

# DEMETRA KALLITSI

University of Brighton, UK  
Supervisor: Dr. Charlie Hooker

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Lives and works in Nicosia, Cyprus

Demetra Kallitsi (b. 1989) completed an MA in Fine Arts at The University of Brighton, 2013, having as a supervisor, Professor Charlie Hooker, and a BA in Visual Arts at University of Salford, Manchester, 2012, supervised by Professor Brendan Fletcher. Kallitsi has participated in group exhibitions, artist residencies, workshops, and had solo and collaborative performances in Cyprus, Germany, Italy, Malta and the UK. Her art practice unfolds over a variety of different mediums including performance art, textiles (embroidery) and creative writing.

Demetra Kallitsi's art practice focuses on the mediums of performance art, textiles (embroidery) and creative writing. Her artwork is personal and autobiographical, where an element of exposure allows the artist to perform a sort of public catharsis. She sees art as an attempt to identify and heal the "wound", an act of activism. Thus, the creative process challenges the artist to deviate from an egocentric comfort zone of celebrating the artist as "a romantic, tragic figure" or from being the "aestheticized object of creation". She considers art to not only

be a means of addressing certain issues (social, political, economic etc.) but also as an attempt to propose or provide solutions to those issues. Kallitsi's artwork addresses issues of identity (the discourses that influence and transform it), the individual's notion of reality (and how this is always transformed/based on past experiences, social and cultural background, and previously attained knowledge). Further references can be drawn from issues of gender politics, memory and humour.

Always Me, Embroidery on canvas, 14,8x21cm, 2017



