



ART IN THE  
OF ATHENS

PHOTOGRAPHY  
EXHIBITION  
1.3 | 8.5 | 2017

Thanasis Zekos

Music Halls

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PALLAS ATHENA  
GRECOTEL BOUTIQUE HOTEL

*"You become things, you become an atmosphere, and if you become it, which means you incorporate it within you, you can also give it back. You can put this feeling into a picture. A painter can do it. And a musician can do it and I think a photographer can do that too and that I would call the dreaming with open eyes."*

**Ernst Haas**

Thanassis Zekos has been photographing the Greek live music scene for several years. His love of music evolved from his teen enthusiasm for going to concerts into a career as he began photographing musicians—many of whom he now counts as friends—as a silent observer of their work.

Zekos records music through his lens, thus offering viewers an experience that transcends the mere acoustic. He photographs music, musicians, and the ambience of the nightlife enveloping the live music scene in a style more akin to a curated collection of moments than photojournalism.

Every concert, every live venue, shaped the vision of this unique world that he describes with his photographs its different qualities, the colors and hues only discernible to a devoted aficionado.

Through Zekos's lens we view these performances with the requisite detachment imposed by his discreet look. We can hone in on performers' facial expressions as they enter that inner state of complete concentration—and, indeed, one could say that his images increase that distance from the viewer. Zekos's perspective shields the performers, as his presence is unobtrusive so as not to distract them during this utmost personal moment.

Zekos chooses the colors of his images the same way musicians choose the notes they play: succinct, clear, but also integral to his creative palette. Like musicians and dancers at the peak of each performance on stage, Zekos closes his eyes for a split second, converting his experience of that moment into a personal experience and then reopens them in order to describe the experience to us.

Through his work, Thanassis Zekos invites us to follow his nocturnal musical wanderings as he translates sound into color, inviting us to compose our own melodies from them.

**Yiorgis Gerolympos**

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