



MARINA OLYMPIOS

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You and I, We Exist!

2018-2025

5 - 21 June 2025

Alpha C.K.

ART GALLERY

You and I, We Exist!

Walking, I videotape and collect natural pigments with which I paint. Through this process, a different, reverse journey in art has been created. Using video, I write a synaxarion of narrative documents. Sound and image in motion. From video, the moving photograph, I reach the final destination of the work: the canvas. The painted image.

From a historical perspective, painting was the precursor to photography, which in turn paved the way for the moving image. The artistic course of this work recreates this simplified association but in reverse course. Starting from video, it retraces the evolution through photography, with the canvas as final destination. It is an artistic approach to our encounter with the world, time, matter, light.

Walking, I record the passage of my shadow in the light on the ground. Throughout the four seasons of the year for many continuous years. I record the flows of iron-rich solutions. When it rains, mineral pigments flow, hydrated sulfates of copper, iron, and zinc crystallise. I collect all this material and, through it, I describe the complex aspects of human identity. Voices of various people expressing ideas, feelings, images. Voices that speak of the pain of death, illness, sympathy. An attempt at communication. **A different inner-human act and effort in which we find new ways for one person to connect with another, and new horizons and spaces where we can live.**

I describe the seasons of human identity among the flows of torrents, among the flows of pillow lavas I place the frozen image, and the flow of the work stops. A photograph I captured through my microscope: An inlier inside Cypriot peridot and quartz: Two-phase fluid inliers (gas and liquid). Crystals in fibrous forms trapped there since the beginning of time in the crystallization of water (inside agate from the Klirou area). This is my own time, my own discoveries: The time of revelation of the absolute beauty of an iridescent gypsum crystal that breaks the light spectrum into a rainbow within itself. I make art because I resist the destruction of mountains, the uncontrolled explosions of quarries. As if we are living in a house that is burning!

I speak of the Blue light with vanishing points open on the horizon, I speak of the decomposition of colour and light as I measure it in a refractometer, I speak of the light of night. All the paintings contain mineral pigments I gathered from the mines (ochre, cobalt blue, green, manganese hydroxides), and that is to remind that "painting opens us to life itself. Directly out into the Light and the dark."

As the years go by, it becomes more difficult for me to hold exhibitions. Because I believe that the more the sufferings of this world increase, the greater our own introspection should be. So this is what I have gathered over the past seven years. Among the mountains and the Geological Monuments of Nature more garbage, relentless material extractions and quarry blasts, more destruction.

So I paint. A peaceful reaction, I paint because I resist the endless field of our indifference, of our destruction.



102 x 203 cm



123 x 92.5 cm



102 x 162 cm



202 x 123 cm



163 x 103 cm



202 x 123 cm



200 x 110.5 cm



102 x 203 cm



202 x 123 cm



102 x 203 cm



102 x 203 cm



222 x 95 cm



162 x 102 cm



242 x 82 cm



242 x 92 cm



279 x 75 cm



102 x 161 cm



203 x 102 cm



203 x 102 cm



123 x 103 cm



143 x 120 cm



143 x 102 cm



143 x 102 cm



94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



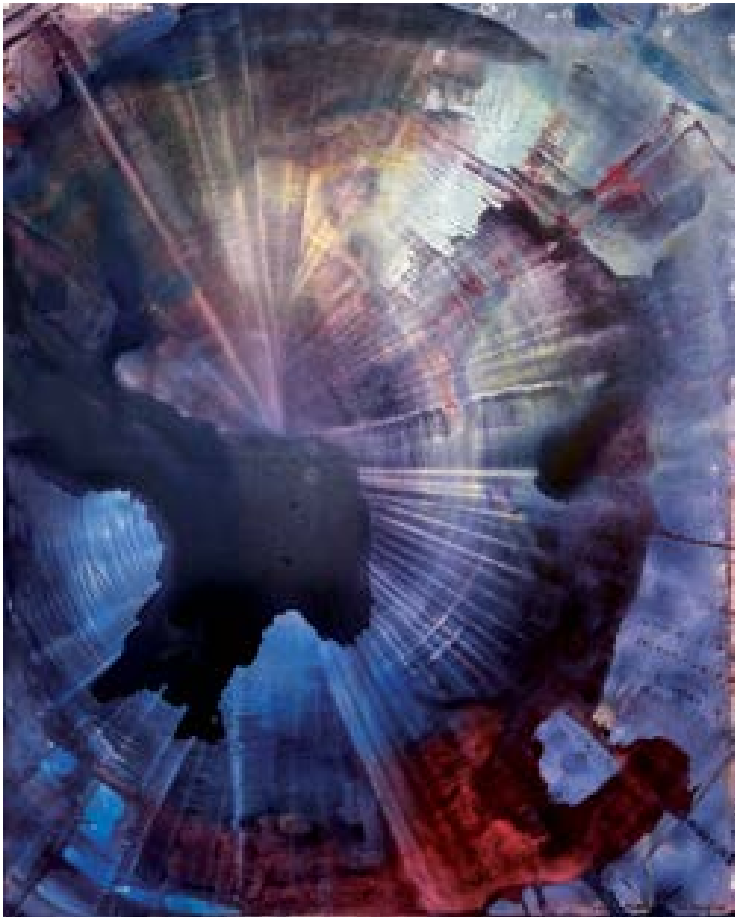
94 x 75 cm



94 x 75 cm



93 x 123 cm



94 x 73 cm



94 x 73 cm



75 x 94 cm



64 x 103 cm



89 x 76 cm



84 x 63 cm



83 x 62 cm



93 x 63 cm



84 x 67 cm



83 x 62 cm



68 x 57 cm



68 x 57 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 × 52 cm



64 × 52 cm



64 × 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 × 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



64 x 52 cm



68 x 56 cm



163 x 102 cm



123 x 93 cm

Marina Olympios

Born in 1968, Marina Olympios studied in Paris where she graduated from the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux - Arts of Paris with a diploma in Sculpture - multimedia (avec les félicitations du Jury). In 1994 she received a grant for research and worked at the Institut des Hautes Études en Arts Plastiques in Paris. In 1995 she received the prize for research in Visual Arts of the French Ministry of Culture FIACRE. In 1996 she worked in the International Studio-Curator Programme in New York financed by the A.F.A.A French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

She presented 21 solo exhibitions (selection below):

1992 “L’Art est Justice” CENTRE GEORGES POMPIDOU, Revue Parlée, Paris, France

1994 “Eating Philosophy” Galerie OZ, Paris, France

1994 “Medals of Honour” Galerie OZ, Paris, France

1995 “Let Me Be Your Guide” Galerie Renos Xippas, Paris, France

1995 “The Travesty of Art” Ileana Tounta, Contemporary Art Center, Athens, Greece

1996 “Europa A Story of Art” PASSAGES Center for Contemporary Art, Troyes, France

1996 “Playing Darts” Galerie Pierre Nouvion, Monaco

1997 “I am Interested in Real Fiction” Galerie Pour La Vie, CAPC Museum of Contemporary Art, Bordeaux, France

1997 “Lecture sur les Blue Pigs” MUSEE GEO-CHARLES, Echirolles, France

1998 “BLUE PIGS” INTERNATIONAL Studio Curator Program New York, USA

1998 “DAY 3 BLUE PIGS” LEHMANN - MAUPIN Gallery, New York, U.S.A

2006 “Five Different Stones” Gallery Kypriaki Gonia, Larnaka, Cyprus

2010 “Painting Testimony” DIATOPOS Center for Contemporary Art, Nicosia, Cyprus

2013 “Le Manifeste d’une Femme au Monde”, University of Cyprus

2015 “Painting is my Resistance” Alpha C.K. Art Gallery, Nicosia, Cyprus

2018 “The Liquid Body” Alpha C.K. Art Gallery, Nicosia, Cyprus

2023 “An Everlasting Love” Riana Raouna Gallery, Paphos, Cyprus

Works of Art of Marina Olympios belong to the following collections: Dakis Joannou Collection Athens, the Daskalopoulos Collection Los Angeles, Pierre Nouvion Monaco, Marzio Carver Monaco, Ministry of Education & Culture Cyprus, Central Bank Cyprus, Bank of Cyprus Cultural Centre, Laiki Bank Cyprus, Municipality of Larnaka, Electricity Authority of Cyprus.

Marina Olympios is the author of a number of books, including:

“L’ Art est Justice”, Centre Georges Pompidou and editions DESTE Foundation for Contemporary Art

“Europa a Story of Art” editions DESTE Foundation for Contemporary Art and the J.F. Costopoulos Foundation

“Le Manifeste d’une Femme au Monde” University of Cyprus.



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