

MERCREDI DU CENTRE #4

Greece & question of identity

Antigoni Papantoni, Florine Thiebaud, Alexandre Fournier Biville

Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Centre Photographique Marseille

74 rue de la Joliette, 13002 Marseille

Free admission, subject to availability.



Antigoni Papantoni, Florine Thiebaud and Alexandre Fournier Biville will present projects exploring themes of identity, exile and belonging through the lens of Greece. Blending personal narratives with documentary approaches, the three artists examine the notion of home through distinct individual trajectories.

Antigoni Papantoni will discuss her book *You Can't Go Home Again*, an autobiographical project in which she explores her experience of living between Greece and Switzerland, reflecting on cultural displacement, the feeling of existing between worlds, and the ways in which the notion of home can be reimagined. **Florine Thiebaud** will present *Breaking Point*, a work that documents a quieter yet equally defining aspect of exile: waiting. **Alexandre Fournier Biville** will introduce *Rebetika Proastia*, a photographic project that offers an immersion into Athens' nightlife, exploring the atmosphere and community of rebetiko musicians and singers.

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Antigoni Papantoni



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Antigoni Papantoni (Athens, 1987) lives and works between Lausanne (CH) and Athens (GR). Having studied computer science, film theory & aesthetics, she graduated from the Photography School of Vevey (CH) in 2014. Ever since, she focuses her artistic and professional practices on visual storytelling and personal narratives. Parallely to her photography work, she curates and produces independent creative documentaries and works as a cultural manager and consultant for prestigious film festivals and labs, while engaging with collective, self-managed cultural spaces. Antigoni Papantoni lives everywhere and nowhere. Raised in Piraeus (1987), she has been moving between Lausanne and Athens for years, often passing through Amsterdam and Doha. A graduate of the Vevey School of Photography, she draws on her personal experience to explore how the environment shapes an individual's mental experience. Her photographic practice, obsessive and relentless, has given rise to an extensive personal archive. *you can't go home again*, her first photobook (Zoetrope), has traveled to international events, exploring different aspects of the concept of «home»—both as a physical place and as an inner dwelling and a second print run is on its way, as the first one was sold out. Her work in progress, *KAIROS*—winner of the near. prize 2025 – will be presented at the Fotofestival Lenzburg in Switzerland in 2026 and focuses on the unspoken forms of normalized violence and was selected for the DUMMY AWARDS 2026 and will tour internationally.

At the same time, she works in the independent film industry, having gone through almost all the stages in the life of a film, championing mainly creative documentaries and short films. Looking



forward, she envisions a space in the rural space, where creativity, proximity to nature, and practices of meditation and disconnection form a community rather than elitism – an endeavor already being cultivated through the collective photography workshops she has been leading in Anafi since 2023.

© Antigoni Papantoni

Florine Thiebaud



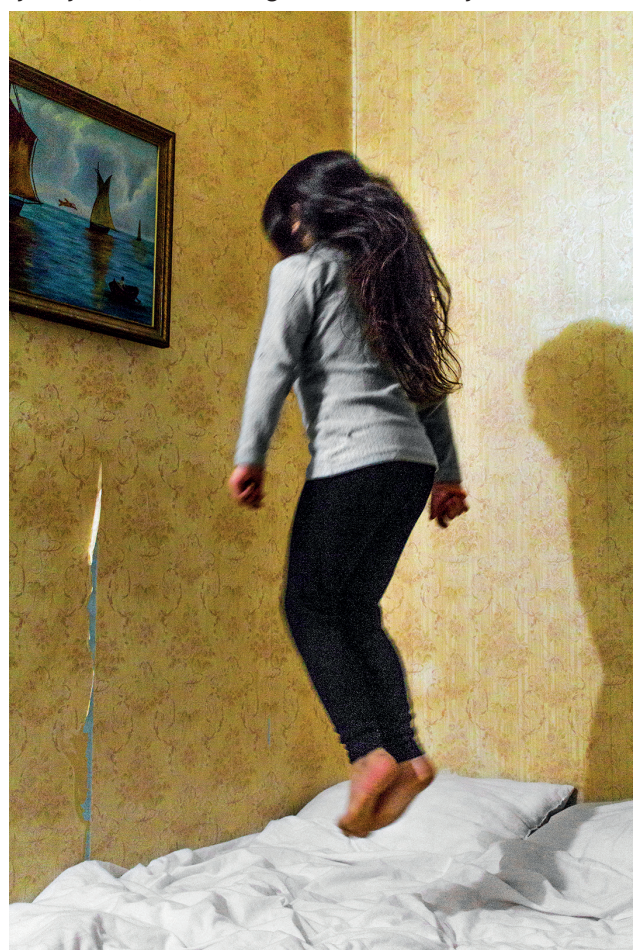
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Based in Marseille, Florine Thiebaud is an artist whose practice combines photography, video, artists' books and performance. Her work explores the forms of constraint that shape bodies, narratives and memory, with a particular focus on processes of waiting, displacement, transmission and repair. Through long-term projects, she creates works in which individual experiences reveal broader social and political realities.

Produced between 2017 and 2019 in Greece, *Breaking Point* is part of this ongoing inquiry. Over the course of several stays on the islands of Chios and Leros, as well as in Athens, the artist developed lasting relationships with asylum seekers whose daily lives she shared. Far removed from the spectacular imagery often associated with migration, she focuses instead on documenting a quieter yet equally defining dimension of exile: waiting.

Through portraits, landscapes and fragments of everyday life, *Breaking Point* conveys this state of suspension in which time seems to stand still. The anticipation of an administrative decision, the possibility of departure, or the prospect of rebuilding a life becomes the project's central subject. Days repeat themselves, uncertainty settles in, and yet hope endures.

With a sensitive and attentive approach, Florine Thiebaud captures the singularity of the people she photographs without reducing them to their status as exiles. Her work sheds light on human trajectories marked by resilience while questioning the political and administrative systems that shape these lives. Situated between documentary practice and relational experience, *Breaking Point* offers a profound reflection on time, waiting and the forms of resistance that emerge in situations of precarity.



© Florine Thiebaud, 2018.

MDC#4

Alexandre Fournier Biville

Alexandre Fournier Biville is a writer and photographer based in Marseille. He turned to photography at the age of twenty-three as a self-taught practitioner before training with Yves Jeanmougin between 2014 and 2017. Alongside commissioned work for literary festivals, he pursues his own photographic research projects in Normandy, Greece and Corsica.



© Nicolas Serve

Since 2022, he has been developing *Rebetika Proastia*, a long-term photographic project dedicated to the places where rebetiko continues to thrive in the working-class neighbourhoods of Athens. This black-and-white series is a journey into the nightlife of the Greek capital, an immersion in its taverns, atmospheres and the community of musicians and singers who keep this musical tradition alive.

Rebetiko is one of the most popular—and perhaps the most emblematic—forms of Greek music. The genre emerged in the late 1920s and early 1930s through encounters with musical traditions brought from Asia Minor in the wake of the upheavals that marked the beginning of the twentieth century. It developed in the working-class districts of Athens during the decade shaped by the Asia Minor Catastrophe, a human, social and economic trauma whose legacy remains deeply embedded in contemporary Greek society.

Today, as in the past, this music continues to resonate in the taverns of certain Athenian neighbourhoods. These evenings are imbued with a sense of nostalgia, haunted by the memory of musicians from another era. Carried by the sounds of the bouzouki and the guitar, people gather to sing, dance and momentarily escape an existence marked by uncertainty and recurring crises—much as previous generations did a century ago. Rebetiko remains one of the most profound expressions



© Alexandre Fournier Biville, Coin de rue à Exárcheia, Juin 2024

of contemporary Greece, a musical refuge amid the social and political upheavals that continue to shape the country. It is this continuity, between heritage and the present day, that *Rebetika Proastia* seeks to explore. Both the project and its title pay tribute to *Laika Proastia*, the landmark album by Sotiria Bellou.