

## »Urban Secret Garden« Photography Project Information

»Urban Secret Garden« is a project still in progress. It started in 2010, as an improvisation of an aimless walk. During my early morning walks, I reflected on the floral fabric motifs of my childhood in the women's prêt à porter family business (established in the 70's). Progressively, I focused on the cityscape. There I realized that a photographic reconstruction of my home city into a garden was in process. It is a fact that Thessaloniki, experiences a major social and economical crisis since 2008. Currently, few industries are left alive. My photographs attempt to weave an assemblage of images and symbols redefining the public space during this turbulent time. The stroll is uncertain and so am I. Current history is under construction.

The project consists of three chapters:

- »Urban Secret Garden - why the night«
- »Urban Secret Garden - Mediterranean air«
- »Urban Secret Garden - the Ano Poli suite«

»Urban Secret Garden - why the night« was the first attempt to edit the photographs into a body of work. A Photobook Dummy was the result of that effort and in April 2013 the Dummy got shortlisted for the 6th International Dummy Award in Kassel, Germany. In 2013 the Dummy was exhibited in:

- Milan »MIA | Milan Image Art Fair« (May 2013)
  - Dublin »Photolreland Festival« (July 2013)
  - Paris »Le Bal« (September 2013)
  - Kassel »6th Fotobookfestival« (October 2013)
  - Tokyo »Tokyo Art Book Fair - Book Storage« (September 2013)
- & »HAGISO - Panora Market« (October 2013)

»Urban Secret Garden – why the night«, Photobook Dummy Editions Info:

Photographs & Text (english) by Lia Nalbantidou.

Editing and design by Lia Nalbantidou & Elias Skoulakos.

Self-published in Thessaloniki – Greece

- Edition A: 3 copies & 2 Presentation Proofs & 1 Hors Commerce Proof, 32.5 X 24.5 cm Softcover, April 2013
- Edition B: 30 copies, 20 X 14.5 cm, Softcover, July 2013

»Urban Secret Garden - why the night« » Photobook Dummy is represented in: the Kasseler Fotografie Festival gUG Collection, Kassel Germany & in the Library Project Collection, Dublin Ireland

Photographs from »Urban Secret Garden - why the night « were represented in *LogosV, City Narratives*, PHOTOBLENNALE, Thessaloniki Museum of Photography (2014)

Photographs from »Urban Secret Garden - Mediterranean air« were represented in *Tempus Ritualis*, CACT Thessaloniki & Galerie im Körnerpark, Berlin (2014-15)

Photographs from »Urban Secret Garden - the Ano Poli suite« were represented in *A Stroll in the City* exhibition in the Municipal Art Gallery, Thessaloniki (2014-15)

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**Most photographs are available for purchase. Signed by the artist, all photographs are archivally inkjet printed and matted. For print sales, please contact: [studiotessera@gmail.com](mailto:studiotessera@gmail.com)**