

# Tide

A project proposal by Danae Stratou, 2011



In the context of the:

## *Outdoor Artistic Interventions - Project*

To take place within the greater sea area in the delta of the rivers: Axios - Loudias - Aliakmonas



Curator: Emmy Grammenou

Participating Artists: Manolis Babousis, Giorgos Gyparakis, Danae Stratou, Costas Varotsos, Zafos Xagoraris

Collaborating Entities: Goulandris Museum of Natural History, EKVY - Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre, Municipality of Thessaloniki, Municipality of Halastra.

## My approach:

In a time of major confluence of economic and environmental crises, contemporary art, especially when it takes place in public spaces and is designed to reach and address a wider audience, could and should play a significant role in using the artist's perspective for dissolving the polarisation which characterizes the current dialogue on our relationship with nature and with one another. It can activate a deeper awareness about the most pressing issues of our time and help discern how art can be used to reach and influence a wider audience across the world. Art has its finger on the planet's pulse and can mediate human deliberation on the course of our future.



Site survey | photographic notes:

*Special features, points of reference & inspiration*



Photo's: Danae Stratou (Axios River mouth, 2011)



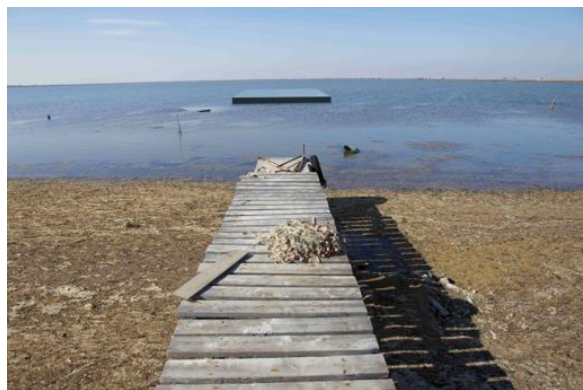
Title: *TIDE - definer*

Type of work: Site-specific Installation (reversible construction)



## Description:

At a selected point in the wider sea area in the bay that expands between the local lighthouse and an abandoned improvised restaurant named Bangladesh, a water cube will be created in the form of a shallow tank. The construction will be designed so that depending on the sea levels variations, the water volume will at some times be submerged beneath the surrounding water's surface while at other times it will protrude. In this way a square shaped water plain will sometimes emerge from the water surrounding it while at others it will be defined as a square shaped plain of perfectly smooth water within the Seascape.



## Concept:

*TIDE – exposer / definer* will act as a point of reference subtly underlining the distinctive changes resulting in water level due to the tide phenomenon over the course of 24 hours.

Wanting to expose, the rare in the Greek landscape, phenomenon of tide which takes place in the particular area where the estuary of the three rivers coexist, I essentially propose to build a man made rock pool which naturally fills with water to its rim by the water surrounding it at high tide. The height of the construction will be determined by the highest level which the water reaches, (estimated at around 80cm), so as to be filled to the rim. During the course of the day and as the waters' level subsides the tank will remain filled with water. In this way a new plane of water is created, a point of reference which constantly re-defines the sea bed and the horizon, thus becoming an 'instrument' enabling us to become aware of what is happening around us but cannot be seen.





Image processing: Leuteris Virirakis - ANAPARASTASIS

## Technical description

The water tank will be designed according to the environmental regulations of the natural reserve as well as in relation to the desired time-frame of the project. The material used for the construction should be sturdy (e.g. stone, marble, cement) so that it will naturally be kept on the seabed by its weight and so that the visitor will be able to approach it, swim to it and walk or sit on it. The entire inner surface of the tank will be watertight.



