

# I FOUND MYSELF WITHIN A FOREST

GIOULA and OLGA  
PAPADOPOULOU

ART INSTALLATION

21.03 - 21.06.2024

The joint installation by Gioula and Olga Papadopoulou consists of two works that coexist and converse with each other, posing existential/philosophical questions about the cycle of life. Focusing on the concepts of tree/forest and water as life-giving elements, the works form a virtual forest space and complement each other morphologically and conceptually, with the depiction of the (dry) tree and with the semantic presence or absence of water.

Visitors are invited to participate experientially in a visual and emotional experience, to wander in this virtual forest, to reflect, to build and reconstruct their relationship with nature, and finally to answer the deeper question: will the power of water be able to revive the dead trees and make them blossom?

## Gioula Papadopoulou

**"I found myself within a forest"**  
video-triptych, duration: 2.00' (loop), 2024

The three-part video projection by Gioula Papadopoulou juxtaposes images of visual formations of water and morphological transformations of trunks and trees, revealing their growth and branching in time. Dreamlike and transcendental compositions are thus formed, in a reverie of a moving visual composition, in a soundscape of water.

Gioula Papadopoulou is a visual artist and art director of the international festival Video Art Miden. Born in Athens, 1974. Studied Painting and MA Digital Arts at Athens School of Fine Arts. Her artistic practice focuses on video art.

She has presented her work in many exhibitions, site-specific projects and video art festivals in Greece and internationally. She has been awarded with special mention at the Spyropoulos Foundation Awards for young artists in Greece (2002) and award for Best Artificial Intelligence at Derapage 23, Montreal, Canada (2023). Works of hers belong to MOMus-Metropolitan Organization of Museums of Visual Arts of Thessaloniki, Greece.

As an art director/curator of Video Art Miden, she has organized/curated numerous screenings, exhibitions and events in Greece and has collaborated with significant festivals, museums and institutions globally.

Since 2020 she teaches at the New Media Laboratory, School of Visual & Applied Arts, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

## Olga Papadopoulou

**"(I am) the tree and (I am) the forest"**  
experience room II, mixed media installation, 2020-22

In Olga Papadopoulou's sculptural installation black and white drawings of dry branches compose an experiential forest landscape in the peculiar form of a three-dimensional puzzle: pieces of trunks deconstruct and reconstruct tree forms depending on the visitors' perspective as they walk through the installation, while the whole forest is recreated from a single point of view.

Olga Papadopoulou was born in 1977. She studied painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts. She is a member of the curatorial team of Video Art Miden Festival. Her work mainly focuses on mixed media installations, painting and video and has been presented in exhibitions in Greece and internationally.