



XLO.IV



"As a multicultural artist, I am driven by my desire to locate myself. I attempt to trace the boundaries - physical, cultural, spiritual - of my persona in order to determine where I begin, where I end and where I belong.

Born in Greece, raised in France and now living in Egypt, my identity is in constant dialogue between the North and the South, the East and the West. My role as an artist is to build connections - between here and there, now and then, one and another - in the search for the smallest common denominators that unify us thru time and space within the human experience."

Esmeralda Kosmatopoulos



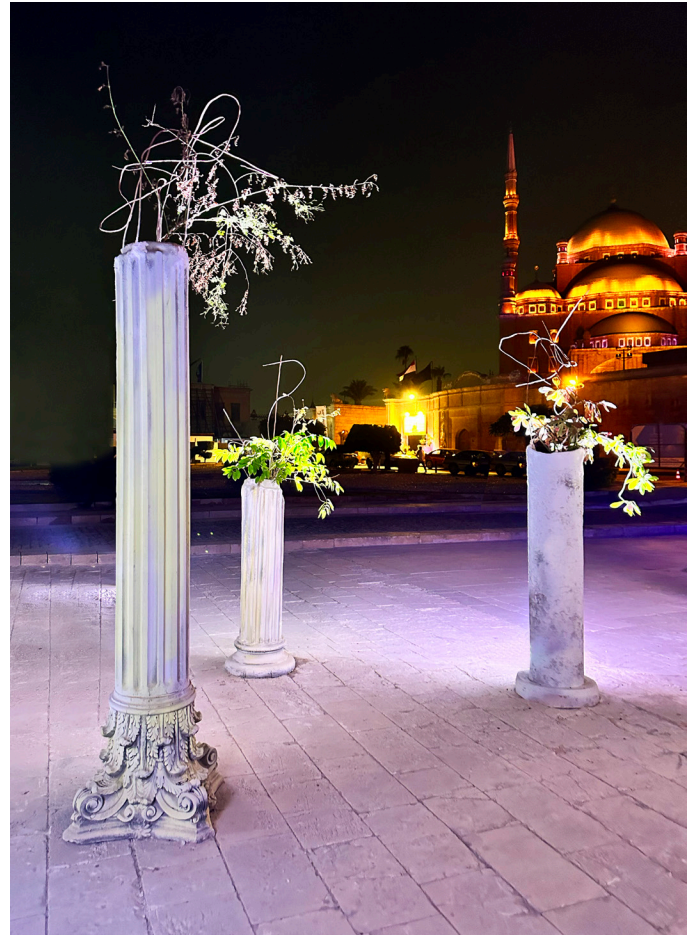
/XLO.I/

Wound or imprint of time on land and culture, postcard of our past, mirror of our civilisations, failed human attempt to reach immortality... ruins are not only destroyed architecture but also everything that has been associated with it in the process of life. Their degradation encompasses the cultural sense from a human perspective, but not from the perspective of Nature. Through ruins, Nature is reclaiming its rights by turning these man-made creations into a nature-culture hybrid.

In Ancient Greek, the word /xlo.i/ (Chloe) means young sprout . It describes the continual and unstoppable rebirth of Nature that transcends time and space. In **/xlo.i/**, the artist takes on the symbolic of ruins to question the relationship between Nature and Culture thru Time. She imagines her own ruins in the shape of ancient columns made of contemporary construction materials with plants growing from inside them. A rebirth giving the ruins a new "life" beyond any anthropocentric goal and value.









ABOUT THE ARTIST

Esmeralda Kosmatopoulos (Greece 1981)

Her work was exhibited in galleries and institutions internationally including Salzburg Contemporain (Austria), Künstlerhaus Wien (Austria), Kunsthal Aarhus (Aarhus, Denmark), Times Art Museum (China), Sainsbury Centre (UK), Somerset House (UK), Palazzo delle Arti Napoli (Italy), Gallerie delle Prigioni (Italy), Musée Zadkine (France), AMA | Art Museum of the Americas (DC, USA), French Institute of Athens (Greece), CICA Museum (Korea) among others.

She had numerous prizes and bourses among whom since 2016 : residencies at Townhouse (Cairo, Egypt), Le18 (Marrakech, Morocco), KAAF Institute (Teheran, Iran), BAR (Beirut, Lebanon),

MASS MOCA (North Adams, USA), Chinatown Soup (New York, USA); bourses from the European Cultural Foundation, the Contemporary art foundation (New York, USA), Harvestworks (New York, USA), the Jerome foundation (New York, USA).

Kosmatopoulos also worked alongside socially charged entities such as the Organization of American States (Washington DC, USA), the Kayani foundation (Beirut, Lebanon), UNICEF Blue Dot (Athens, Greece), One Happy Family (Lesbos, Greece) and the Museum Louis Braille (France) to create large-scale installations that raise awareness on social issues.



THANK YOU