BIO:

Nitouche (Nitous) Anthoussi is a visual artist and researcher at the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, where she is pursuing her doctoral studies under the supervision of Professor Jean-Marie Dallet, specializing in Arts and Sciences of Art, while also holding teaching responsibilities within the same institution. Currently, she is undertaking an international mobility at Columbia University as part of the Alliance Doctoral Program, engaging in the "Justice in Education" residency directed by Professor Neni Panourgia. Her dissertation, entitled "Species of Heterotopia" focuses on the study of confinement spaces such as asylums, psychiatric clinics, prisons, and refugee reception camps. More specifically, she is developing a project on comparative carcerality between Ellis Island and the island of Leros in Greece, approaching this issue from artistic, philosophical, and anthropological perspectives.

Concurrently, she expresses her artistic commitment through photography, art installations, and 3D scanning, inspired by her immersion in the aforementioned locations, shedding light on their dishonored yet crucial history.

A graduate of the School of Fine Arts at the University of Ioannina, Greece, Nitouche Anthoussi also holds a Master's degree in Research and Contemporary Creation from the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.

ABSTRACT:

Species of Heterotopia

From Ellis Island to Leros Island

This ongoing research on 'Species of Heterotopia,' integrating my creative artwork to explore the concept in various contexts. Heterotopia, as coined by Michel Foucault, refers to "other spaces"—real, tangible places existing outside conventional spatial norms. My investigation examines whether heterotopias can manifest in spaces of social confinement such as asylums, prisons, and psychiatric clinics. Where individuals use minimal personal belongings and limited external contact to create personal space through art.

This project further compares the carceral conditions of Ellis Island in New York and the island of Leros in Greece, highlighting their similarities despite apparent differences. Both locations, with their histories of occupation and confinement, serve as paradigms of heterotopia in continuity.

The comparative study of Ellis Island and Leros underscores the symbolic and ideological parallels between different forms of confinement and exile.