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LANDMARK WORKSHOP

"THE ART OF THINKING LIKE A  
MOUNTAIN"

EMPATHY FOR NATURE AND NON-HUMAN BEINGS

3 Day Event



Fine Arts Department Building

29

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28

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27

2023

JANUARY

# ABOUT THE LANDMARK WORKSHOP

The three day seminar / workshop is organized in the framework of the innovative project “EMPACT – Empathy and Sustainability: The Art of Thinking like a Mountain”, co-funded by the EU Creative Europe Programme. Our aim is to facilitate artists to produce, through sustainable practices, art that fosters an empathic stance towards non-human beings and nature, and thus effectively incorporate the concept of sustainability in their artistic production.

# WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

Bring together artists, cultural institutions and key thinkers in creative sustainability, philosophy and social sciences to discuss and explore ways of intensifying the powers of art in tackling the key pillars of sustainability.

Introduce, discuss and clarify the meaning of "empathy" in arts, which has important implications for artistic research, training and practice.

Clarify and demonstrate how empathy as an abstract concept can be applied in the arts so that people are motivated to care for non-human others and the environment by using concrete examples.

Support artists and cultural professionals to engage with mainstream research from philosophy, social sciences and sustainability studies on the role of empathy and perspective-taking in advocating for environmental issues.

# REGISTER TO JOIN US

Please fill in the short registration form here: <https://forms.gle/RK4bFGZschVcwaWX7>

(open with Chrome web browser)

No fee. Participation is FREE.

# DAY 1

27 JANUARY 2023

**15:00 - 16:00**  Registration

**16:00 - 16:20** Introduction to EMPACT



Danae Ioannou, Project Manager,  
PhD Candidate in Philosophy &  
Aesthetics  
Department of Fine Arts, Cyprus  
University of Technology

## SESSION 1

Chair: Antonis Danos, Associate Professor in Art History  
and Theory  
Department of Fine Arts, Cyprus University of  
Technology

**16:30 - 17:30** What is this thing called "Empathy"



Efi Kyprianidou, Assistant  
Professor in Philosophy of Art &  
Aesthetics, Department of Fine  
Arts, Cyprus University of  
Technology

**17:30 - 18:15** Some thoughts on Empathy and  
Environmental Aesthetics



Myrto-Maria Voreakou, Architect,  
PhD candidate in Arts &  
Sustainability Department of Fine  
Arts, Cyprus University of  
Technology

**18:15 - 19:00**

**Short break**

**19:00 - 21:00**

Documentary Screening (in  
collab. with Limassol Cinema  
Club)



La Panthère des Neiges / The Velvet  
Queen (2021) Directors: Marie Amiguet,  
Vincent Munier



Short Discussion on the film  
Alberto Vazquez, Espacio Rojo

■ **END OF DAY 1** ■

# DAY 2

28 JANUARY 2023

## SESSION 1

Chair: Efi Kyprianidou, Assistant Professor in Philosophy  
of Art & Aesthetics Department of Fine Arts, Cyprus  
University of Technology

**10:00 - 11:00** Empathy for the Environment  
through Art: An Exploration of the  
Idea



Katerina Bantinaki, Assistant Professor  
in Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art  
Department of Philosophy and Social  
Studies, University of Crete

**11:00 - 12:00** Phenomenological Perspectives on  
Empathy



Fotini Vassiliou, Assistant Professor in  
Phenomenology Department of Philosophy,  
National and Kapodistrian University of  
Athens

**12:00 - 12:30** Discussion

**12:30 - 15:00**

**Lunch break**

## SESSION 2

Chair: Nicos Synnos, Assistant Professor Department of  
Fine Arts, Cyprus University of Technology

**15:00 - 15:45** To look into the eyes of the non-  
human other: The Wolf Talks arts-  
based research intervention



Nico Carpentier, Extraordinary Professor  
Charles University and Vilnius Gediminas  
Technical University

**15:45 - 16:30** Reaping the Fruits of Informal  
Urbanism: Guerrilla Gardening and  
Tactical Urbanism as Sustainable  
Community Building



Theodoros Kouros, Researcher, University  
of Cyprus

**16:30 - 17:15** "I'm just sitting here": Filming the  
everyday as an empathic gesture  
towards nature



Yiannis Christidis, Assistant Professor  
Department of Fine Arts, Cyprus  
University of Technology

**17:15 - 17:30** Discussion

**17:30 - 18:00**

**Short break**

# DAY 2 CONTINUED

28 JANUARY 2023

## SESSION 3

**18:00 - 18:45** Nature Sound: Recording, Composing and Performing



**Dimitris Savva, Composer, Cyprus University of Technology**

**18:45 - 19:00** Presentation of ENVISION and CENTAUR EU projects: a brief review of good practices



**Sotira Couvaras, Project Manager, Wisefour Innovation Company**

**19:00 - 20:00** CONCERT: "Natural Resonances Under Crisis"



**Audio Visual Improvisation**  
Participating Artists: **Yiannis Christidis, Kyriakos Kousoulides, Dimitris Savv**

■ **END OF DAY 2** ■

# DAY 3

29 JANUARY 2023

## SESSION 1

Chair: **Yiannis Christidis, Assistant Professor Department of Fine Arts, Cyprus University of Technology**

**10:00 - 11:00** Artists Talk: Graceland - the triumph of an uncertain path



**Fani Boudouoglou, School of Visual & Applied Arts, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**  
**Rania Emmanouilidou, Artist**  
**Lia Psoma, Artist**

**11:00 - 11:30** Modalities and Spaces of Empathy: A Minimum of Visible World



**Vicky Pericleous, Artist, Assistant Professor, Cyprus University of Technology**

**11:30 - 12:00** Dealing With Your Memories: Empathy for Narratives of the Past



**Andreas Savva, Artist, Special Teaching Staff, Cyprus University of Technology**

**12:00 - 13:00**

**Lunch break**

## SESSION 2

**13:00 - 17:00** Artistic Workshop



**Fani Boudouoglou, School of Visual & Applied Arts, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**  
**Rania Emmanouilidou, Artist**  
**Lia Psoma, Artist**

■ **END OF LANDMARK WORKSHOP** ■

# SPEAKERS

## KATERINA BANTINAKI

Katerina Bantinaki is Assistant Professor in Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art at the University of Crete. Her research focuses on the philosophy of depiction, but also on issues of narrativity and authorship, on the relations of art and emotion, and on the character and conditions of aesthetic experience, including the perceptual experience of works of visual art. Currently she is investigating the relations of empathy and art and co-edits the book *Empathy and the Aesthetic Mind: Perspectives on Fiction and Beyond* with E. Kyprianidou and F. Vassiliou (Bloomsbury, forthcoming).

## THEODOROS KOUROS

Dr. Theodoros Kouros is a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Cyprus, specializing in the study of the everyday state, strategies and tactics, immigration, as well as space and place. His studies include a BA in Sociology, an MA in Social Anthropology and a Ph.D. in Sociology. He has participated in numerous research projects and has published his work in journals and edited volumes.

## FOTINI VASSILIOU

Fotini Vassiliou is Assistant Professor in Phenomenology at the Department of Philosophy of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and Adjunct Member of the "Brain and Mind" MSc Program at the University of Crete Medical School. She specializes in Phenomenological Philosophy of Mind and Phenomenological Aesthetics. She has published research papers in Greek and international journals on the role of embodiment in perceptual 101055903 – EMPACT – CREA-CULT-2021-COOP-2 constitution, the role more specifically of tactual intentionality, the varieties of perception (sensory, aesthetic, categorial, etc.), the delineation of pre-categorial and pre-conceptual acts, mereological analyses, the specifics of image-consciousness, and the issues of aesthetic disinterestedness and aesthetic engagement

## NICO CARPENTER

Nico Carpentier is Extraordinary Professor at Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic), Chief Research Fellow at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (Lithuania) and President of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (2020–2024). His theoretical focus is on discourse theory, his research is situated in the relationship between communication, politics and culture, especially towards social domains as war & conflict, ideology, participation and democracy. His latest monographs are *The Discursive-Material Knot: Cyprus in Conflict and Community Media Participation* (2017, Peter Lang, New York) and *Iconoclastic Controversies: A Photographic Inquiry into Antagonistic Nationalism* (2021, Intellect, Bristol).

## EFI KYPRIANIDOU

Dr. Efi Kyprianidou is an Assistant Professor in Philosophy and Art Theory at the Department of Fine Arts of the Cyprus Technological University. Her main research areas are Philosophy of Art, Aesthetics, and Arts Management. She has published papers in reviews and books, and she is editor of the volumes *Weaving Culture in Europe* (Nissos, 2017) and *The Art of Compassion* (Nissos, 2019). Currently she co-edits the book *Empathy and the Aesthetic Mind: Perspectives on Fiction and Beyond* with K. Bantinaki and F. Vassiliou (Bloomsbury, forthcoming). She has also curated art exhibitions in Cyprus, Greece, Germany and Great Britain, and she is the scientific consultant and head curator of the Virtual Museum of Modern and Contemporary Cypriot Art.

## MYRTO VOREAKOU

Myrto Voreakou is an architect holding an MSc in Architectural Design-Space-Culture from the National Technical University of Athens, and a MA in Cultural Policy and Development from the Open University of Cyprus. Her recent research deals with the concept of (corporate) cultural responsibility. She has been an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Architecture of the University of Cyprus and the University of Nicosia. Currently, she works as a scientific officer at the Cyprus Scientific Technical Chamber. She is a Ph.D. candidate in the field of Arts and Sustainability in the Department of Fine and Applied Arts of the Cyprus University of Technology.

# ARTISTS

## FANI BOUDOUROGLOU

Fani Boudouroglou is a visual artist and art educator active in New Media and Installation Art. Working across media she focuses on the relations between art, technology, science and society. She investigates subjects such as the human machine interaction, the unfolding of human consciousness related to nature and society, through expanded installations and narration. She studied painting at the Department of Applied and Visual Arts of The School of Fine Arts of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and holds a BA in Visual Arts from Aristotle School of Fine Arts and a MSc in Advanced Computer Systems from Aristotle School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. She was born, lives and works in Thessaloniki.

## RANIA EMMANOUILIDOU

Rania Emmanouilidou studied painting at the Department of Applied and Visual Arts of The School of Fine Arts of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She has presented six solo shows. She and Apostolos Rizos are the founders of Les Yper Yper, a hybrid platform of research and connection of the dynamics between arts, visual communication and design. She has organized and curated exhibitions, projects and residencies in collaboration with private and public institutions (TISF, ICTVC, Municipality of Torino-Italy, Municipality of Alberta- Canada) and she has presented seminars and workshops. Furthermore, she has worked as stage and costume designer for performance and theater.

## YIANNIS CHRISTIDIS

Yiannis Christidis is an academic and artist, born in Thessaloniki, who currently lives and works in Cyprus. Having studied Cultural Technology and Communication at the University of the Aegean, he holds an MSc in Sound Design from the University of Edinburgh, and a PhD in Social Anthropology of Sound from Cyprus University of Technology, where he is currently an Assistant Professor, at the Department of Fine Arts. His research focuses on the cultural aspect of sound, its functionality in everyday life and the relationship between the listeners and their place, while he is also interested in the ways the above can be communicated through visual and audio recordings.

## KYRIAKOS KOUSOULIDES

Kyriakos Kousoulides is a visual and media artist with a background in philosophy and computer science with over 10 years of experience in large-scale software development & heuristics. He Graduated from Athens National School of Fine Arts, Greece and further acquired an MA in Computational Arts from Goldsmith's University, London. His work has been presented in multiple group exhibitions in Cyprus, Greece, China, United Kingdom and Germany. He has created the projection mappings and 3d video environment for the Opening Ceremony of the European Capital of Culture Pafos2017 as a member of the creative team led by the Walk the Plank theatre company. For the last 4 years he teaches at the Cyprus University of Technology.

## VICKY PERICLEOUS

Vicky Pericleous is a visual artist and assistant professor at the Department of Fine Arts, Cyprus Technological University. She studied at Manchester Metropolitan University, Wimbledon School of Art, London, and the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice. Her work was shown in exhibitions at various international venues including Espace Communes, Paris, Hasselblad Foundation in Gothenburg, Zahoor Ul Akhlaq Gallery of the National College of Arts, Lahore, Multiplied Art Fair, Christie's, London as well as in various private galleries abroad. She has also exhibited in Evagoras Lanitis Centre, Limassol, and NiMAC -Municipal Art Centre, Omikron Gallery, Art Seen, Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation, amongst others, all in Nicosia. Pericleous exhibited in Monodrome, the 3rd Athens Biennale, and at Sanat Limani, as part of the European Capital of Culture Istanbul 2010. She has initiated and participated in the international visual-research project "Uncovered: Nicosia International Airport," 2010-13. She has been an active member of the Noise of Coincidence Art Group, an international art group/platform that has organised several exhibitions, actions, happenings and talks in Cyprus and abroad.

## LIA PSOMA

Lia Psoma completed her studies at the University of Fine Arts of St. Etienne in France and obtained the National Diploma of Art Plastique and the National Superior Diploma of Art Expression (1999–2003). She has Post Graduated from H.f.b.K, University of Fine Arts of Hamburg Germany, from the department of Visual Communication (2004–2006). She has cooperated with Stefi TV studio productions and Filmiki in Athens, as a stop motion paper animator and art director. She has collaborated with educational groups such as AKTO in BA (Hons) in animation and interactive media and postgraduate departments. She participates in group exhibitions from 2007 until today. She lives and works in Thessaloniki.

## DIMITRIS SAVVA

Dimitris Savva is a researcher and composer of electroacoustic music. He received his Bachelor degree (distinction), Master degree (distinction) and Doctoral degree in Electroacoustic Music Composition from the Ionian University, the Manchester University and the Sheffield University, respectively. His compositions have been performed in Greece, Cyprus, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Belgium, France, Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Canada, Japan and USA. Many of his compositions won prizes in prestigious competitions such as Metamorphoses 2012 –2014 –2018, Iannis Xenakis 2018 and SIME 2019.

## ANDREAS SAVVA

Andreas Savva is an artist and Special Teaching Staff at the Department of Fine Arts, Cyprus Technological University. He studied painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts (1991–1996) and attended the postgraduate programme in Digital Arts at the same School (2002–2004). He has held over ten solo exhibitions and his work has been shown in many group exhibitions around Europe, including Painting Notes, Art Seen, Nicosia (2018); So Close Yet So Far Away: Contemporary artists from Cyprus, Petah Tikva Museum of Art, Israel (2017); Mona Hatoum Art Workshop, Villa Iris, Fundación Marcelino Botín, Santander, Spain (2010); Open 12 International Exhibition of Sculptures and Installations, Venice Lido, Italy (2009); Instant Europe, Villa Manin, Centre for Contemporary Art, Passariano, Italy (2004); the BIACS 1st 101055903 – EMPACT – CREA-CULT-2021-COOP-2 International Biennale of Contemporary Art of Seville, The joy of my dreams, Spain (2004); EUROPE EXIST, Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece (2003). His installations can be seen at The Fields Sculpture Park, OMI International Art Center, Ghent, New York (2016) and at the 7th edition of CONTEXTS International Festival of Ephemeral Art, Sokolovsko, Poland (2017).

### *Disclaimer*

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## END OF PROGRAMME

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