

The **Urban Secret Garden** photography project is about wandering, loss, memory and the search for home. Photographing started in 2010, as an improvisation, in the course of aimless morning walks.

All contemporary photographs were taken in Thessaloniki in the dawn of *The Crisis*... "In that house, every morning the bugler announced to us the dawning of the new day and every dusk he lowered the flag, leading us to the slumber of childhood... I hear Dorothy assuring me *There's no place like home*... The one whose pattern is lost. It was made to measure to remind me of the birthday party.

I put on one of the flower print dresses hanging in a perfectly arranged row... That's where I observe the seams connecting the pieces into a single garment that contains us..." (extract from *The Seams* essay). Contemporary photographs made with film and a 6X6 analog camera, vintage photographs digitally processed, color threads, embroidered French white linen, *The Seams* essay, digital printing, handcrafted boxes and folders are all important components of the artist's photobook **Urban Secret Garden - a trilogy book of photographs**.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (2020 – 2019)

2020 [Urban Secret Garden – a reading](#) Ileana Tounta Contemporary Art Center – Athens ([video](#))

The *Seams audio installation* was designed especially for the Athens exhibition.

Text: Lia Nalbantidou & Sila Zamani | English Translation: Thalia Bisticas | Voices: Daphne Kalafati, Artemis Chalkidou & Mia Frimmer | Original music composition: Joe Bauer | Production: Mia Frimmer – Berlin

2019 [Urban Secret Garden – a reading](#) (A MIET/National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation Coproduction)

Villa Kapandzi – Thessaloniki [Press Release Gr](#)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (2020 – 2014)

2020 [All together now](#) Ileana Tounta Contemporary Art Center – Athens

2016 *Ano Poli: A stroll in the city* Municipal Art Gallery Villa Bianca, Thessaloniki

2014 *LogosV - City Narratives* Photobiennale – Museum of Byzantine Culture, Thessaloniki

2014 [Tempus Ritualis](#) Galerie am Körnerpark, Berlin

2014 [Tempus Ritualis](#) Contemporary Art Center, Thessaloniki

PHOTOBOOK EVENTS & REPRESENTATIONS IN NATIONAL, INT'L EXHIBITIONS & COLLECTIONS (2020 – 13)

- [Athens Art Book Fair/2nd Edition \(The Local Edition\)](#): Kypseli Municipal Market (Sep. 2020 – covid19 cancellation)
- [Athens Art Book Fair Link1](#) & [Athens Art Book Fair Link2](#) / 1st Edition: Stoa Kairi (Sep. 2019)
- J.F.Costopoulos Foundation Art Library, Athens (2019 Acquisition)
- [Artist's Books for Everything](#) ISBN: 978-3-946059-14-1 (cur. Dr. Anne Thurmann-Jajes) – Weserburg Museum of Modern Art Bremen (2019)
- [Aspects of Balkan Artists' Books](#) (cur. T. Raptis) Photography Center of Thessaloniki – Art Thessaloniki Int'l Contemporary Fair HELEXPO/ 3rd Edition (Nov. 2018)
- [Finissage: A Photobook Presentation](#) *European Culture Days Thessaloniki | The Facets of a City* (cur. Dr. I.Siehe) Museum Europäischer Kulturen SMB, Berlin (Sep. 2018)
- [Istanbul Photobook Festival](#) / 3rd Edition: Selfpublishing representation – Istanbul (May 2018)
- Photographikos Omilos Kavala: [Photographs, Two books and One narration](#), Kavala (May 2018)
- Miss Read / 10th Edition: representation by Cube Art Editions, HKW – Berlin (May 2018)
- Int'l Book Fair Thessaloniki HELEXPO / 14th Edition: representation by Cube Art Editions (May 2018)
- Ileana Tounta Contemporary Art Center: a photobook representation, Athens (2018)
- [Gulbenkian Art Library Collection](#), Lisbon (2018 Acquisition)
- Photography Center of Thessaloniki: [Lia Nalbantidou presents her work](#), Café Bazaar, Thessaloniki (Dec. 2017)
- [Feira do Livro de Fotografia de Lisboa](#) / 8th Edition: Selfpublishing representation – Lisbon (Dec.2017)
- Photographiki Omada Komotinis: a photobook presentation, Komotini (December 2017)
- Art Thessaloniki Int'l Contemporary Fair HELEXPO / 2nd Edition: representation by Cube Art Editions (Nov. 2017)
- [Local Stories](#) (cur. N.Kassianou) exhibition, DL Gallery – Piraeus (Sep.2017)
- Artists' Books Mini Market, Weserburg Museum of Modern Art – Bremen (July 2017)
- [Artist's books for Everything Link1](#) & [Artist's books for Everything Link2](#) exhibition (cur. Dr. Anne Thurmann-Jajes) – Weserburg Museum of Modern Art Bremen (July 2017)
- Center for Artists' Publications – Weserburg Museum of Modern Art – Bremen (2017 Acquisition)
- [Miss Read / 9th Edition – Offstage public platform: a photobook presentation](#) HKW – Berlin (July 2017)
- Miss Read / 9th Edition: representation by Cube Art Editions, Haus der Kulturen der Welt – Berlin (July 2017)

- Benaki Museum – Photographic Archives Collection (2017 Acquisition)
- [Athens Photofestival](#) / 10th Edition – Benaki Museum | Pireos St. Annexe exhibition – Athens (June 2017)
- Int’l Book Fair Thessaloniki HELEXPO / 13th Edition: representation by Cube Art Editions (April 2017)
- Studio Marangoni Library – Florence (2017 Acquisition)
- [FOTOGANG Link1](#) & [FOTOGANG Link2](#) / 3rd Edition – Studio Marangoni, Florence (Feb. 2017)
- Helliniki Photographiki Etairia Kritis: [a photobook presentation](#) Herakleion (December 2016)
- [Fiebre Photobook Fair](#) / 4th Edition: Selfpublishing representation – Matadero|Casa Del Lector, Madrid, Spain (December 2016) ([video](#))
- [Encontros da Imagem](#) / 25th Edition - Photobook Market Shortlist, Braga – Portugal (Sep.2016)
- [Art Athina](#) / 21st Edition: representation by Cube Art Editions – Athens (May 2016)
- *Ano Poli: A stroll in the city (No 3)* ISBN: 978-960-12-2194-6 (Cur. Hercules Papaioannou) – University Studio Press – Thessaloniki (2014)
- [Photobookfestival Kassel](#) / 6th Edition: Dummy Shortlist, documenta-Halle, Kassel (Oct. 2013) ([video](#))
- [PhotoIreland Foundation Collection](#) Dublin (July 2013)

PRESS LINKS (2014 – 2020)

SMCK MAGAZINE – [Thessaloniki's Secrets Gardens @ THE MIDDLE PAGE 22-23](#)

MATAROA – [LIA NALBANTIDOU: THE URBAN FLORAL PRINTS](#) / 04.2020

DREAMIDEAMACHINE – [LIA NALBANTIDOU: URBAN SECRET GARDEN – A READING](#) / 11.04.2020

ALDEBARAN – [Αστικός Μυστικός Κήπος – Μια ανάγνωση | Λία Ναλμπαντίδου | Ατομική έκθεση](#) / 10.02.2020

IFOCUS - [Αστικός Μυστικός Κήπος – Μια ανάγνωση | Λία Ναλμπαντίδου | Έκθεση Φωτογραφίας](#) / 13.02.2020

FMAG – [Αστικός μυστικός κήπος. Μια ανάγνωση](#) / 07.05.2019

PARALLAXI – [Ο «Αστικός Μυστικός κήπος» που σε περιμένει στη Θεσσαλονίκη](#) / 07.05.2019

PARALLAXI – [Δωρεάν ξεναγήσεις σε έναν «Αστικό Μυστικό Κήπο» στη Θεσσαλονίκη](#) / 28.05.2019

GRIECHENLAND ZEITUNG – Thessaloniki in Fotos: Vernderung des Stadtbildes / 17.07.2019

PHOTOLOGIO – [Λία Ναλμπαντίδου: Από τη νύχτα στη μέρα](#) / 28.05.2019

TO PERIODIKO – [«Αστικός μυστικός κήπος. Μια ανάγνωση» | Έκθεση φωτογραφίας της Λίας Ναλμπαντίδου](#) / 24.04.19

MUNICIPAL TV100 [URBAN SECRET GARDEN – A READING](#) (TV100-160519) / 16.05.2019

URBANAUTICA [Urban Secret Garden by Lina Manousogiannaki](#) / 02.11.2017

DIABLOG.EU [Kuenstlerbuch Einer Fotografin](#) – Berlin / 06.07.2017

MAPS [Urban Secret Garden – a trilogy book of photographs in Maps - a contemporary view on the Mediterranean Area Editorial #13](#) / 06.2017

LIFO – ALMANAC [Urban Secret Garden – a trilogy book of photographs](#) / 05.12.2016

KIOSK DER DEMOKRATIE BLOG [URBAN SECRET GARDEN – LIA NALBANTIDOU](#) – GREECE / 26.10.15

LIFO – MAGIC CIRCUS [Urban Secret Garden – Mediterranean air – Lia Nalbantidou](#) / 02.07.2014