

Archipelago Network ————— Press Release

Press release #12

August 28, 2024

Communities Between Islands Unveils Chapter #03: ...and so we'll end up singing

The interdisciplinary arts-based research program **Communities Between Islands (CBI)** announces the launch of its third and final chapter, titled "...and so we'll end up singing." Building on previous cycles curated by Archipelago Network and Providenza in autumn 2023 and spring 2024, this chapter further develops collaborations between international artists and local communities across Corsica, Sardinia, and Syros.

For **Chapter #03: ...and so we'll end up singing**, [Cherimus](#) has invited artists **Maya Aghniadis** (1991, Greece/Lebanon), **Roberto Casti** (1992, Italy), and **Lukas De Clerck** (1994, Belgium) to explore the interconnectedness of Mediterranean musical traditions and the passage of time through innovative, cross-island artistic projects. Each of their works delves into the cultural and auditory landscapes of Syros, Corsica, and Sardinia, focusing on rhythm, melody, and the reimagining of traditional instruments. By blending elements of the past and present, they aim to create a speculative, shared musical narrative that transcends geographical boundaries.

From **September 17 to 25, 2024**, the artists visit **Syros** for the initial part of their research, hosting a series of public workshops. If you are interested in participating, you may sign up until Wednesday, September 11 by completing the registration form [here](#). Spots are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

WORKSHOP by Maya Aghniadis

Wednesday, September 18, 17:00, Hermoupolis (location to be announced upon signup)

Participants: up to 8 persons

Duration: approx. 4 hours

Working language: English

Reserve your spot [here](#) by September 11

In this workshop, participants explore the creative potential of rhythm and melody based on a set tempo and focusing on the musical note Ré (D). Participants will record their spontaneous responses as they arise from their emotional state and personal connection to the tempo and tonality that guide their creativity. These recordings will then be woven together to create a final collective piece, highlighting the diverse emotional expressions and interpretations of the group.

About Maya Aghniadis's project, titled *Ousura*

Aghniadis's project explores the interplay between past, present, and future, reflecting on how we often plan ahead, lose touch with the present, and grapple with our past. *Ousura* is a sonic narrative that delves into the essence of time through rhythmic play and evocative soundscapes, transporting listeners to a space that feels both ancient and familiar.

The project weaves together cultural and auditory threads from Syros, Corsica, and Sardinia. It also incorporates elements from workshops where diverse groups perform together on a single note and rhythm, despite never meeting, creating a rich tapestry of interconnected sounds and experiences.

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WORKSHOP by Lukas De Clerck

Thursday, September 19, 17:00, Hermoupolis (location to be announced upon signup)

Participants: up to 8 persons

Duration: approx. 3 hours

Working language: English

Reserve your spot [here](#) by September 11

The aim of this workshop is to share the fascinating world of the *aulos*, an ancient double-reeded double pipe played in Ancient Greek, Roman and Mesopotamian times. In the framework of a lecture-performance, De Clerck will share sounds and stories about the instrument, its past and especially its current state, focusing on his own perspective of the instrument and how it can be used in an artistic context. The second part of the workshop involves reimagining the design and crafting of a new *aulos* by participants from Syros, inviting collaboration from the fields of musicology, design, visual arts, pottery and other local crafts.

About Lukas De Clerck's project, titled *Experimental Archeology*

De Clerck's project explores the intersection of Mediterranean musical traditions through the crafting of *aulos* reeds from harvested reed (*phragmites australis*). Focusing on the late harvest season in Syros, the project extends across Syros, Sardinia, and Corsica, integrating local materials and traditions to create a unique cross-island musical experience. In Sardinia, the project will be inspired by the *launeddas*, with plans to develop a fusion instrument that combines the *aulos* and *launeddas*, symbolizing a musical connection between the islands. Corsica's *caramusa*, akin to a bagpipe, adds another layer to this exploration.

By uniting these diverse elements—reed harvesting, traditional instruments, and regional variations—the project aims to weave a rich tapestry of Mediterranean sound. This collaborative effort serves as a creative prelude to further exploration and fusion of musical traditions across the islands.

WORKSHOP by Roberto Casti

Friday, September 20, 17:00, Hermoupolis (location to be announced upon signup)

Participants: up to 8 persons

Duration: approx. 4 hours

Working language: English

Reserve your spot [here](#) by September 11

Roberto Casti's project involves recording a single song across three islands: Syros, Corsica and Sardinia. For his workshop in Syros participants explore and develop rhythmic components through improvisation and writing, culminating in the recording of a collective song. The workshop is open to all, regardless of musical experience, and encourages blending traditional instruments with innovative composition techniques.

About Roberto Casti's project, titled *Song for a future embrace*

Casti's project explores the concept of anticipation through a unique sound installation. The composition, which comprises rhythm, melody, and vocals, is presented in its individual parts rather than as a unified piece. The installation features three speakers and various musical instruments and objects used to play and record the work. These elements remain inactive until activated by the participants from the islands who contributed to its creation.

The installation represents a promise of future collaboration rather than a reflection on past traditions. While Syros, Corsica and Sardinia share cultural commonalities, they also highlight the potential for new forms of communication and alliance. By presenting the song's components separately, the project underscores the anticipation of a future performance where all contributors can come together.

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ARTISTS' BIOS

Maya Aghniadis

b. 1991 in Dubai, UAE

Lives and works in Athens, Greece

[Maya Aghniadis](#), also known as Flugen, is a music composer and multi-instrumentalist raised in Lebanon based in Athens. After completing a year of professional training in Film Scoring in 2016, Maya began exploring new sounds and theories, leading to the creation of her project, Flugen.

Flugen's music evolves over time, blending percussive beats, soulful melodies, and vocal harmonies with elements of neo-classical and ambient soundscapes. Maya's artistic approach revolves around collaborations and storytelling through music, drawing inspiration from the echoes of the Mediterranean Sea.

Roberto Casti

b. 1992 in Iglesias, Sardinia

Lives and works in between Milan, Italy, and Iglesias, Sardinia

[Roberto Casti](#) is an Italian artist, musician and writer. His artistic practice – spanning across different media such as sound, performance, video, installation and drawing – is not focused on a formal knowability but rather on a constant and necessary interpretative and theoretical research on the reality seen as a place of relationships and cohabitation. With the collective project *The Boys and Kifer*, founded in 2014 as a fictitious music band, he investigates new ways of being together collaborating with different artists, theorists and musicians.

He has collaborated and exhibited in various spaces and institutions such as MACRO and IUNO (Rome), MAN (Nuoro), FRAC of Corte (France), Marsèlleria (Milan), PAV - Parco Arte Vivente (Turin), OGR - Officine Grandi Riparazioni (Turin), and the Brera Academy of Fine Arts (Milan). He has published articles for Nero On Theory, Kabul magazine and Antinomie. In 2023, he contributed to the publication of *Soft Crash*, a collective book produced by the MACRO museum of Rome.

Lukas De Clerck

b. 1994 in Leuven, Belgium

Lives and works in Brussels, Belgium

[Lukas De Clerck](#) is a musician and sound artist. His artistic practice is currently centered around the Aulos, an ancient Greco-Roman, double-reeded double pipe, that went extinct more than a millennium ago. After several years of delving deep in the practice of aulos reed making and playing replicas of ancient instruments, he opens up his inevitably auto-didact artistic output. Following the desire to strip the instrument from its enigmatic past, De Clerck created a new, contemporary aulos: The Telescopic Aulos of Atlas.

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Communities Between Islands is a collaborative initiative involving [Providenza](#) in Corsica, France; [Cherimus](#) in Sardinia, Italy; and [Archipelago Network](#) in Syros, Greece. From September 2023 to the end of 2024, these three Mediterranean organizations host nine international artists who collaborate with local communities through residencies and workshops, creating novel artistic commissions inspired by local thematics and concerns. The participating artists will present the outcome of the residencies in collaboration with local art institutions (FRAC Corsica, Museo Nivola in Sardinia, and the Syros International Film Festival) and the municipalities of Bastia, Perdaxius, and Syros-Ermoupolis on each respective island.

Communities Between Islands is a [Creative Europe](#) project funded by the European Commission, and realized with the support of the [Goethe-Institut Athen](#) and the [J.F. Costopoulos Foundation](#).

About Archipelago Network

The Aegean islands are havens of diasporic culture, traditional knowledge, and biodiversity. Yet today, accelerating forces such as overtourism and the global climate crisis exert local pressures on these coastal communities, threatening knowledge systems and environmental equilibriums. In this context, Archipelago Network takes up the Cyclades islands as laboratories for field research, residencies, publications, online projects, and public programs. The initiative works at the intersection of visual practices, cultural life, and the natural environment, providing open access to its digital collections while contributing to the development of local and regional memory through documentation and outreach activities.

To stay updated with the latest news from the field and upcoming events, follow the social networks of the Archipelago Network or visit archipelagonetwork.org.

Social Media:

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For all media inquiries, please contact Archipelago Network at comms@archipelagonetwork.org.