

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories

Maria Christoforou | women's stories: an immersive storytelling exhibition

opening: wednesday 13 october 2021

at 19.30, at EKATE (Cyprus Chamber of Fine Art): 11 Peonos Street, 1521 Nicosia, tel.:22 466426

duration: 13-20 october, opening hours: 14-20 october 17.00 - 21.00

saturday 16 october at 18:00-19:00: workshop & round table discussion

part of the exhibition is also presented at Nottingham Trent University, in Second Life virtual world
& at Bergen National Academy of Art and Design

curator: Professor Duncan Higgins, U.K., virtual world co-ordinator: Dr. Andrea Moneta, U.K.

performers: Nicoletta Christoforou & Andrei Kroupa, Diana Danialova, music: Andreas Kameris

participants: coronahaikus community, Dr. Sandra Gaudenzi, Sandra Tabares Duque & Alex Tzavella

special thanks to EKATE | more info: christoforoumaria@yahoo.com, christoforou.ma@unic.ac.cy

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National Machinery
for Women's Rights

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The artist and academic at the University of Nicosia, Maria Christoforou presents her 5th exhibition 'Women's Stories'

Maria Christoforou approaches "Women's Stories" by presenting it through the narratives of women who break away from stereotypes of the female condition seen through Maria's own perceptions., Freeing herself from these particular stereotypes, Maria offers her own messages through immersion in the virtual and physical world, which exudes a theatrical atmosphere and combines, in an experimental way, new methods of visual expression are presented through digital art , 3D, 360 immersive video, music, mixed materials, constructions, sculpture and performance. The innovative use of immersive 360 degree video, takes the viewer one step further from storytelling to story experiencing.



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The exhibition consists of many projects together that are directly or indirectly related to the female condition. It combines the Corona Haikus Visual Poetry Project which was conceived as an idea by two women, academics Dr. Sandra Gaudenzi and Sandra Tabares Duque, and has grown to more than 1000 participants from 30 countries, artists, poets, academics and writers, from all over the world who felt united because they face the same enemy at the same time and share the same feelings, fears, problems, while they are all "trapped" in their homes. Cyberspace becomes a tool of expression and leads them to a creative journey, experience and self-reflection. Each of the participants, during the quarantine of the pandemic covid-19, shares through their daily life three photographs and a poetic haiku composition. Maria as a member of the corona haikus project but also as a co-curator experienced the project as a form of catharsis (cleansing) and as a chance to redefine her senses.



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The second project is the immersive storytelling "women's stories" where the user with a QR code will connect to their mobile phone and will navigate through the story. At the same time, the experience can become even more immersive with the use of a VR helmet or VR cardboard. "Women's stories" is a journey through narrative that includes 360 degree immersive videos with glimpses and views of the natural world that aims to reflect the high emotion, aesthetics and dynamics of the beauty (sublime) of nature.

From Helen to Antigone, from ancient to modern womanhood, the present connects with the past and outlines the future through a magical digital journey in an immersive environment where space, time and human senses are redefined, evolved and challenged.



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The third project is a virtual narrative entitled "Leave the hens alone" and is a three-dimensional digital artwork with sound and transition but is also presented as a framed printed artwork. The artwork aims to explore women's struggle to meet society's stereotypes such as fertility, mating etc.

All the artworks are presented in various ways. For instance, the same story is approached with different visual methodology such as virtual poetry, prints, sculptures, constructions, 3D artwork, VR 360 Immersive Video, QR codes, visual intervention by performers etc. All these coexist harmoniously in a homogenous way, while at the same time each artwork keeps its individuality. It is an endless journey of imagination and creation.



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IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

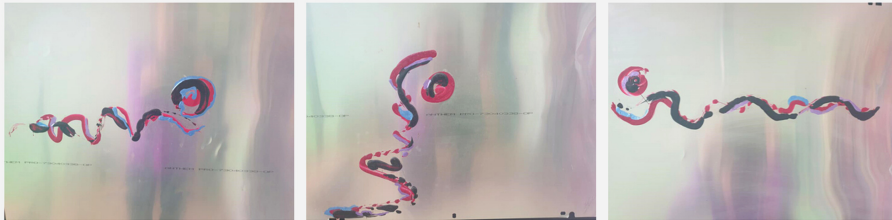
Women's stories



My red dress in hiding in my closet
So am I!



Maria_Christoforou
Cyprus
May 18, 2020
Lockdown_day_62



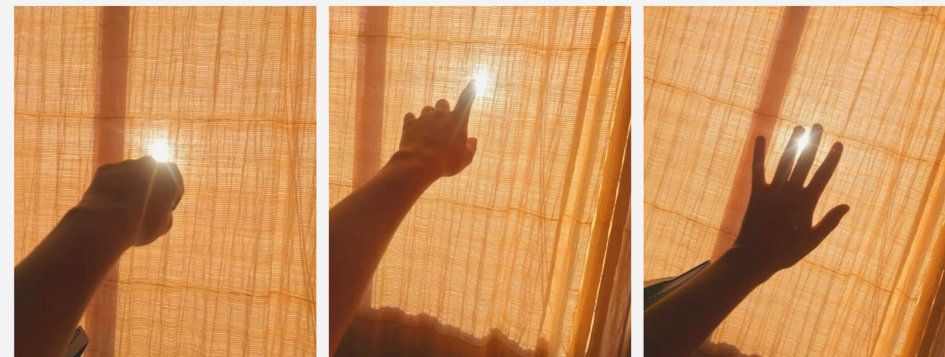
According to Ariadne's myth, she gave the ball of thread to Theseus to help him find the way out of the labyrinth.
Find your own way out. Sometimes its complicated but it worths trying.

Maria_Christoforou
Cyprus
April 20, 2020
Lockdown_day_41

<https://coronahaikus.com/>

CORONA HAIKUS VISUAL POETRY IN TIMES OF ISOLATION

Maria Christoforou

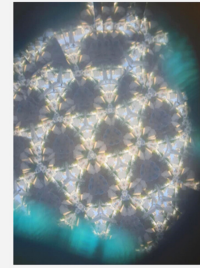


I WANT to TRUST the flow of life. To AVOID toxic people. NOT TO TAKE anything personal or anything for granted. To PLAY like a child. To DREAM like everything is possible. To REVIEW my stereotypes. To FLY like a bird...
To Be GRATEFUL for every moment!

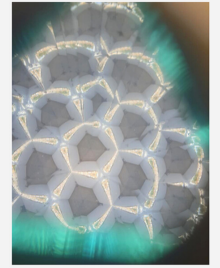
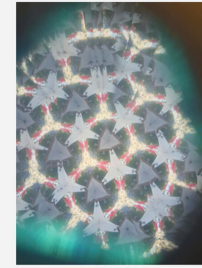
Maria_Christoforou
Cyprus
May 29, 2020
Lockdown_day_Unknown

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



Kaleidoscopic view from my balcony!
It is time to change my perspective...
to reconsider...to redefine...to restart!



Maria Christoforou
Cyprus
May 12, 2020
Lockdown_day_63



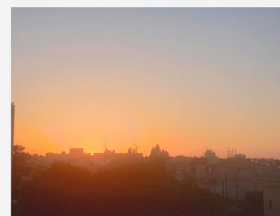
Stay Strong
Where there is a will, there is a way

Maria Christoforou
Cyprus
April 27, 2020
Lockdown_day_48

<https://coronahaikus.com/>

CORONA HAIKUS VISUAL POETRY IN
TIMES OF ISOLATION

Maria Christoforou

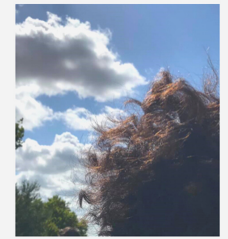


Can I see through blinds?
View through blinds
Put up the blinds!
I need fresh air...

Maria Christoforou
Cyprus
May 14, 2020
Lockdown_day_65

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



We are allowed to have a day out... so we went for our first country walk...

wind
sky
green
air
horizon
bliss

... and yet, for me the end of lockdown will be inviting friends for dinner at home...

Sandra_Gaudenzi
UK
May 24, 2020
Lockdown_day_59



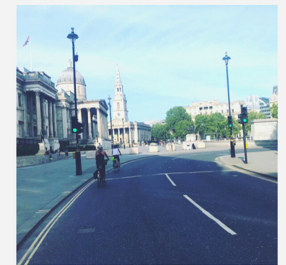
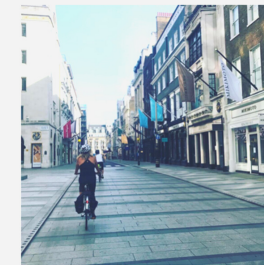
I went back
I had to see what a Free Spirit's blossom
looks like
and there she was
finally opened to the beholder...

Sandra_Gaudenzi
UK
May 9, 2020
Lockdown_day_46

<https://coronahaikus.com/>

CORONA HAIKUS VISUAL POETRY IN
TIMES OF ISOLATION

Sandra Gaudenzi



The city was totally naked yesterday
while we are getting ready to shield ourselves to go out
she was open
welcoming the brave flaneur
and asking: why did you never really see me like this before?
I found it disarmingly beautiful
and promised her to come back with open eyes

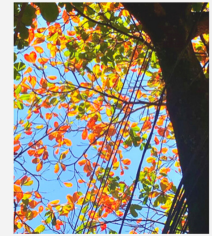
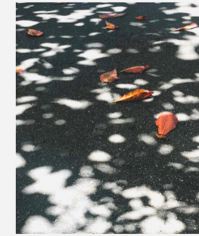
Sandra_Gaudenzi
UK
May 22, 2020
Lockdown_day_57

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

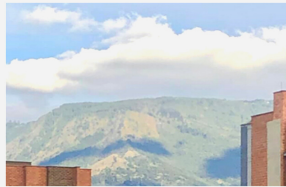
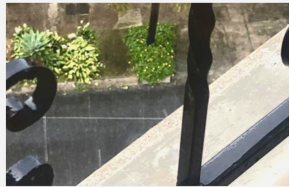
Women's stories



Below, heart held by shadows
Up, sun flying through colours.
As the love's child pick the view
And dance in the middle



Sandra Tabares_Duque
Colombia
May 28, 2020
Lockdown_day_61



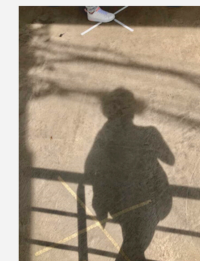
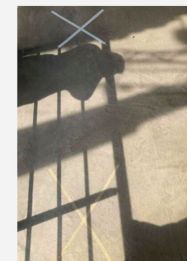
I dream of green forests I cannot reach
Wide landscapes where the eye gets lost and the soul flies
Though today, I'll just stay here with fears and tears.

Sandra Tabares_Duque
Colombia
April 26, 2020
Lockdown_day_36

<https://coronahaikus.com/>

CORONA HAIKUS VISUAL POETRY IN
TIMES OF ISOLATION

Sandra Tabares Duque

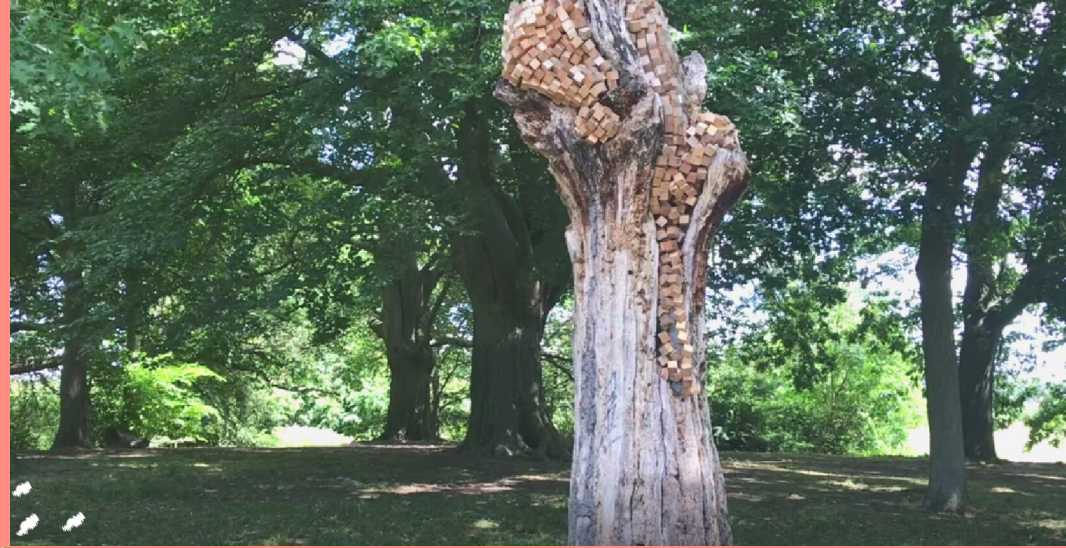


Queuing with a stranger
Fearing each other
Until the chocolate bread appears
It'll take time to learn to recognise smiles behind the masks

Sandra Tabares_Duque
Colombia
May 3, 2020
Lockdown_day_Unknown

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



CORONA HAIKUS VISUAL POETRY IN
TIMES OF ISOLATION - VIDEO

Coronahaikus Community
Sandra Gaudenzi
Alex Tzavella
Maria Christoforou



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Women's stories



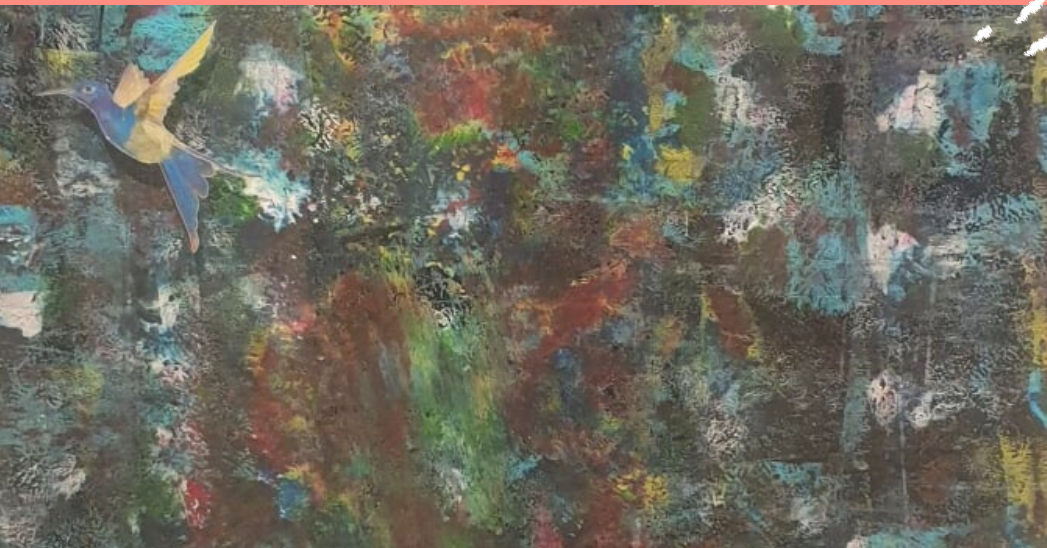
LEAVE THE HENS ALONE

Created by Maria Christoforou
Voice actress: Nicoletta Christoforou



IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



WOMEN'S STORIES
TRIPTYCH

Maria Christoforou



IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



WOMEN'S STORIES
RED DRESS

Maria Christoforou



IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



WOMEN'S STORIES

**LITTLE PLANETS
VIOLETA-HELLEN**

Created by Maria Christoforou
Voice actress: Nicoletta Christoforou
Music: Andreas Kameris

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



WOMEN'S STORIES

LITTLE PLANETS ANNA-ANTIGONE

Created by Maria Christoforou
Voice actress: Nicoletta Christoforou
Music: Andreas Kameris

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



The Red Dr



Oniro by the sea

**WOMEN'S STORIES
JOURNEY**

Maria Christoforou

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



**WOMEN'S STORIES
IMMERSIVE STORYTELLING
360 DEGREE VIDEO**

Created by Maria Christoforou
Voice actress: Nicoletta Christoforou
Music: Andreas Kameris

IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Women's stories



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Special Thanks to:

Duncan Higgins
Andrea Moneta

Nicoletta Christoforou
Andrei Kroupa

Diana Danialova
Andreas Kameris

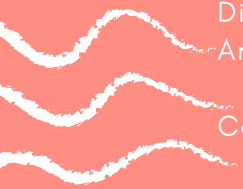
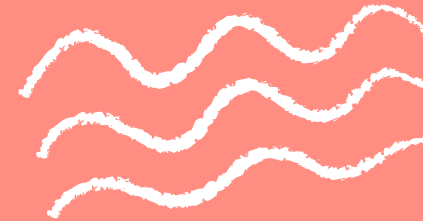
Coronahaikus community, Sandra Gaudenzi, Sandra Tabares Duque & Alex Tzavella

Koulla Karayiannidou
Ioulia Papageorgi
Chris Constantinou
Myro Georgiou
Xenia Tsiamanta
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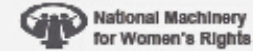


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