

The image features a solid pink background. A thick white diagonal line runs from the top right corner towards the center. A thick white horizontal line is positioned on the left side, extending towards the center. Another thick white horizontal line is located at the bottom of the frame, starting from the center and extending to the right edge. The text 'MOTHER !' is centered in the middle of the image in a white, uppercase, sans-serif font.

MOTHER !



*"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**

# MOTHER !

**MOTHER!** explores, the notion of femininity in all its complexity by looking at the first image we have of a woman - our mother - and one of the first places where we connect with femininity - her breast.

Sexual or maternal, aesthetic or erotic, women's breasts are seen today as both the emblem and proof of their femininity, enclosing the woman in a body that has historically been objectified and alienated. In this project, the artist shares her own memory as a woman in relation to her mother's breasts beyond the criteria of gender and sexuality.

The works invite us in a poetic journey through time and space, body and cosmos, public and intimate that the artist has undertaken to understand her feminine identity and all the elements - both internal and external - that contributed to define it.



## FROM HER TO THE MOON

Taking old childhood photographs with her mother as a starting point, the deconstructed paintings put on wheels proceeds by collages of elements to create a personal mythology.

An image of a full moon, traditionally linked to fertility, is covered by close up photographs of the artist own breast, creating a new imaginary lunar landscape that her adult arms are trying to grasp and hold.







01



02



03







05



06

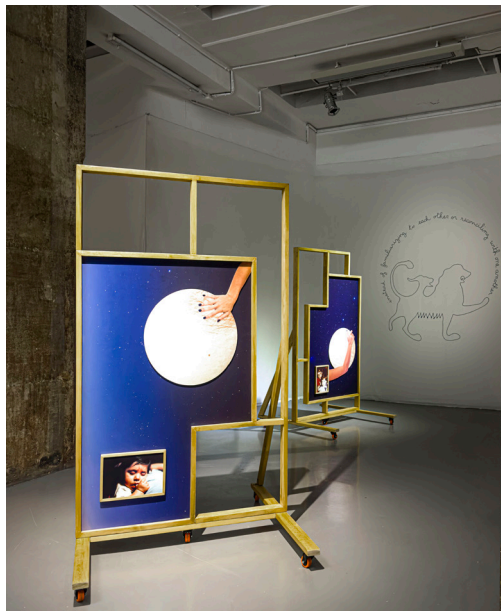
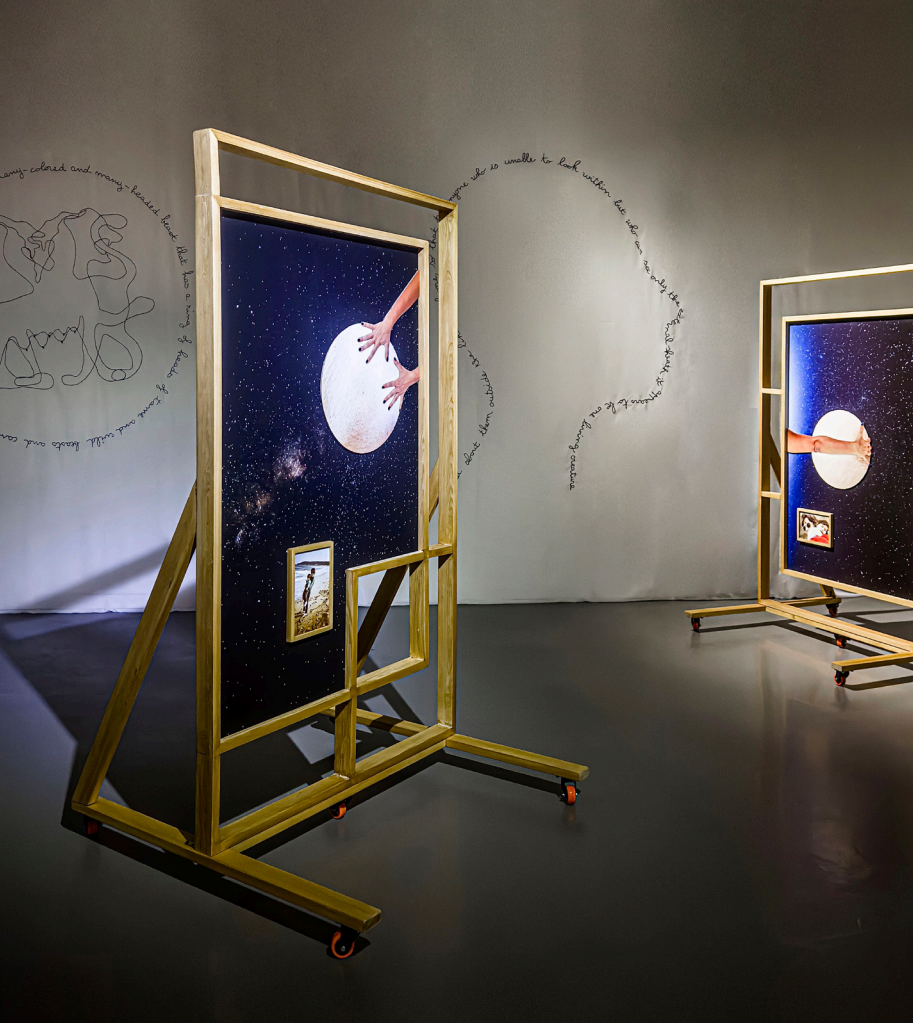




07



08







## LIST OF WORKS

**01 - From her to the moon #5** - detail  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

**02 - From her to the moon #5** - detail  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

**03 - From her to the moon #4** - detail  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

**04 - From her to the moon** - instalation view

**05 - From her to the moon #2**  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

**06 - From her to the moon #4 and #5**  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

**07 - From her to the moon #4** - detail  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

**08 - From her to the moon #4**  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

**09 - From her to the moon #7 and #8**  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

**10 - From her to the moon #2 and #4**  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023

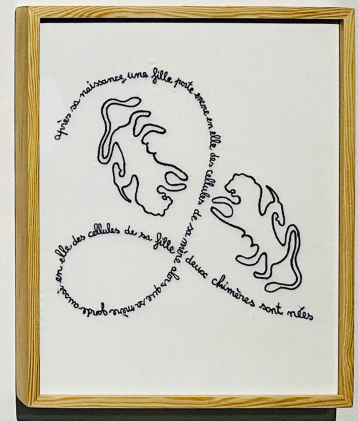
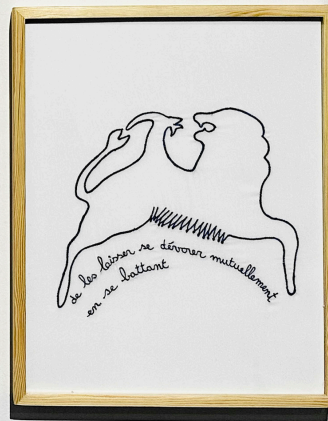
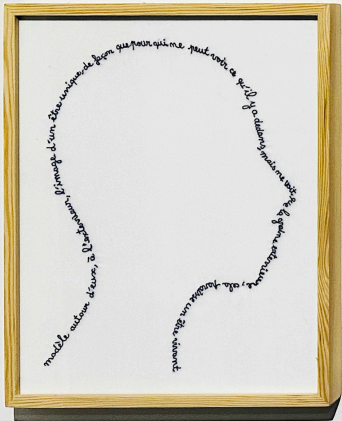
**11 - From her to the moon #7** - detail  
C-print, wood, rubber, 160 x 110 x 60 cm, 2022-2023



# CHIMERA

During pregnancy, mother and fetus interchange cells that end up settling permanently after birth in the organisms of the one and the other: two chimeras are born.

**CHIMERA** explores the myth of this polycephale creature by appropriating quotes from Ancient Greek and Roman authors to create her own narrative around the birth and life of this complex mother-daughter bond that each woman carries inside her.





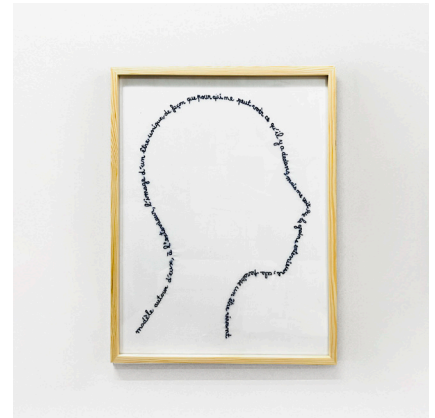
...ns la Phœnix, brûle le mont Chimère, et la flamme ne s'en éteint ni le jour, ni la-



01



02

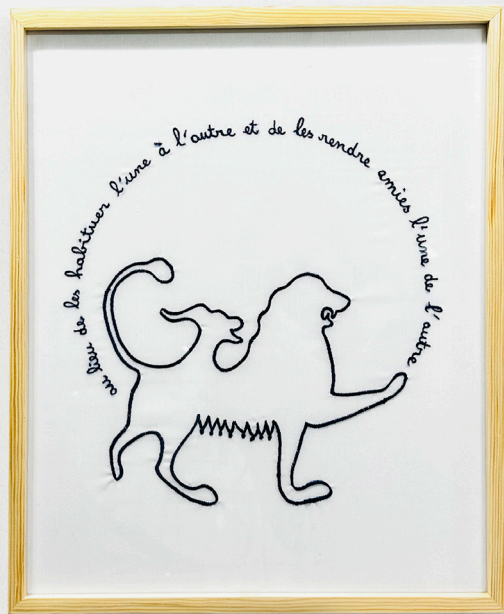


03



à l'autre modèle la forme unifiée d'un animal divers et polycéphale qui aurait disposés en cercle par têtes d'animaux hautes et des têtes d'animaux sauvages et capables de se transformer de l'un à l'autre



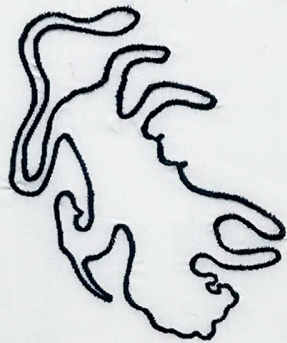


05



06

après sa naissance, une fille porte-mère en elle des cellules



de sa mère, alors que sa mère porte aussi en elle des cellules de sa fille. Deux chimères sont nées

## LIST OF WORKS

**01 - CHIMERA - CHAPTER 3 - reference: Apollodore, La Bibliothèque, Livre II, III, 1**

Fabric, embroidery, 40 x 60 cm, 2023

**02 - CHIMERA - CHAPTER 2 - reference: Hésiode, Théogonie, Vers 318**

Fabric, embroidery, 40 x 60 cm, 2023

**03 - CHIMERA - CHAPTER 5 - reference: Platon, La République, Livre IX, 588d**

Fabric, embroidery, 40 x 60 cm, 2023

**04 - CHIMERA - CHAPTER 4 - reference: Platon, La République, Livre IX, 588c**

Fabric, embroidery, 40 x 60 cm, 2023

**05 - CHIMERA - CHAPTER 6 - reference: Platon, La République, Livre IX, 589a**

Fabric, embroidery, 40 x 60 cm, 2023

**06 - CHIMERA - CHAPTER 7 - reference: Platon, La République, Livre IX, 589a**

Fabric, embroidery, 40 x 60 cm, 2023

**07 - CHIMERA - CHAPTER 8 - reference: the artist**

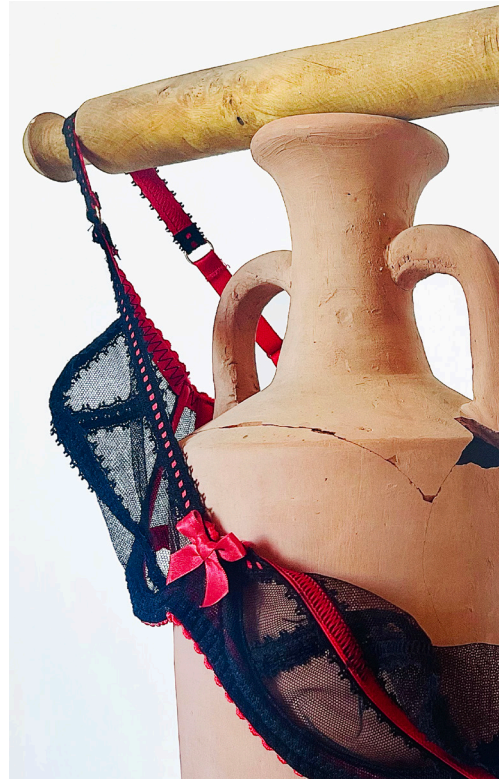
Fabric, embroidery, 40 x 60 cm, 2023



## FEMME DES ANNEES 80

*"You must always be pretty," "You must take care of your husband"... but at the same time "You must be a strong and independent woman," "You can do whatever you want with your body..."*

The artist turns each of these sometimes conflicting rules her mother was teaching her as a child into a sculpture made of found objects that together tell one story of what a woman should be in the eyes of the society of the '80s and beyond.

















04





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09



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11



12

## LIST OF WORKS

**01 - « you will see when you will become a mother »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, wool, steel, albacor, feathers

**02 - « you will not always be young and beautiful »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, bricks, steel, plastic, feathers

**03 - « how will you ever be able to take care of a house and a man? »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, steel

**04 - « like mother, like daughter », 2022,**  
ceramic, fabric, albacore, steel, plastic, feathers,  
paper

**05 - « the real beauty comes from the inside »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, plastic, wood

**06 - « they just want one thing from you »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, steel, glass, horn

**07 - «you don't want to end up like your grandmother »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, steel, wood, tulle, paper

**08 - « always make them wait »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, bronze, artificial flower,  
electric piano

**09 - « you are so pretty in your polka dot dress »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, shell, steel, bids

**10 - « you must shine everywhere you go »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, wood, mirror, feather, metal

**11 - « never let men tell you what to do »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, steel, wood

**12 - « they just want one thing from you »**

2022, ceramic, fabric, steel, glass, horn



## ECLIPSE

**Eclipse** investigates the notion of femininity in all its complexity. The series of six images show a round and full moon which gradually, gets covered by another sphere of similar size, shape and texture, that of a mammogram of the artist's breast.

Next to this mystical and poetic image of the lunar woman, comes (or even eclipse) another much more ambiguous symbol of the woman that links her directly to her corporeality: her breast.









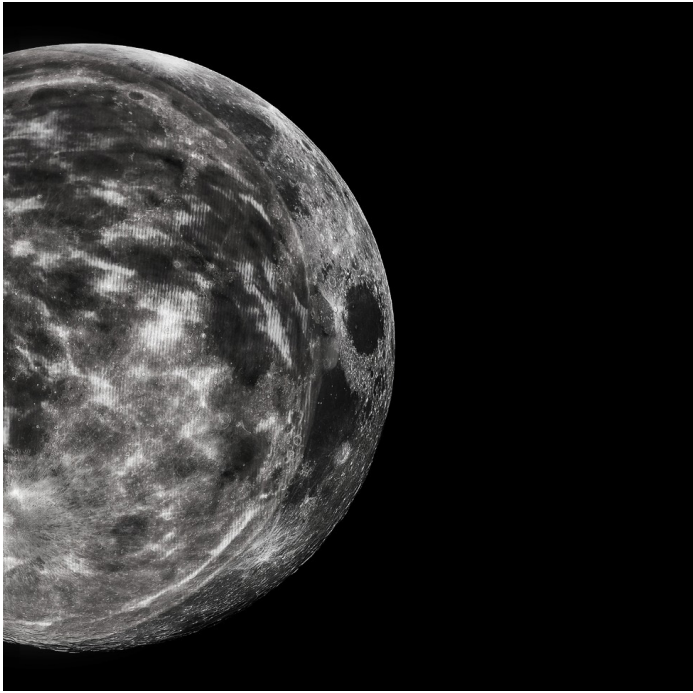
02



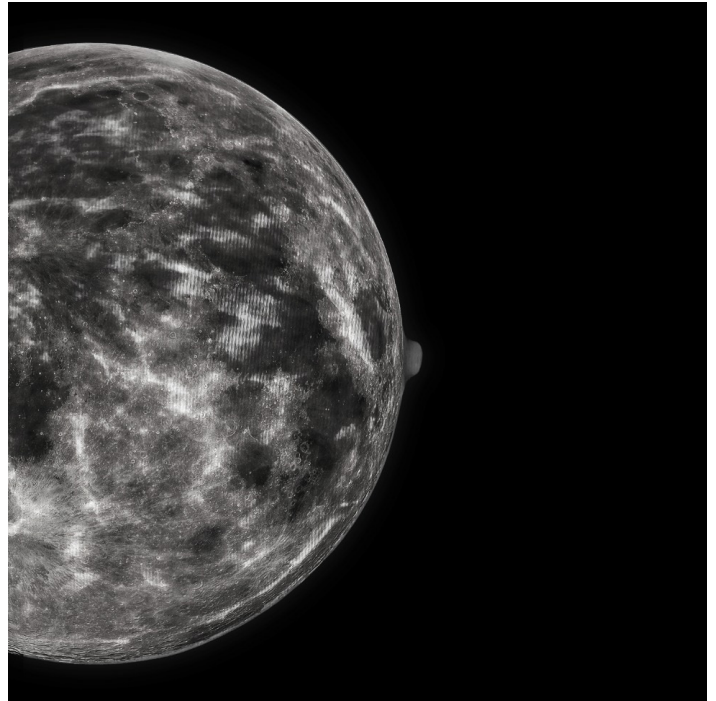
03



04



05



06







## LIST OF WORKS

### **01 - LEFT ECLIPSE #6**

digital print on glass, wood, 50 x 50 x 6cm, 2022

### **02 - LEFT ECLIPSE #1**

digital print on glass, wood, 50 x 50 x 6cm, 2022

### **03 - LEFT ECLIPSE #2**

digital print on glass, wood, 50 x 50 x 6cm, 2022

### **04 - LEFT ECLIPSE #3**

digital print on glass, wood, 50 x 50 x 6cm, 2022

### **05 - LEFT ECLIPSE #5**

digital print on glass, wood, 50 x 50 x 6cm, 2022

### **06 - LEFT ECLIPSE #6**

digital print on glass, wood, 50 x 50 x 6cm, 2022

### **07 - LEFT ECLIPSE** - instalation view

# ABOUT THE ARTIST

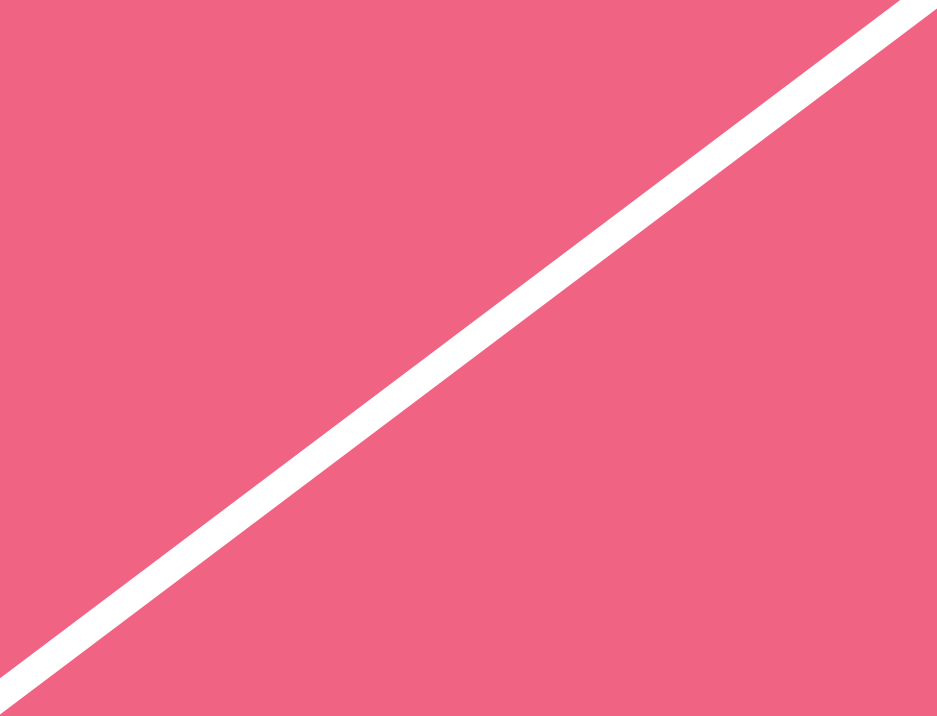
## Esmeralda Kosmatopoulos (Greece 1981)

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**