

I am Amalia Kapeli, an artist from Greece. Art has accompanied my life, in various forms, since before I can recall. Struggling to find a single medium that sufficiently encapsulates my artistic vision, I began combining conventional material and mediums with found, second hand objects and other unconventional material such as bones, teeth, and hair.

Growing up in Athens learning about Ancient Greek mythology, history, and art as well as the symbolic meaning behind them has played a significant role in the way I think and in my personality. On the other end of the spectrum of being Greek, I was obliged to be political from an early age. I was subjected to injustice towards many minority groups along with the effects of the economic crisis, blatant corruption and the constant terrorizing threat of war. I developed a burning passion for fighting for justice, human rights and the significance and impact art can facilitate.

Themes such as life and death play an important role in my practice and personal life. Through multiple artworks I explore a variety of historical, philosophical and mythological aspects of the aforementioned topics. For instance, 'Thanatophilia - Θανατοφιλία' a short film I created as a 'funeral', conclusion to my relationship with death and a way of diminishing the taboo and fear around the topic. Based on my knowledge on thanatology, personal experiences, philosophies and opinions I wrote the script, created masks and costumes that express each character individually, sculptures and props such as the stages of decomposition with textile, wood, mannequin parts and polymer clay. I filmed, acted, directed, produced the music with my accordion, and edited the film.

My practice deals with personal and global predicaments whilst inspired by the visceral and the absurd. With the help of analogue and digital research, sketches and experiments I develop a final artwork that accommodates my vision of the subject matter. 'Femicide is preventable, not inevitable' is an artwork I made after I came across the UN statistics for 2023 that suggested that 51,100 women died in the hands of a partner or family member which constitutes approximately one woman being killed by femicide every ten minutes. The work consists of an altered second hand red dress hanging by red yarn with the text 'lift me up I know you want to' printed on the first-transparent layer provoking the viewer to get into the disturbing motion of lifting a dress. Underneath there is a poem which expresses the overwhelming mourning and anger that accompanies the handling of such a topic. If the viewer wishes to lift this layer too, they will see it is restricted by textile guts and beaded blood highlighting the urgency for action and prevention. It was showcased in the 2025 women's day exhibition titled 'through our eyes' by Amnesty International UK and Black Brick underground.