



Press Release ART4SEA - Inspiring Change for a Healthy Ocean 24-06-2025, Alonissos

ART4SEA Exhibition Opening in Alonissos – 27 & 28 June 2025

This summer, Alonissos, with its outstanding natural and marine heritage, hosts one of the Mediterranean's most pioneering environmental art exhibitions.

On 27 and 28 June 2025, the island will hold a two-day series of events to present eight works of art — both physical and digital — created by international artists following their participation in the ART4SEA Artist Residency Programme in May 2024.

Through close interaction with the island's natural landscape and maritime identity, the artists created eight unique works that highlight humanity's relationship with the sea and the principles of sustainability. These creations, shaped by an inspiring encounter between art and nature, are being publicly unveiled for the first time.

We invite you to experience this journey and to contribute to shaping a more conscious, creative, and blue future.

Read more about the event: <u>art4sea.gr</u>





Physical Artworks – Presentation in Patitiri – 27 June – 19:00

The event starts on **Friday**, **27 June** in Patitiri with the unveiling of two sculptures and one mural, all integrated into the island's public space.

At 19:00, the mural by **Rame13** will be unveiled in the courtyard of the Primary School of Patitiri. The artwork focuses on the sea as a home and source of life, aiming to strengthen young people's connection with nature. It especially targets younger audiences, fostering awareness and environmental consciousness in future generations.

At 19:30, the large sculpture by Micol Cornali will be presented in the courtyard opposite the Town Hall. This public presentation offers a unique opportunity for direct engagement with the artist's aesthetic. The final destination of this piece will be underwater, near Glyfa beach, where it will later be submerged. Titled "Aetas", the sculpture symbolizes rebirth and reconnection with the marine environment, delivering a message of hope and transformation. Once submerged, it will also serve as a small artificial reef.

At 20:00, visitors at the port will encounter "Blue Diver" by Anna Torre, a marble sculpture representing the diver as an explorer and guardian of marine life.

The evening will close with a relaxed gathering at the port — wine, conversation, and the sea breeze, always in good spirits.

Digital Exhibition & sculpture reveal at KAC – Alonissos Old Town – 28 June – 18:00

On Saturday, 28 June, the exhibition continues at the Knowleadge Awareness Center of the Old Village (Chora).

At 18:00, in the courtyard of the Knowleadge Awareness Center (KAC), the public will be introduced to "Chapel of Gaya" by Michal Trpák — a large, awe-inspiring sculpture made of metal and glass, resembling a sacred temple and symbolizing humanity's spiritual connection with the ocean.

Throughout the evening, digital artworks will be showcased inside the Centre using virtual reality (VR) technology and digital displays.

Ioulia Marouda presents a **VR animation** dedicated to the endangered Pinna Nobilis, combining sound, imagery, and sensory underwater elements. Her work unfolds a local narrative that highlights the biodiversity of the protected marine area. **Timaeus blends a pirate ballad with animation**, symbolizing the renewal of the marine ecosystem. Leon Butler introduces the interactive piece "**Evolving Chorus**", where a virtual reef is shaped by visitors' stories and voices.

At 19:00, the short documentary by Ada Johnson will be screened. The film captures the voices and experiences of Alonissos residents, exploring their deep connection with the sea as identity and community.

The evening will conclude with a relaxed wine gathering in the Old Town, by invitation.





ART4SEA is an Official Ocean Decade Activity by UNESCO!

The **ART4SEA** initiative has been officially recognized by **UNESCO** as an Ocean Decade Activity, affirming its significance and international impact.

This distinction coincides with the launch of a series of exhibitions on three Mediterranean islands — Alonissos, Gozo, and Ustica — featuring both physical and digital versions of 24 artworks in total.

As part of ART4SEA's next phase, all artworks will be digitized and made available at the KEEK in Alonissos, creating a unified and accessible cultural archive with a strong environmental message for the protection of the ocean. ART4SEA brings together artists, researchers, and local communities in a shared goal: to illuminate the relationship between humans and the sea through art and technology. This event marks the culmination of a vibrant journey — and the starting point for future actions, partnerships, and networks.

At a time when coexistence with nature is more urgent than ever, these artworks invite us to view the sea not just as a resource, but as a source of culture, inspiration, and shared responsibility.



