

Cyprus Participation at the 23rd Triennale Milano International Exhibition
Unknown Unknowns. An Introduction to Mysteries.

July 15 - December 11, 2022



Hortus Ignotus. The Unknown Garden.

Curators & Exhibition design:	Christiana Ioannou, Daphne Kokkini, Spyros Nasainas, Christos Papastergiou
Collaborators:	Aristofanis Hadjicharalambous, Panayiota Pieri
Commissioner:	Katerina Koutsogianni (CAA, Cyprus Architects Association)
Co-organizers:	Cyprus Deputy Ministry of Culture - Cultural Services, Cyprus Architects Association
Supported by:	Architecture School - University of Cyprus, Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus in Rome
Exhibition construction:	PH Furnishing Ltd
Sponsors:	Radiant Technologies, Paskalidis Color Lab, Werkraum Ceramics
Acknowledgments:	Tommaso Papini, Julia Astreou, Daphne Christoforou, Marina Bliatsiou, Akrivi Anagnostaki
Press conference:	Tuesday, July 12
Opening ceremony:	Wednesday, July 13
Private & institutional visits:	Thursday, July 14



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About the project Hortus Ignotus

The national participation of Cyprus at the 23rd Triennale Milano International Exhibition entitled *Unknown Unknowns. An Introduction to Mysteries*, has been assigned by the Deputy Ministry of Culture - Cultural Services and the Cyprus Architects Association to the curatorial collective formed by Christiana Ioannou, Daphne Kokkini, Spyros Nasainas and Christos Papastergiou. The curators, based in Cyprus, Greece and Switzerland, responding to the overall theme of the Triennale, conceived and designed *Hortus Ignotus*, an installation which reintroduces the idea of the enclosed garden as a condition that can be both curated and unknown.

As they state in their proposal: „The garden, as a typology of the domestic space has developed historically in Cyprus and the wider Mediterranean area. The gardens of Nicosia appear so often in travelers’ narratives, and the accounts are so lyrically refined, that it seems as if the garden was informally recorded as the most important hidden element of the city, its ‘common secret’. The physical as well as the typological elements that constitute the nicosian garden, become the tools of our investigation and negotiation with the unknown, whether this lies inside the perimeter or is even embedded in the garden walls. We acknowledge the garden as a primary element that condenses archetypal features of domesticity and the relationship of humans with the environment, while, at the same time it reflects religious and metaphysical perceptions of what lies beyond in the idea of paradise.“

Hortus Ignotus consists of an audiovisual spatial installation that will trigger the physical and intellectual experience of the visitor, aiming to redefine the garden as a place for contemplation as well as introspection, a place that can be multisensory but also reflective, a threshold for the transition from the familiar to the imaginary and unknown.

About the 23rd International Exhibition

The 23rd Triennale Milano International Exhibition, entitled *Unknown Unknowns. An Introduction to Mysteries*, opens on July 15 and runs until December 11, 2022. By examining the theme of the unknown, exploring “what we don’t know we don’t know”, through a constellation of exhibitions, installations and special projects, the 23rd International Exhibition expands our vision into what remains outside of our understanding: from the far reaches of outer space to the depths of the oceans, from the mysteries of consciousness to the environment we live in.

Contact:

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CYPRUS ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION

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Curatorial Team

Christiana Ioannou, Architect

Dip.Arch.Eng, Msc NTUA

co-founder of draftworks* architects

www.draftworks.eu

Christiana Ioannou was born in 1978 in Nicosia, Cyprus. She is an architect and co-founder of draftworks*. She holds a Diploma in Architecture (with a scholarship from the Greek Republic) and an MSc in Architectural Theory from the NTUA School of Architecture. Since 2010 she is a part-time lecturer, teaching design studio courses in Cyprus University, School of Architecture.

Daphne Kokkini, Architect - Visual Artist

Dip.Arch.Eng, Msc NTUA / Urban Design MAS ETHZ

www.dkwerkraum.ch

Daphne Kokkini (*1978 in Athens) is an architect and visual artist based in Zurich. She studied architecture in Athens and Urban Design at the ETH in Zürich (IKY Scholar). She initiated WERKRAUM as a platform for creative collaborations in 2015 and its extension, werkraum ceramics, in 2019. Daphne Kokkini has collaborated as a designer in numerous architectural, landscaping and urban projects, receiving awards and special mentions. She has been invited as guest lecturer and published articles in internationally renowned editions.

Her projects range from landscape and urban design to site-specific installations, scenography, film and performance. She perceives them as narratives deriving from cross-cultural observations on places, people and the interaction between them. Interested in creating projects which have an anthropocentric character, she often borrows elements as much from daily routines as well as from historical-archival sources or literature. As a freelance artist she has presented her work on several contexts, including the Athens & Epidaurus Festival, Zürich Theaterspektakel, Living Room Festival and in private galleries in Greece and Switzerland. She is a founder member of Terrasse Ensemble, Performance Network and the collective project, das Schwarzenbach Komplex, both based in Zürich. She is member of Visarte (Association of Visual Artists) and has recently been selected as one of the artists in Residence for the year 2022 by the Foundation Nairs in Switzerland.

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Spyros Nasainas, Architect – Exhibition Designer
MArch Space-Design-Culture NTUA

Spyros Nasainas studied Architecture at the National Technical University of Athens, where he is a PhD Candidate in Exhibition Design. He has designed various archaeological, scientific and art exhibitions in Greece, Cyprus and Europe. His professional and research interests include the conceptualization of space, exhibition design, visitor experience design and museology.

Dr. Christos Papastegiou, Architect
Dip.Arch.Eng, Msc NTUA, PhD UCL
co-founder of draftworks* architects

Christos Papastegiou was born in 1976 in Athens, Greece. He holds a Diploma in Architecture, an MSc in Architectural Design and Theory from the NTUA School of Architecture and a PhD in Architectural Design from the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL (with a scholarship from the Greek Republic). He is a part-time lecturer, teaching design studio courses and theory at the School of Architecture, UCy and UNic.

draftworks* architects was founded in London in 2006 by Christiana Ioannou and Christos Papastegiou and is currently based in Nicosia and Athens. The team crafts, documents and communicates new ideas with the use of drawings, images, model making and text while sharing interests between public competitions, private commissions, exhibitions, design research and academic teaching. The team has been awarded prizes in numerous competitions, among them the 2nd prize for a school complex in Palermo (in collaboration with Autonomieforme), an MIT award for the project 'The New Zidonians' and a 1st prize for the project 'MUUSA' at the 'Next Helsinki' Architecture Ideas Competition curated by Michael Sorkin. Work of the studio has been published and exhibited worldwide, such as the Venice Architecture Biennale 2008 and 2012, the Bauwelt magazine, the Site magazine, the Blueprint magazine and has recently featured in the 'ATLAS of Emerging Practices' book among other 94 architecture offices from 22 European countries.

Exhibition Organizer:



Commissioned by:



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Sponsors:

Audiovisual equipment:



Digital prints:



Ceramic Objects:

