

PHOENIX ATHENS PRESENTS

*The Body Politic/ Intimate Archives*

OPENING EVENT: 27 FEBRUARY

RUNS: 28 FEB. - 27MAR.

Phoenix Athens is pleased to present the solo show *The Body Politic/ Intimate Archives* by Kim Cruickshank.

Kim Cruickshank's current work evolves through archaeological process and archiving of intimate objects. Her fascination with personal debris; ritualistically searching for and collecting objects in different places has led her on journeys of discovery, re-creation, preservation and fetishization to explore narratives of absence, presence and remains.

Starting off with Kopytoff's (1988) idea of past, present, future Cruickshank seeks out found objects because they hold immense narrative potential. Cruickshank's one month residency lead her to explore the streets of Athens collecting narratives of daily life experiences via material, sensory and the intrapersonal relationships she encountered. Kim uses the body as material and conceptual inspiration because she believes peoples' relationships with their bodies is inherent to discovering who we are as individuals and in wider social-political context.

For the *The Body Politic/ Intimate Archives* show, Kim produced a series of sculptures alongside an audio piece inspired by the non-stop background noise of Athens. In the series of hand casting workshops Cruickshank focused on body language, how we can express and communicate without words. Cruickshank was inspired by the historical use of casting to replicate and document artefacts in Athens. Combining traditional plaster and modern cement Cruickshank encouraged people to experiment and engage with the past and the present to help create intimate archives of the extant.