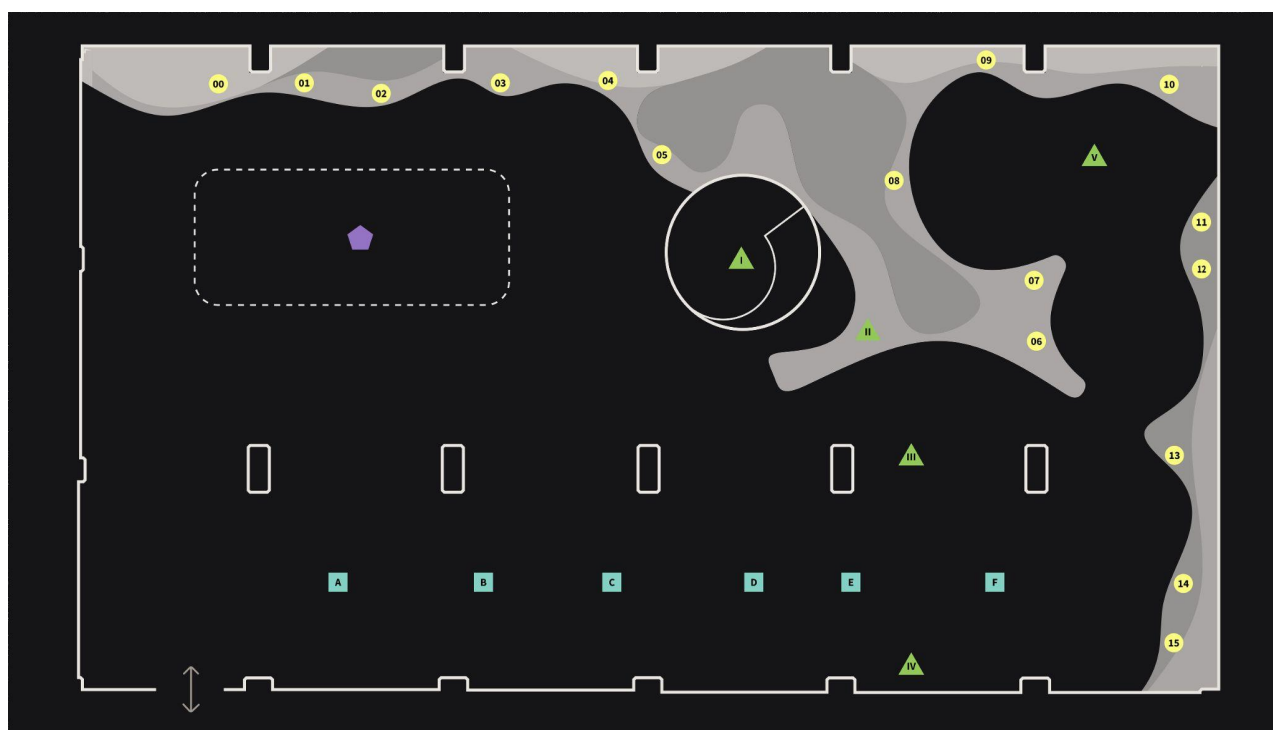




## Exhibition Works

The exhibition **Embodiments: Art, Atmospheres and Sensory Worlds** opens on **Friday, June 12**, with a **reception at 5:30 PM** at Kapnergostasio Museum, Hall K3 in Athens. **Events Launch:** Monday, June 15, 11:30 am. **Closing Day:** Saturday, June 20, 08:00 pm.

Below is the list of participating exhibitors alongside briefs for the exhibited works and their bios.



Installation / Projection



Screen



Table



## ***Echoes, Voices & Ecos de Luz***

### ***Voices. Listeners in the Noise***

#### ***Echoes***

Severino Alfonso & Loukia Tsafoulia | Synesthetic Research & Design Lab  
2024 - 2025

#### **Description**

At the core of the exhibition *Embodiments / Embodied Perceptions* lies *Echoes*, a space responsive to the visitor's breathing and movement through real-time adaptation of light and sound events; a site of co-regulation and of bodily and perceptual awareness. It is designed to raise awareness and foster acceptance of neurodivergent spatial experiences, creating meaningful connections between art, technology, and human perception.

For autistic individuals, sensory input profoundly shapes how they interact with the world, making physical environments critical to their well-being. The concept of disability is constructed not only at the site of the body but also in multiscale architectural operations and in the spaces that mediate between us and our desires. Spatial access remains consequential to agency, empowerment, and self-possession. "Echoes" invites participants to engage their own bodies and senses to empathize with the emotional experiences of others.

Constructed from wood and cork and equipped with experimental sensors, the work unfolds across two interrelated environments. On the one hand, a collective exterior space where light pulses and gradually shifts in intensity and color functions as a beacon, inviting us toward it; on the other, a protected interior space reminiscent of a cocoon. Inside, a dynamic light projection evoking the Moon, along with sounds that adapt in real time to the participant's movements and breathing rhythms, create a personalized sensory and self-regulating experience.

**Voices: Listeners in the Noise** short film documentary shares first-hand narratives that reveal how urban soundscapes affect autistic individuals, raising awareness and inspiring more inclusive cities.

The interviews' transcripts result in a research project that advances knowledge about how ASD/ND individuals experience urban environments and how collaborative efforts between neurodivergent and neurotypical communities, alongside professionals in art, design, technology, and healthcare, can contribute to the creation of more inclusive, autism-friendly spaces. The coding of the "Voices" interviews aims to offer insights for designers, planners, and policymakers and contribute actionable research on this critical topic.

The movie and trailer contain visual and audio elements that some viewers may find distressing (e.g, sirens, bright lights, loud noises). Viewer discretion is advised.

Both works were developed by Severino Alfonso and Loukia Tsafoulia as part of the *ReSilence* artistic residency of the European EU Horizon S+T+ARTS (Science, Technology & Art) program, in collaboration with the Greek computer vision company up2metric and the National Centre for Research and Technological Development (CERTH), as well as the film maker Elpida Nikou.

## Biographies

### Severino Alfonso & Loukia Tsafoulia

Severino Alfonso's and Loukia Tsafoulia's creative and research praxis is rooted in multimedia art, inclusive design, and cognitive sciences. They create sensory multi-modal structures that draw associations between the symbolic world of objects and spaces and notions of embodiment, corporeality, and acceptance.

Their work has been presented at international art and architecture exhibitions, including BASE Milano, the Markets of Trajan Museum in Rome, the Venice Architecture Biennale, the Municipal Theatre of Piraeus, and the IE Creativity Center in Segovia, as well as at significant design events in the United States and Europe. They have received international distinctions and research fellowships, such as the EDRA ArtPlace Award, the EU S+T+ARTS ReSilence program, the ROM for Kunst og Arkitektur writing fellowship, and research fellowships from the Jefferson Institute for Smart & Healthy Cities.

### Synesthetic Research and Design Lab

The **Synesthetic Research & Design Lab (SR&DL)** is an interdisciplinary design research platform exploring how people sense, perceive, and inhabit space—especially the experiences of those whose voices remain underrepresented within dominant architectural narratives. Rooted in practices of care, co-creation, embodied cognition, and sensory ethnography, the lab brings together architecture, media arts, cognitive sciences, disability studies, and lived experience expertise to imagine more empathetic, responsive environments.

The SR&DLab is conceived as a place where history and theory interweave with practice, where sensory difference becomes a generative design principle, and where interdisciplinary collaboration opens new pathways for inclusive futures. We are committed to cultivating environments—and conversations—that honor complexity, expand empathy, and redefine how we design for and with diverse bodies and minds. Our work unfolds across multiple, interwoven modalities of inquiry, each offering a different lens for understanding sensory experience, spatial perception, and neurodivergent ways of navigating the world. In our works, art is both a method and a catalyst: a way to probe the limits of conventional architectural representation and to reimagine spatial experience through multisensory, participatory means.

Official link: <https://www.synestheticdesignlab.com/>

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### ***A dreamcatcher, broken in 2 parts and in two days***

(modular performance in progress, hanging and floating sculptural structure)

Dimitris Ameladiotis | Visual artist & performer

#### **Description**

Around a dreamcatcher, I will tell you the story of Phaethon and the Sun through vocal improvisations, based in part on the version of the myth as conveyed by the poet Ovid in his *Metamorphoses*.

a) Saturday 13 June 2026. Performance of the 1st part of the performance

b) Saturday 20 June 2026. Performance of the 1st part of the performance

In the empty space between these two parts and the days of the modular performance, the dreamcatcher will hover in the void, patiently awaiting (through its inevitable movements) its incarnation and animation.

## Biography

**Dimitris Ameladiotis** (1979) studied at the School of Fine Arts in Thessaloniki (BA degree), the Koninklijke Akademie in Gent (Erasmus program), and the Chelsea College of Art in London (PgDip & MA). He has taken part in events held by Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art, MOMus-Museum of Contemporary Art in Thessaloniki, MOMus-Museum Alex Mylona in Athens, MOMus-Experimental Center for the Arts in Thessaloniki, the Benaki Museum, the Onassis Foundation ( STEGI), the DESTE Foundation for Contemporary Art, the Tellogleion Foundation for Arts of AUTH(Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), the Goethe Institute, and others. He has presented solo shows and performances in project spaces and galleries. Also, he held lectures and workshops at the Department of Visual &Applied Arts of AUTH (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), the Department of Visual & amp; Applied Arts of UOWM (University of Western Macedonia ), the Benaki Museum, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, MOMus-Museum of Contemporary Art in co-operation with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, etc.

Official link: <https://ameladiotis.wordpress.com/category/works-objects-paintings/>

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## ***Water Glint***

## ***Endoscope Environment***

## ***The Falling Fractal of Duration***

## ***Tswallow***

Adam Wolfond & Estée Klar | Dis Assembly  
2025

### **Description**

***What If My Body as a Beacon for this World?*** is an immersive audio-visual installation, including sculptural interventions, moving text and spatialized multi-channel sound. Led by Adam Wolfond, Dis assembly experimented with alternative image and audio-capturing techniques, such as endoscopic and body-mounted cameras, and hydrophones to challenge dominant, neurotypical codes of perception. What If My Body as a Beacon for this World? invites viewers to move through a layered, saturated, multisensory environment to consider the depth of autistic relation and creation.

## **Biographies**

### **Adam Wolfond**

MA, Concordia University, Canada  
Co-Director, Dis Assembly

### **Dr. Estée Klar**

PhD Critical Disability Studies, York University, Canada  
Co-Director, Dis Assembly

## **Disassembly**

**Dis Assembly** is an experimental arts space dedicated to supporting the conditions for neurodiverse and autistic creative practices. Through collective study, discussion, and creation, we emphasize process and collaboration, with particular focus on the non-speaking autistic community who communicate with

devices and require daily assistance. Led by co-founders Adam Wolfond, a non-speaking, autistic poet and artist, and his mother Dr. Estée Klar, Dis Assembly draws from affect theory, disability studies, and ecological relationality, to embrace creative interdependence—what Adam describes as “atmospheres”—where boundaries between self, other, and environment dissolve. One project at a time, we disassemble the world to find new ways of attuning, relating and creating.

Official link: <https://www.dis-assembling.com/>

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### ***Flight paths***

### ***Finding place, discovering joy***

### ***Memories of place***

### ***People flow, Dublin City University***

### ***Using Autistic Self-Expression in the Design Process: Visual representations of sensory experiences, outside the hegemony of words***

### ***Visualizing Autistic Experiences of Architectural Space***

Stuart Neilson | Independent writer and artist

2018-2026

#### **Description**

A collection of images and processed video exploring intersections of space and place. ***Finding place, discovering joy*** is a video sequence following a day in Cork City, Ireland. ***Memories of place*** addresses attention, place as accumulation of memories, and cultivating strangeness. The study ***People flow, Dublin City University*** is a map, photographs, tactile panel and poem engaging with the pedestrian entrance of a university campus in mixed media and developed in a collaboration with Magda Mostafa. The poster ***Using Autistic Self-Expression in the Design Process*** accompanies these three pieces.

The poster ***Visualizing Autistic Experiences of Architectural Space*** accompanies the presentation by Stuart Neilson and Chryssa Dislis on autistic and non-autistic experiences of space.

#### **Biography**

Stuart Neilson is a writer, artist and health statistician whose work is shaped by an autism diagnosis in 2009, at the age of 45. He helped found the innovative Diploma in Autism Studies at University College Cork, Ireland. His images explore autistic portrayals and reactions to sensory stimulus and motion, particularly in public spaces, and complement his written work. His work has been exhibited in Cork, Dublin, the Venice Biennale, Phoenix, New Haven and London. Stuart Neilson's publications include academic research, books and contributions to anthologies of adult autistic lives.

Official link: <https://wordpress.stuartneilson.com/>

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01

## ***Vía Onda Corta***

Erik Deerly | University of Texas Rio Grande Valley & Director of the School of Art and Design  
2024

### **Description**

***Vía Onda Corta*** provides an immersive experience that delves into the lush and vibrant tropical forest. With breathtaking visuals and sound, the film takes you on a mesmerizing journey to uncover the mystique of this natural wonderland. *Vía Onda Corta* is a captivating, animated tri-channel audio-visual cinematic project.

### **Biography**

**Erik Deerly** is an audiovisual artist exploring synesthetic experiences through perception and cognition. He has received a New Frontiers of Creativity Grant, multiple film festival honors, a South by Southwest Interactive prize, a Lumen Prize selection, and an Aesthetica Art Prize. Erik is a professor and Director of the School of Art and Design at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Official link: <https://erikdeerly.com/>

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02

## ***Synesthesia***

Michel Gagné | GAGNE International LLC & Animation Filmmaker  
2014 & 2010

### **Description**

***Synesthesia***. In the summer of 2013, composer Gheorghe Costinescu commissioned artist Michel Gagné to create an animated visualization based on his 1973 work, Dots, Lines, and Patches for recorded electronic sounds. The experiment resulted in a true synesthetic rendition where senses overlap and blend with one another.

### **Biography**

**Michel Gagné** has worked for several animation companies, such as Don Bluth, Warner Bros, Disney, Pixar, Cartoon Network, Nickelodeon, Paramount, Sony, etc. His work can be seen in dozens of feature films including, *The Iron Giant*, *Demolition Man*, *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*, *Osmosis Jones*, *Brave & Ratatouille*. He was awarded a BAFTA, an Annie, as well as awards and nominations across movies, animation, video games and comics. He lives in the Pacific Northwest, USA, where he's currently producing, directing and animating a 2D hand drawn feature film based on his graphic novel, *The Saga of Rex*.

Official link: <https://www.gagneint.com/index.html>

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03

### ***Esmark – Husby-klit Bk* [Video]**

Robert Seidel | Visual artist, experimental filmmaker & curator  
2017

#### **Description**

The band “Esmark” is a collaboration between the sound architect Nikolai von Sallwitz (Taprikk Sweezee) and the experimental artist Alsen Rau (Scheich in China, On+Brr). The track “Husby-klit Bk.” is taken from their double album “Māra I & II”, which was released on Bureau B. The music video by Robert Seidel is based on a live video performance, in which a modular video synthesizer generates mental spaces between floating and overwriting realities. The visual material is based on a convolute of geographical impressions, which are fused by the cinematic soundscape into a continuous stream of dissolving memories.

#### **Biography**

**Robert Seidel’s** projections, installations and experimental films have been shown in numerous international festivals, as well as at galleries and museums such as the ZKM Karlsruhe, Art Center Nabi Seoul and MOCA Taipei. He is interested in pushing the boundaries of abstracted beauty through cinematographic approaches, as well as ones drawn from science. By the organic interplay of structural, spatial and temporal concepts he creates an evolving complexity of multifaceted readings. Seidel lives in Berlin/Jena as artist and curator.

**Esmark**, named after a glacier at Spitzbergen that debouches into the Ymerbay, is a collaboration between the sound architect Nikolai von Sallwitz (Taprikk Sweezee, Karachi Files) and the experimental artist Alsen Rau (Scheich in China, On+Brr), both based in Hamburg. In late 2016 they recorded the albums Māra I and Māra II in Scandinavian solitude, which were released on Bureau B in 2017.

**Official link:** <https://robertseidel.com/>

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05

11

### ***Flow Unlocked. Real love you in the present***

### ***Flow Unlocked. Distance is nothing***

Georgia Pavlopoulou | UCL psychologist & autism researcher  
Briony Campbell | Photographer, filmmaker & creative facilitator.  
2025

#### **Description**

**Flow Unlocked** is a collaborative knowledge exchange project connected to University College London’s **Group for Research in Relationships and Neurodiversity (GRRAND)**. The project explores the importance of relationships to autistic people’s mental health and quality of life, while celebrating the depth, sensitivity, and creativity with which autistic people relate to the world.

Dr Georgia Pavlopoulou is an **Associate Professor at University College London (UCL)**, developmental psychologist, psychotherapist, and founder of GRRAND. She leads several national initiatives involving more than 100 autistic people as co-producers, aiming to transform mental health systems, family and

peer support, and adapted psychotherapies for autistic and ADHD people, with or without learning disabilities.

Understanding the needs of local communities has been central to the project's vision. As Professor Alan Thompson, Dean of the Faculty of Brain Sciences and Pro Vice Provost at UCL, reflected, the outcomes of the project are "so important, despite what's going on in the world around us," helping to highlight autistic people's relationships and promote autistic acceptance.

Flow Unlocked emerged from a shared belief held by Dr Pavlopoulou and autistic co-investigator Jon Adams: that human relationships are the often-forgotten foundation of mental health. Together, the team imagined a society that not only makes space for neurodivergent people, but actively creates opportunities for autistic and ADHD people across the lifespan to thrive.

The collaboration itself began during the first COVID-19 lockdown. Although Dr Pavlopoulou and artist-filmmaker Briony Campbell had never met in person, their first phone conversation became a heartfelt exchange about neurodiversity, autistic parity, relationships, and creative methodologies. This relational ethos became the foundation of the project.

Briony Campbell is a British artist, filmmaker, photographer, and curator whose interdisciplinary practice explores identity, memory, care, grief, social connection, and collaborative storytelling. Her work is recognised for its intimate and emotionally sensitive approach to documentary and participatory arts practice.

Developed through co-produced research with neurodivergent people, artists, scholars, and activists, Flow Unlocked brought together autistic Londoners over six months of consultations, conversations, and poetry workshops during and after the first lockdown.

The project used an **experience-sensitive approach** informed by the **Eight Dimensions of Experience** (Pavlopoulou, 2020; McGreevy, 2024) to explore how autistic experience unfolds across interconnected emotional, sensory, embodied, spatial, social, communicative, cognitive, and temporal dimensions. Attention to these dimensions allowed participants to move beyond deficit-based narratives and express nuanced forms of autistic meaning-making, relationships, and identity.

For some, this emerged through processes of **sense-making**, where routines, textures, sounds, memories, and creative rituals became anchors during uncertainty and social disruption. Others explored experiences of **insideness**, rich internal worlds, sensory attunements, and emotional landscapes often overlooked within dominant understandings of autism or hidden beneath neurotypical masking.

Participants reflected on personal journeys through isolation, overwhelm, masking, grief, intimacy, care, self-discovery, and connection. Together, these experiences unfolded stories of social **(dis)connectedness**, revealing both the pain of exclusion and the possibility of closeness, solidarity, and collective understanding.

Alongside these reflections, the project foregrounded moments of **autistic joy**, creative flow, sensory pleasure, humour, deep focus, shared understanding, and collective expression.

The project unfolded through a series of collaborative stages:

### **1. Consultation and Listening**

Autistic Londoners came together through conversations and reflective dialogue to share experiences of lockdown, wellbeing, relationships, and survival.

## **2. Poetry Workshops**

Participants transformed memories, sensations, emotions, and reflections into poetry and spoken expression, creating spaces of trust, creativity, and collective meaning-making.

## **3. Visual and Sensory Exploration**

Photography, drawing, objects, and everyday environments were used to explore sensory and embodied dimensions of autistic experience.

## **4. Collaborative Film Creation**

Briony Campbell worked as an artistic and relational translator, helping transform lived experience, poetry, images, emotions, and sensory fragments into cinematic language. Through deep listening, dialogue, and visual experimentation, the filmmaking process remained open and participant-led.

## **5. Film Iteration and Collective Reflection**

The films evolved through collaborative review and reflection, allowing participants to shape editing, rhythm, atmosphere, imagery, and emotional resonance.

The resulting works move beyond conventional documentary forms, offering intimate and multidimensional perspectives on autistic experience while foregrounding creativity, agency, care, and collective storytelling.

The films invite audiences into the flow of a neurodiverse team, encouraging us to listen differently, feel differently, and encounter autistic experience as relational, creative, and profoundly human.

## **Biographies**

**Briony Campbell** is a photographer, filmmaker and creative facilitator. She creates visual stories about intimate relationships, intercultural relations, social integration, and loss. Her work has been awarded, exhibited and published internationally, and she collaborates with academic institutions such as UCL, Kent University, Birmingham University. As a facilitator Briony works collaboratively with underrepresented groups and subjects. Through participatory art methodologies she aims to amplify the diversity of voices, crucial to building inclusive societies.

Project examples: Documentary project on British+Afghan families in East Africa; a collaboration with her father in the last months of his life; A film about differing belief systems within close relationships; Mentoring terminally ill people in a Birmingham hospice to make their own films.

**Georgia Pavlopoulou** was awarded with a PhD from UCL in 2019, examining the relationships of autistic and non-autistic siblings, and then went on to a post-doc at UCL looking at personalised care in sleep management with autistic adolescents and sleep research priorities of autistic adults.

Georgia is a Lecturer based at UCL, Department of Psychology and Human Development teaching Psychological aspects of counselling and is lead autism workforce trainer at Anna Freud Centre. She is passionate working with multidisciplinary teams, experts by experience and scholar activists in community-based mental health research. Georgia is using a combination of behavioural, phenomenological and participatory techniques together with a developmental approach to understand social determinants of autistic mental health through autistic people's personal accounts (stress, belonging, loneliness, low mood, family experiences). Georgia is committed to creative participatory health and educational research, co-producing work with community members. Georgia has been leading national and international Short Courses for mental health practitioners who work in educational and NHS systems with YP with atypical development, funded by Health England Education. Georgia is passionate about working with marginalized groups, service users, scholar activists and Trusts to

facilitate service transformation and advance mental health practice through better cross agency collaboration and better service user participation.

**Official links:** <https://www.neurodiversity-research.org/> , [www.brionycampbell.com](http://www.brionycampbell.com) , <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/culture-online/trellis-2020-21/flow-unlocked> & <https://flowunlocked.co.uk/>

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08

### ***If the earth is flesh, everything remains***

Yani Aviles | Transdisciplinary conceptual artist, researcher, curator & writer  
2025

#### **Description**

Depicting the homeland of the Taíno people in Borikén (Puerto Rico), the film investigates how our physical well-being is connected to the Earth's well-being—moving across oceans that cross borders, mountains and caves with bats and pre-colonial petroglyphs, ancient ceiba trees, and avilés's grandmother's home. These places hold both historical and intergenerational harm, and the enduring wisdom of the land and its people.

Staying present to the harm of Spanish colonization, pollution from companies like Bayer-Monsanto, and U.S. occupation, the film also turns toward native plants that heal outside Western medicine and documents spaces where Black and Indigenous people hid and survived—preserving traditional knowledge and practices that protect and heal.

Through long takes, original field recordings, sound manipulation, scholarship, and ancestral and somatic teachings and practices, aviles explores complex trauma, grief, and resilience, translating these sensations and responses into poetic metaphors. Highlighting shifts in perspective, the imagery and sound invite reflection on the relationships among land, body, spirit, and time—beyond extractive and colonial paradigms.

#### **Biography**

**Yani Aviles** is a transdisciplinary conceptual artist, researcher, curator, writer. Tufts University Art Galleries and The John Michael Kohler Arts Center (commissioning institutions).

Yani aviles (b. New York, USA) is a transdisciplinary conceptual artist whose practice is a form of medicine making and collective inquiry. Guided by a liberation praxis, they work across media, including time-based practices, sculpture, installation, and text, employing multisensory, participatory, and site-responsive methods to transform states of crisis into moments for healing. Aviles holds an MFA from Northwestern University and a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, along with certifications in integrative somatic trauma therapy, herbalism, and energy healing.

**Official link:** <https://yaniaviles.com/>

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09

### ***Re-sensing Art: Access to Art and through Art***

Maria Petasi | Translator and Audio Descriptor, Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting, Ionian University.

Emmanouel Rovithis | Laboratory Teaching Personnel, Department of Audiovisual Arts, Ionian University.

Vilelmini Sosoni | Associate Professor, Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting, Ionian University.  
2026

### **Description**

The public is invited to experience the works Berlin / Studio and Thessaloniki Living Room II by visual photographer Christina Dimitriadis through original, musically enhanced audio descriptions. This is an innovative, multimodal approach to the design and implementation of multisensory experiences that makes art accessible through art, while simultaneously highlighting and enriching the aesthetic and conceptual dimensions of the visual artwork through the combination of words and music. A collaboration between two departments of the Ionian University—the Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting and the Department of Audiovisual Arts—this project focuses on the intersection of art, accessibility, and social inclusion, exploring practical and theoretical tools that make the cultural experience accessible to all.

### **Re-sensing Art: Access to Art and through Art**

Photography: **Christina Dimitriadi**

Audio Description: **Maria Petasi**

Sound Augmentation: **Panagiota Stefanidou, Evrikleia-Maria Magouliti**

Coordination – Research / Artistic Curation: **Vilelmini Sosoni, Emmanouel Rovithis**

**Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting & Department of Audio and Visual Arts, Ionian University**

### **Biographies**

**Vilelmini Sosoni** holds a PhD in Translation and Text Linguistics from the University of Surrey and is Associate Professor at the Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting at the Ionian University where she also serves as Associate Head. She is the Director of the Research Laboratory for Specialised Translation and Language Technologies (STraLaT) and a member of the University's Gender Equality and Anti-Discrimination Committee. She also has extensive professional experience having worked as a professional translator, editor, content creator and audiovisual services provider. She has participated in several EU-funded projects and has published extensively in the areas of the Translation of Institutional Texts, Machine Translation and Audiovisual Translation and Accessibility, including Audio Description and SDH.

**Maria Petasi** is a translator, researcher, and postgraduate student at the Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting at Ionian University. She specializes in audiovisual translation with a focus on accessibility services, including audio description and subtitling for the d/Deaf and hard of hearing. Her research interests focus on accessibility in the arts and inclusive language in translation practice. As a graduate of the School of English at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, she works professionally in translation from English to Greek and vice versa, across a wide range of content, from literary and academic texts to technical and promotional material.

**Emmanouel Rovithis** serves as Laboratory Teaching Personnel at the Department of Audiovisual Arts of the Ionian University, teaching courses related to Art Education, Music Programming, Sound Art, and Gamification. He holds a PhD in Electronic Music Composition and an MA in Music Composition. His research is focused on Audio Games, Audio Augmented Reality, and Gamification. As a music composer and sound designer for theater and cinema Dr. Rovithis has collaborated with prominent directors and

choreographers and his music has been performed globally. As an instructional designer he has delivered educational software and workshops on behalf of various educational organizations.

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12

## ***Harmony***

Lisa Park | Artist & Educator, University of Pennsylvania  
2024

### **Description**

***Harmony*** is an interactive audiovisual performance that explores the balance of Yin and Yang through sound, movement, and generative visualizations.

The performance begins with the visualization of the creation of the Universe, Nature, and Humanity through large-scale projections. Light and darkness, male and female, Sun and Moon are presented not as opposing entities, but as complementary components of a unified whole.

A female dancer embodies Yin, symbolizing the Moon, while a male dancer embodies Yang, representing the Sun. Through choreography and physical interaction, the two performers explore symmetry, duality, and interdependence. Their movements become a metaphor for balance and the dynamic relationship between contrasting energies.

Throughout the performance, sound and visuals respond to the dancers' touch and movement in real time. The intensity of the audiovisual output amplifies according to the degree of physical interaction, transforming the performers' bodies into living interfaces that generate an evolving sensory environment.

### **Biography**

**Lisa Park** is an artist working with emerging technologies to create interactive installations and performances that explore human emotion and connection in the digital age.

Her work has been exhibited internationally at institutions including the New Museum, Smithsonian, ArtScience Museum, and many others. Her work has also been featured in media outlets including Art21, Artnet, The New York Times, and PBS.

She received a BFA from ArtCenter College of Design and Masters degree from NYU, and currently teaches in the Fine Arts and Design program at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Official link:** <https://www.thelisapark.com/>

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14

## ***Upright Nationalism***

Chloe Pascal Crawford | Artist  
2022

### **Description**

***Upright Nationalism*** consists of fast-cut clips sourced from news, promotional, and personal YouTube videos depicting people using exoskeletons playing over a marching band rendition of Stars and Stripes Forever. The majority of clips show wheelchair users with paralysis with various medical exoskeleton models, along with some clips of military and industrial/manufacturing exoskeleton users. The video

begins with a sequence of users (or “test pilots” as they are often called by exoskeleton manufacturers), transferring from their wheelchairs to a chair with the device splayed out, and then strapping themselves in or with the help of physical therapists or trainers. Some of the videos with women strapping in include lingering shots of the torso strap tightening under their breasts. The users then grab onto arm crutches or walkers and stand. Most are filmed from the front or side of their bodies, though one clip of a woman user shows a close up from behind. Users or trainers then activate standing and walking functions in the device by pressing buttons on a wristwatch or other remote control.

### Biography

**Chloe Pascal Crawford** is a multidisciplinary artist highlighting the labor disabled people undertake to set the conditions for their existence in public spaces. Her work has been shown at the Museum für Moderne Kunst (Frankfurt, DE), Artists Space (New York, NY), and the John Michael Kohler Arts Center (Sheboygan, WI). She has an MFA from Mason Gross School of the Arts - Rutgers University, and attended the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program. She recently received a Wynn Newhouse Award. She lives in East Lansing, Michigan where she is an Assistant Professor at Michigan State University.

Official link: <https://chloepascalcrawford.com/>

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### ***A Case for Sensory Decolonisation: Autistic Escape***

Magda Mostafa & Mahinour Yasser | StudioTM  
2023

#### Description

**Figure 1: *Overstimulation*** Digital Collage by Mahinour Yasser  
Featuring images under the Unsplash License by photographers  
Aaron Sebastian, New York, 2018  
Mauro Mora, Santiago, Chile, 2016  
Dan Freeman, Bangkok, Thailand, 2017

#### **Figure 2: *The Sensory Atlas***

A digital compilation by Mahinour Yasser of visual contributions to The Sensory Atlas- a global call for visual representations of autistic sensory experiences in our cities. Featured artists include:  
David A Karasow, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA  
Joshua Downes, San Francisco, California, USA  
Stuart Neilsen, Cork, Ireland  
Dani Burns, London, UK

#### **Figure 3: *Heatmaps: The Geography of Sensing Space***, Stuart Neilsen

Photography, HeatMaps and Video by Stuart Neilsen;  
curation by Magda Mostafa;  
production by Mahinour Yasser  
A series of multimedia interpretations of space as a sensory map in digital prints and engraved MDF with video overlay. Sites featured include  
Rialto Bridge, Venice, Italy

Dublin City University Entrance Plaza, Dublin, Ireland  
Heraklion, Greece

### **Digital Film: *A Case for Sensory Decolonisation: Autistic Escape***

Magda Mostafa & Mahinour Yasser

Our built world today is increasingly a victim of capitalistic proliferation and our cities have become commodified canvases for sensory media, competing for our attention. No more so is this a challenge than through the autistic experience. The autistic experience affords us a litmus test for sensory taxation and can expose the impact of this sensory commodification.

***“A Case for Sensory Decolonisation: Autistic Escape”***, first displayed at the Venice Biennale’23 aims to highlight this global collective experience.

This collective voice- titled the Sensory Atlas- documents experiences of sensory overload from our global city sensoryscapes from the lens of autistic individuals themselves. Using crowd-sourced audio, photography, digital collage and film, it strives to capture the impact of the sensory colonisation of our cities on our autistic citizenry.

We invite you to be introspective and become aware of the impact the sensory environment has on your experience- both while experiencing the multi-media collection, and imagining your need to step away.

Our goal is to highlight the need for a spatial infrastructure that allows the full spectrum of sensory experiences- escape, retreat and refuge from sensory over-stimulation, while allowing for sensory seeking. Our hope is that with these steps we can create cities, spaces and places that are more available for all experiences.

### **Biographies**

#### **Magda Mostafa & Mahinour Yasser**

StudioTM, Co-Founder and Principal, StudioTM & Professor of Design, AUC and Visiting Instructor Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania.

**Magda Mostafa** is Founding Partner and Principal of StudioTM, a design consultancy based in Dubai specialising in Autism and Neuro-Inclusive Design, as well as Professor of Design at the American University in Cairo and Visiting instructor at the Weitzman School of Design at University of Pennsylvania. She is the author of the ASPECTSS® Design Index, the world’s first research-based design framework for autism. ASPECTSS was awarded the UIA Triennial Research Award in 2014 and Mostafa is the only laureate to be presented this award twice, awarded again in 2023 for her Autism Friendly University Design Guide. Through her consulting ASPECTSS has been used in architectures for autism and neurodiversity across 5 continents and her work has been presented globally and was most recently exhibited at the 2021 and 2023 Venice Architecture Biennales. She collaborates globally with leading architectural practices on typologies ranging across residences, schools, healthcare, sports and recreation as well as the urban city scale.

**Official links:** [www.studio-tm.online](http://www.studio-tm.online) & [www.autism.archi](http://www.autism.archi)



### ***Reading Neurodiversity through the Hellenic Parliament Library Collection***

Maria Kamilaki | Acting Director General, D.G. for Electronic Administration, Library & Publications, Hellenic Parliament

Vassiliki Papathanasiou | D.G. for Electronic Administration, Library & Publications, Hellenic Parliament  
Maria Vlassopoulou | Head of the Benaki Library and Political Personalities Collections Department,  
Library of Parliament  
2026

### **Description**

The exhibition includes parliamentary material reflecting the institutional approaches to autism and neurodiversity in Greece, as well as articles from the daily & periodical press and selected publications from the Collection of the Library of Parliament, highlighting representations of diversity in Greek public discourse over the past decades.

### **Biographies**

**Maria Kamilaki** holds a PhD in Linguistics from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and Master's degrees (MSc) in Cultural Management and Applied Linguistics. She recently completed her postdoctoral research at the Department of Mediterranean Studies of the University of the Aegean, entitled "From Language Attitudes to Language Policies: Discussing the Language Question in the Hellenic Parliament." She currently serves as Deputy Head of the Directorate General for Electronic Governance, Library and Publications of the Hellenic Parliament. In parallel, she is an Academic Tutor at the Hellenic Open University and an expert at the National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government (EKDDA).

**Vicky Papathanasiou** is European Culture graduate (Hellenic Open University) with advanced digital skills and fluency in Greek, English and German. Certified in parliamentary affairs, public administration, public relations and event planning. Background in major Greek and multinational companies (press, tv). Currently staffing the Directorate General for Electronic Administration, Library & Publications.

**Maria Vlassopoulou** was born and lives in Piraeus. She is a historian, a graduate of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, holder of a DEA degree in History from the University of Sorbonne and a PhD in Modern Greek Studies from the University of Cambridge. She is currently conducting postdoctoral research at the Department of Mediterranean Studies of the University of the Aegean. Since 2013, she has been Head of the Benakeios Library and Political Figures Collections Department, housed in the Tobacco Factory building. She has curated a series of outreach activities at both, the Hellenic Parliament building and the Tobacco Factory, whose history she has brought to light through primary archival research.

**Official link:** <https://library.parliament.gr/>

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### ***Biosensory Material Explorations***

Athina Papadopoulou | Assistant Professor of Architecture, Health, and Design & ReMEDiaLab NYIT  
(2019 - 2026)

### **Description**

**Biosensory Material Explorations** presents a collection of experimental projects developed by Athina Papadopoulou, alongside works created in collaboration with her students at the New York Institute of Technology. The showcased projects explore how sensory materials can support emotion regulation and

wellbeing through visual, tactile, olfactory, acoustic, or somatosensory interaction. Spanning scales from responsive wearable material systems to sensory material kits and kinetic wall panels, the work investigates affective materials across textiles, wood, and bioplastics. The exhibited prototypes are developed within larger studies involving participant interaction, physiological measurement, and subjective evaluation, aiming to translate affective human-material interaction research into design applications that support inclusive, neurodiverse, and healthier futures.

Viewers can “gently” interact with materials through touch.  
Wood, Textiles, Bioplastics

### Biography

**Athina Papadopoulou**, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of Architecture, Health, and Design. Her research focuses on programmable material environments that improve health and well-being through sensory interaction. By integrating digital, physical, material, and affective computing, she creates augmented human-material interaction systems. She earned her MS and Ph.D. in Design Computation from MIT, minoring in Human-Computer Interaction, and was a Presidential, Vergottis, and Leon Hyzen Fellow. Her doctoral dissertation, "Affective Matter: A Haptic Material Modality for Emotion Regulation and Communication," explored therapeutic material systems that respond to physiological signals like breathing and skin conductance. To scale this research, she founded Affective Matter Inc., developing wearable applications for mental health therapy. Additionally, she partners with non-profits to create inclusive design courses for individuals with sensory or mental disabilities. Prior to New York Tech, she taught design computation at MIT, Wentworth, and Boston Architectural College.

Official link: <https://www.nyit.edu/bio/athina-papadopoulou/>



### ***Artistics: Embodied Narratives of Autistic Experience***

Dr. Wenn B. Lawson | Curtin University, Australia

Mars Karakosta | Department of Fine Arts and Art Sciences, University of Ioannina

Sofia Marra | Psychologist (independent practitioner, autistic individual with late diagnosis)

Mars M | High School Student (Greece)

Emmanouela Anna Papadopoulou | Independent Visual Artist

Lydia Romanou | Design Student, Syros (Greece)

Elina Stylianou | Department of Fine Arts and Art Sciences, University of Ioannina

NeuroUnapologetic by TNA SPACE | TNA SPACE, Athens, Greece

Ioannis Voskopoulou | TNA SPACE, Neuroaffirming Psychologist (Curator of NeuroUnapologetic)

### Description

**Artistics** is a collective exhibition space bringing together works created by autistic artists and neurodivergent femininities. Through painting, sculpture, digital art, animation, mixed media, masks, illustration, and other forms of creative expression, the exhibition explores the relationship between body, identity, sensory experience, belonging, creativity, and self-discovery. Many of the works emerge from states of deep engagement and creative immersion that are often central to autistic experience. These moments of intense connection with an idea, material, or creative process are not an escape from the world, but a way of connecting more deeply with it. Through these experiences, artists often discover safety, meaning, expression, imagination, and opportunities for authentic self-expression.

Each piece offers a unique perspective on what it means to move through the world in an autistic body. Some works explore sensory landscapes and inner worlds, while others focus on identity, visibility, adaptation, authenticity, creativity, and the search for connection. Together, they form a tapestry of lived experiences that invites visitors to encounter autism not through stereotypes or explanations, but through presence, perception, and creation.

The exhibition includes both individual artistic works and collaborative projects. Among them is a collective installation by **NeuroUnapologetic by TNA SPACE**, featuring a series of artistic masks inspired by experiences of masking, identity, visibility, and authenticity. These masks function as personal narratives while also offering a collective reflection on the many versions of self that neurodivergent people are often expected to navigate in everyday life.

Rather than presenting autism as a clinical category, **Artistics** approaches autistic experience as a source of knowledge, perspective, imagination, and artistic expression. The exhibition creates space for voices that have often remained unheard or misunderstood, inviting visitors to engage with autistic ways of sensing, creating, and making meaning of the world.

Within the context of **EmBodiments**, **Artistics** celebrates the body not only as something we inhabit, but as something through which we focus, imagine, create, and connect. It is an invitation to step into worlds shaped by attention, sensory experience, creativity, and lived reality, discovering the rich relationship between embodiment and autistic ways of being.

### **Biographies**

**Dr. Wenn B. Lawson** is an autistic researcher, psychologist, author, educator, and poet whose contributions to the understanding of autism have been internationally recognized. Based in Australia and affiliated with Curtin University, his work has had a significant impact on research, education, and support for autistic people worldwide. He is one of the key theorists behind Monotropism Theory and has published numerous books and academic works highlighting the value of autistic perspectives and lived experience. Alongside his academic and literary work, poetry occupies a special place in his life. Through words, imagery, and symbolism, he explores themes of identity, nature, connection, joy, belonging, and the many different ways people experience the world. For Wenn, poetry is a way of transforming experience into meaning and creating bridges of understanding between people.

### *Poetic Contribution*

As part of **Artistics**, selected poetry by **Dr. Wenn B. Lawson** is presented, inviting audiences to engage with autistic experience through the power of language, imagery, and personal storytelling. His poems draw inspiration from nature, joy, connection, monotropism, and the deeply human need for understanding and acceptance. Rather than attempting to explain autism, his poetry creates a space in which readers can encounter it. Through words that become images and experiences, his work highlights creativity, sensitivity, and the many ways people make meaning of the world. It serves as a reminder that understanding is born not only through knowledge, but also through imagination, empathy, and art.

**Mars Karakosta** recently completed the first year of studies in the Department of Fine Arts and Art Sciences at the University of Ioannina. Working across sculpture and experimental materials, Mars explores themes of identity, belonging, community, and transformation. As an autistic trans artist, their creative practice reflects a journey of reconnecting with artistic expression and discovering spaces where authenticity, creativity, and community can flourish.

**Mars M** is a first-year high school student with a strong interest in art, video games, and animals—especially dogs. Creativity serves as an important way of understanding and exploring both the external world and their own inner experiences. Through writing, drawing, photography, and other

forms of artistic expression, Mars captures thoughts, observations, and experiences that are often difficult to communicate in other ways. Storytelling holds a special place in their life. They have been writing creatively since the age of nine and have been involved in theatre since the age of seven, developing a deep appreciation for stories and the many ways they can be told. For Mars, art is simultaneously a means of communication, exploration, and connection with the world around them.

**Sofia Marra** is a psychologist and an autistic individual with a late diagnosis. Her interest in autism stems both from her professional background and her lived experience. She has attended specialised trainings and seminars focusing on autistic femininities, masking, the relationship with the body, and sensory experience. Through her work and participation, she seeks to highlight approaches that move beyond stereotypes and create space for authenticity, self-expression, and neurodivergent experience. She is particularly interested in the intersection of art, identity, and neurodiversity.

**Emmanouela Anna Papadopoulou** presents a body of work that explores the notions of abandonment, memory, and the emotional imprints that persist over time. Through charcoal, photography, and mixed media techniques, her work turns attention to what often goes unnoticed, highlighting the subtle yet persistent presence of what remains. Her creative practice is characterised by intimacy, sensitivity, and careful observation. The works function as spaces of recognition and reflection, inviting the audience to pause within moments of silence, memory, and emotional connection.

**Lydia Romanou** is a design student based in Syros whose interests span illustration, animation, storytelling, gaming, and visual communication. Her work is often inspired by curiosity, imagination, and immersive creative exploration. Through digital media and design, she creates narratives and worlds that reflect her fascination with stories, characters, and the creative possibilities that emerge from focused attention and artistic experimentation.

**Elina Stylianou** is an undergraduate student in the Department of Fine Arts and Art Sciences at the University of Ioannina, specializing in sculpture. Born in Mansfield, UK, and raised in Cyprus, she has been engaged with art from an early age through drawing, sculpture, and mixed media. Her work is deeply inspired by the relationship between nature and artistic creation, often incorporating natural elements and specimens into her practice to explore connections between the organic world and human expression.

### **NeuroUnapologetic by TNA SPACE**

**NeuroUnapologetic** is a creative initiative developed through **TNA SPACE**, bringing together neurodivergent individuals through art, storytelling, and collective expression. For *EmBodiments*, the group presents a collection of artistic masks exploring masking, identity, authenticity, visibility, and belonging. Created from lived experience, the masks transform personal narratives into artistic expression, inviting audiences to reflect on the relationship between what is shown to the world and what is experienced within.

### **Curator**

**Ioannis Voskopoulos** is a neuroaffirming psychologist, and founder of **TNA SPACE** in Athens, Greece. His work focuses on autistic lived experience, identity, embodiment, community building, and neuroaffirming practice. Through Artistics, he seeks to create opportunities for autistic and neurodivergent voices to be heard, celebrated, and represented through creative expression.