourists. The main beneficiaries were first the local community, but also the small businesses and creators that got exposure during the festival. The municipality also benefited from this creative work with many articles published in newspapers and media.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SPACE

What characterizes first Ermoupoli as a remote place is that it is surrounded by the Aegean Sea. This situation explains the other remoteness characteristics of the island: the **difficulties in accessing-daily-life support facilities, poor transportation links and a low population density**. The inhabitants of the island feel this remoteness. In terms of public spaces, the condition of the many paths in the centre is poor. With its proximity to shops and the sea, the central square is the most used public space. Although there are some green spaces, their infrastructures are quite poor and unpopular.

WHAT MAKES THE SPECIFICITY OF THE PROJECT

The project was initiated and **organized by the Stray Art Festival**

Team. To achieve it, they **invited 20 muralists and 50 musicians** from all over Greece to perform during the festival.

ROLE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY & METHODS USED

For the festival, **some neglected buildings were renewed** and the Stray Art Festival offered three days full of music, colors, events and performances. The local community was the witness of the **mural's creation process**. They attended **musical shows and theatrical performances** but also participated in **workshops**. Moreover, some of them assisted the organisation team as **volunteers**. To achieve this project, there was financial help from the Municipality of Syros-Ermoupolis and the South-Aegean Region, as well as some small **public funds** from local enterprises. Furthermore, the infrastructures



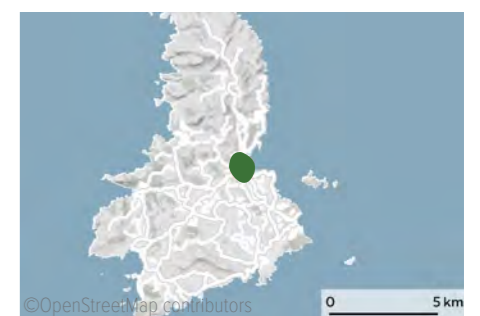
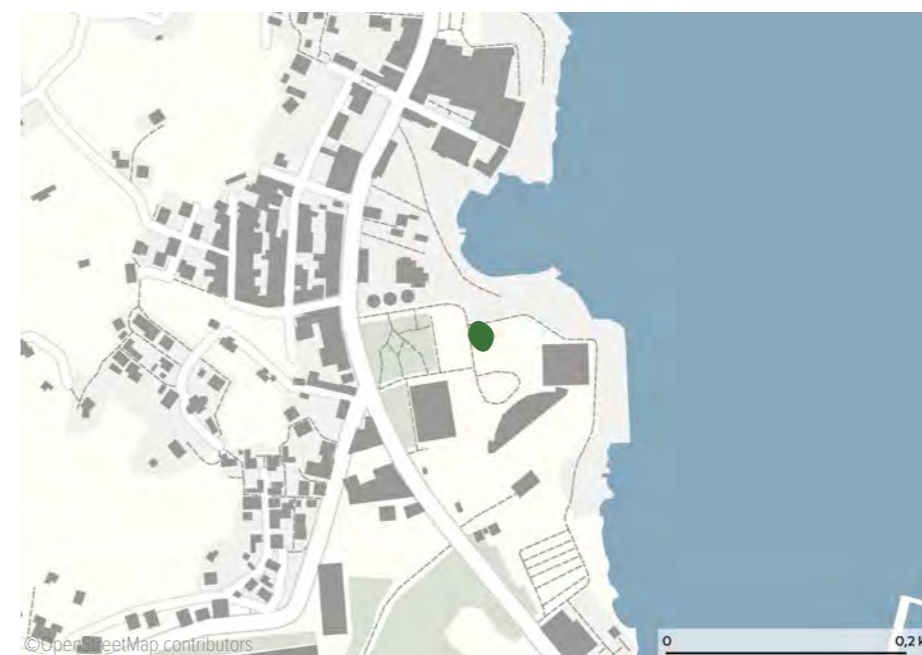
The Athletic Center painted and a muralist in front of it, creating art on the car of a Strayer. ©Stray Art Festival – photo by Tatiana Kasimati



Stray Art Festival Letters in front of a basketball court with walls being painted by the street artists. © Andromachi Boliou



Organisation before the beginning of the festival by the volunteers ©Festival Archive



Harjumaa, Estonia

more about this project



Creative works in
small and remote
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Link to the publication:
<http://www1.uirs.si/en-us/book/id/119>