

The artist Vasilis Thalassinos was born on January 22nd, 1982 in Thebes, central Greece. In 1999, he graduated from the Classic Lyceum of his hometown. Between 2000 and 2004, he studied at the Department of Plastic Arts and Art Sciences in the University of Ioannina (Uoi), where he trained alongside the painters Dimitris Ratsikas and Takis Stefanou.

In 2004, he had his first solo exhibition at 'Politeia' hotel in Ioannina.

During his university studies, he was a member of the Uoi Theatre Group (THESPI), taking part in theatre works and acquiring experience as theatrical play animator.

From mid-2004 to early 2007, he held four more solo exhibitions: two in former commercial spaces in Thebes; one exhibition at the town's former Classic Lyceum, where he additionally organised a two-week seminar for students; and another in Exarchia Square, downtown Athens, where he broke the framing glass of his paintings, leaving all artworks unsigned and unattended hanging on the statue and trees of the square.

The summer of 2005, he collaborated with the Youth Festival of the Municipality of Petroupoli, organising an exhibit of crafts made from discarded material by teens of the same district. During that period, he performed street theatre, realised street painting, and worked as a helper of the carpenter Nikos Ioannou, restoring buildings and aging wood furnishings.

From February to September 2007, he participated in the European Voluntary Service (EVS) program, organising experimental plastic arts educational activities for children and young people in Frómista in the province of Palencia, Spain.

In September 2007, he exhibited unsigned paintings, leaving them unattended on a wall of the art street known as Rua das Galerias in downtown Porto, Portugal.

In January 2009, he held another solo exhibition at the former 'High Fidelity' coffee bar on Solonos Street in Exarchia, Athens.

In May 2009, together with Soraia Gomes Anastacio, he inaugurated the 'Kitj' art gallery at 132, Epameinonda Street in Thebes. Until the end of August 2010, when the project ceased its operations, the space hosted inventive activities, such as exhibitions of emerging artists from Greece and other countries; thematic workshops for both children and adults on painting, sculpture, fashion design and handmade jewelry; plus, an artist-in-residence program; and included a shop offering selected books, clothes, design objects, etc.

In May 2010, together with the painter Romain Chauvet, he presented an art exhibition at 'Thimomeno Portreto' coffee bar in Ioannina. In December of the same year, he held a solo exhibition at 'Circulo Cooperativa' in Nafplio.

In December 2011, he participated in a joint exhibition with painters Vagelis Kyrkos and Panagiotis Andrianos at 'Stavlos' in Chiliomodi, Corinthia.

During 2013, he traveled through several European cities and held trash art events for children. In 2014, he worked in Berlin for a few months, where he also performed street poetry.

In June 2015, as part of the White Night festival in Koropi, Attica (Greece), he delivered a collective painting street action for kids, with the participation of hundreds of children and adults. The next three years he undertook freestyle painting sessions for children within the same context.

In August 2015, he held a solo exhibition at Maganaris Atelier in Kato Petali on Sifnos, Cyclades, offering arts and crafts activities for kids at the exhibition venue and in public spaces of the island.

In July 2018, he had a solo exhibition at the Old School of Kastro on the island of Sifnos, where he additionally offered a painting workshop on asemic writing for children.

He has manufactured handicraft dolls and figurines, and produced small-scale sculptures inspired by fantasy creatures and book heroes. He also illustrates children's and youth literature. In particular, he is the illustrator of the series of science fiction novels 'Delta Cee' by the author Erika Angelika Garbi (Kokkini Klosti Demeni editions): *The Antikythera Mechanism* (first book); *The Phaistos Disk* (second book).

He now lives in Athens where he regularly delivers arts and crafts workshops, and undertakes activities of experimental plastic arts for preschool and school-aged children.

Besides Greek, he has a very good command of English, Spanish and Portuguese (with interpreting skills) and can speak French at an intermediate level.

He has a son who currently resides in Switzerland.

Website: arteshivres.com

Email: info@arteshivres.com