

## Press release

### **The Hybrid City workshop: Codes of Disobedience & Dysfunctionality**

**28 February – 4 March 2011**  
**City intervention and Presentation of the work**  
**at the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Athens, 5 – 25 March 2011**

The **University Research Institute of Applied Communication (URIAC)**, in collaboration with the **New Technologies Laboratory** of the **Faculty of Communication and Media Studies**, of the **National and Kapodistrian University of Athens**, organise from the 28th until the 4th of March 2011 the workshop **“Codes of Disobedience & Dysfunctionality”** led by the British artist **Martin Rieser**, in collaboration with an interdisciplinary team of artists, researchers and postgraduate students, as part of the action **“Global Gateway”** and of the EU funded program **“Civil Society Dialogue - Istanbul 2010 European Capital of Culture”**.

The aim of the workshop is to study the elements of the urban environment of Athens and to form a new trail as a structure of narrative, thus enriching the city with interactive content that reflects its contemporary transformations. Inspired by the posters and the graffiti encountered in the city, and taking advantage of the possibilities given by mobile communication technologies (GPS, QR codes etc) and the internet, the workshop aims to connect the urban surroundings of Athens to opinions and statements of its inhabitants regarding the challenges imposed by current social, political, and financial circumstances; Anger, disobedience, opposition, dysfunctionality. The features of the contemporary metropolis in the midst of a period of crisis will be the main focus of the project, posing at the same time questions about the role and mediation of technology in urban everyday life. Can the new possibilities offered by technology really capture the needs and the atmosphere of a city like Athens? Can patterns and characteristics of urban life be identified when studying the use of these communication systems?

The work that will be formed after the completion of the workshop will be presented at the premises **National Museum of Contemporary Art**, on the internet and in the center of the city (at the streets Skoufa – Navarinou – Tzavela). From the 5th until the 25th of March the visitors of the museum and inhabitants of Athens will be invited to follow the project's trail and discover the different parts of the project's narration. Special QR codes will be placed in selected locations of the city and by scanning them with a mobile phone, access to the audiovisual material created during the workshop will be given. Combining elements of installation art, urban intervention, gaming and performance, **“Codes of Disobedience & Dysfunctionality”** reflects Rieser's long term practice on art and technology.

*Professor **Martin Rieser** is joint research Professor between the Institute of Creative Technologies and the Faculty of Art and Design at De Montfort University. He has always been fascinated by the possibility of creating fragmentary narrative structures and interactive stories using new technology. As an artist and researcher this has led him into his current explorations using*

*mobile and locative technologies and large-scale interactive video experiences. Professor Rieser's art practice in mobile and internet art and interactive narrative installations have been seen around the world including China, Australia , USA and Greece, France, Austria, and Italy.*

[www.martinrieser.com](http://www.martinrieser.com)

For more information: <http://www.media.uoa.gr/hybridcity/>

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of CIANT/URIAC and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.