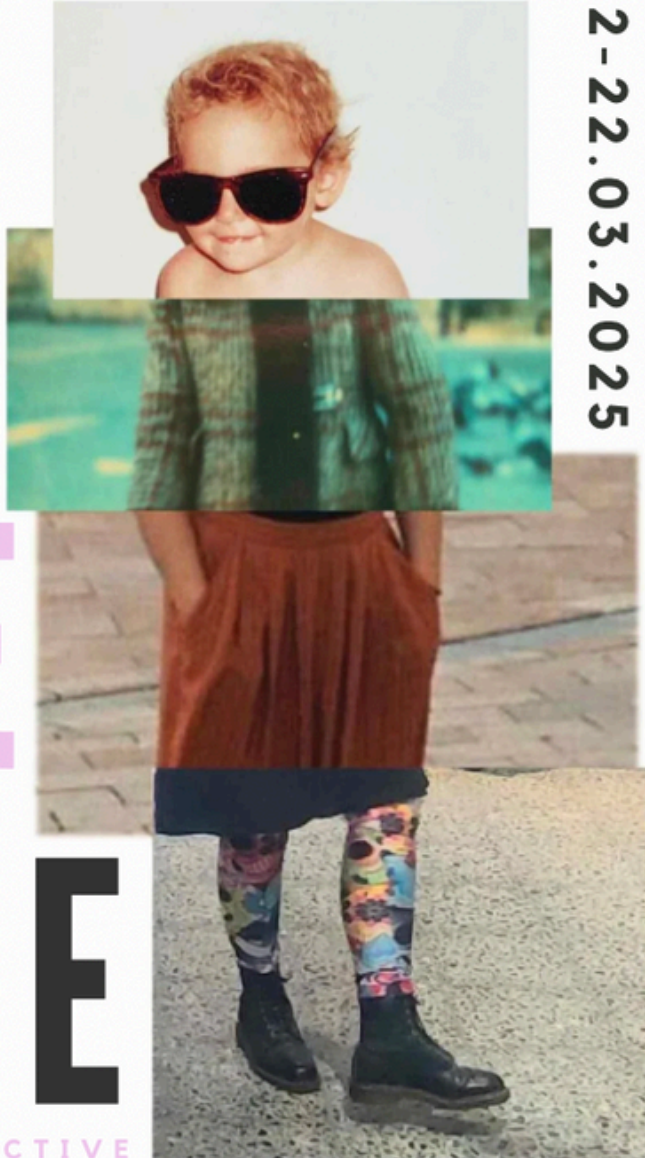


# NEWSLETTER

## I ARE HERE

KONTRAPUNKT COLLECTIVE



21.02-22.03.2025

Autoriehe OÜ  
Hobusepea 2  
Pikk 27 10133 Tallinn

Mon–Fri 10:00–18:00  
Sat 11:00–16:00  
Sun closed

**A-GALERII**

CONTEMPORARY JEWELLERY

FEBRUARY 2025

ISSUE NO. 6

# Inside this issue:

## THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS

### EXHIBITION SPOTLIGHT: **I ARE HERE**

WE INTRODUCE THE THIRD PROJECT OF **KONTRAPUNKT COLLECTIVE**, TITLED **I ARE HERE**. THIS THOUGHT-PROVOKING EXHIBITION WILL BE ON VIEW IN TALLINN AT A-GALERII FROM FEBRUARY 21 TO MARCH 22, 2025.

### MEET THE ARTISTS: SARAH MONTAGNOLI & ANASTASIA KANDARAKI

THIS MONTH, WE HIGHLIGHT TWO EXCEPTIONAL JEWELLERY ARTISTS:

- **SARAH MONTAGNOLI**, A JEWELLER, METALSMITH, AND EDUCATOR BASED IN PHILADELPHIA, WHOSE WORK EXPLORES THE INTERSECTIONS OF MATERIAL, FORM, AND STORYTELLING.
- **ANASTASIA KANDARAKI**, A JEWELLERY ARTIST AND INSTRUCTOR BASED IN ATHENS, FOUNDER OF ANAMMA ART JEWELRY SCHOOL, AND CO-FOUNDER OF ATHENS JEWELRY WEEK, WHOSE PIECES BRIDGE CONTEMPORARY AND TRADITIONAL JEWELLERY PRACTICES.

### WANT TO FEATURE AN EVENT?

WE WELCOME EVENT SUBMISSIONS! GET IN TOUCH TO HAVE YOUR EXHIBITION, WORKSHOP, OR PROJECT FEATURED IN OUR NEWSLETTER.

### SPREAD THE WORD!

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### KONTRAPUNKT No.3 – I ARE HERE

As Kontrapunkt Collective we wish to explore the intersection between individual and collective practice. As individuals, we already incorporate within ourselves a multitude of voices which, in Kontrapunkt, are further blended into a superstructure that works in harmony, combining while still highlighting our individual characteristics. Our projects are catalysts for these investigations: they are experiments that drive our wish to better understand the nature of collaboration and, through that, of our own selves, both as people and as practitioners.

In this project we aimed to explore the essence of the collective by constructing a shared identity through which to make the work – a Muse, an alter-ego, a personification of Kontrapunkt, if you wish. Through the soul, the eyes, the brain and the hands of this Muse, we explored how our strengths and weaknesses as well as the masks that we put on are all building blocks of our collective, and also how, through Kontrapunkt, we exist as and advocate for something bigger than ourselves. This exhibition is the Muse's first solo show.

Before bringing it to the vault we did not allow each other to see the work. Collectivity is something precious, enough to be stored in a safe but also enough that it needs to be seen and shared. And it is together with all of you visitors that we share our anticipation, curiosity and reactions.



KONTRAPUNKT COLLECTIVE: WHO ARE YOU?

MUSE: I am all of you, but I am also all of me. I am the essence of your knowledge, personality, thoughts and experiences. But I am my own person too. A child you, free from expectations, driven by play and intuition. And a wise you, free from pretence, driven by the here and now.

KC: WHAT ARE YOU?

M: I am like a pen name: the chance for you to find another perspective, and to experience and trust creative freedom. I am the you as you learn to transform yourselves, to become stronger, to live more consciously. I am the muse that inspires you to surrender to yourselves and the creator that energises you to take action through yourselves.

KC: WHY ARE YOU?

M: I am so that you can be filled with trust in the creative process. I am so you are not pressured by deadlines, or the need for appreciation, or your own hyper-critical voices. I am so that you can be truly selective about what you identify with and what brings you joy and so that you can accept the results completely and unconditionally.

KC: WHEN ARE YOU?

M: Maybe I have been only for a few stolen hours during this process. But what if I could be always?

KC: WHERE ARE YOU?

M: I am in all of you who created me and in all of you who are coming to share in my work. You are here. I – ARE – HERE.



# Sarah Montagnoli



Sarah Montagnoli is a jeweller, metalsmith, and educator based in Philadelphia, PA. She received her BFA from Moore College of Art & Design in 2018 and an MFA from Tyler School of Art and Architecture in 2021. Since then, she has been teaching jewellery at Tyler School of Art and Architecture and Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey. Her work and studio practice are motivated by reinvestigating her childhood through the creation of toy-like wearable objects that act as vessels where trauma can be analysed, processed, and rewritten.







# Artist Statement

*I create pillowed metal forms that act as vessels for encapsulating fragments of myself and my past, to be observed from a removed perspective. Escaping the restraints of shame that ensnared my childhood, replacing sensations of joy and pleasure – no matter how innocent – with guilt, condemned my desires as filthy and shameful. Through the lens of my adult self, I consider how shame, denial, and desire can be the source of pleasure through control, restraint, and restriction. Seeking pleasure and comfort through “toy” based forms, I refabricate these moments lost in my childhood. Evoking sensations, memories, and emotions through tactile experiences, I am in control of these experiences; replaying these sensations, and commanding these moments by rewriting them to soothe myself, or to give them form; begging them to stay with me and not slip through the cracks of my memory; dissolving into nothing.*

*Sarah Montagnoli*



# Anastasia Kandaraki

*Born in 1983, Anastasia Kandaraki is a jewellery artist, instructor, and founder of Anamma Art Jewelry School and co-founder & former partner of Athens Jewelry Week.*

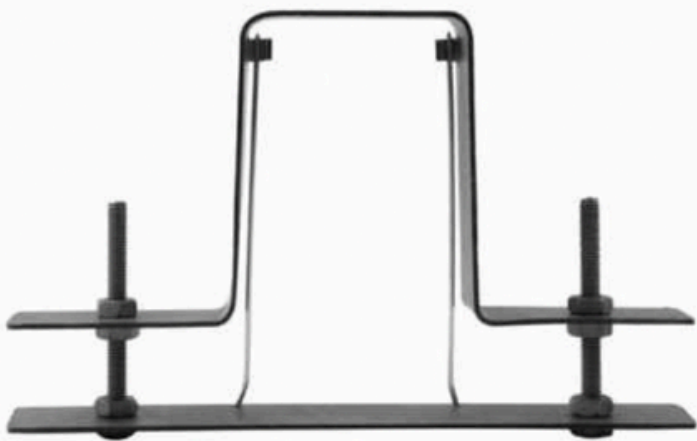
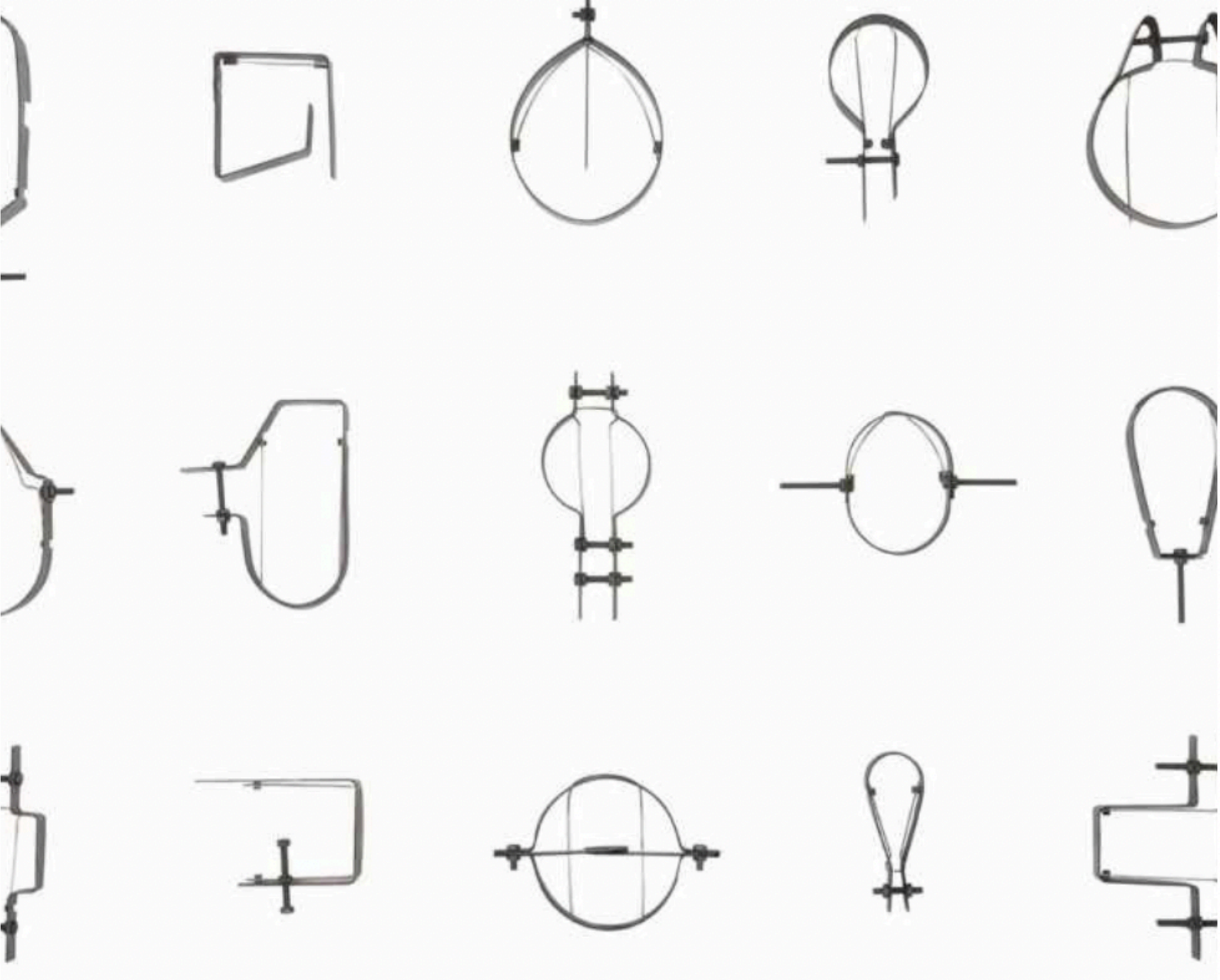
*She holds an MFA in Contemporary Jewelry and Body Ornament from Alchimia Jewelry School in Florence, mentored by Lucy Sarneel and a BA in contemporary jewellery mentored by Manfred Bischoff.*

*Her work has formed part of exhibitions in various countries in Europe, the USA, Latin America, the Middle East, Asia and Australia.*

*Currently, she lives and works in Athens, where she creates, teaches and organizes jewellery workshops and exhibitions.*

[@anastasiakandaraki](#)













# Artist Statement

*By exploring the properties of materials through a process of continuous deconstruction and reconstruction, I attempt to understand the nature of existence and, thus, of the world.*

*This work to the limit is also a means to explore what I am and what I am not – and perhaps what we all can be.*

*Tradition and preciousness are important to me. Coming from a family of goldsmiths, I have a deep respect for traditional techniques; yet I have been trying to use them in my own personal way. You see, I don't believe that preciousness is related to the value of the material only. I think it mostly derives from the story and symbolism a piece of jewelry carries.*

*I draw my inspiration from everyday life and my surroundings, as well as social interactions and human values. I am usually working with hard materials: silver, steel, bone and wood. Their resistance, durability, toughness and the traces of corrosion found on them are qualities that truly fascinate me and are often reflected on my work.*

*I consider jewelry as something intimate; as a channel of communication with oneself; as a link between our physical and emotional existence. But jewelry also operates as a social statement made both by its creator and the person wearing it, as a form of interaction between body and space, individuals and society. With this in mind, I create three- dimensional objects that function as an extension of the human body. Jewelry pieces inspired by people for people. And by constantly questioning the nature of existence, as well as that of jewelry, I proceed.”*

I AM ALWAYS HAPPY TO HEAR YOUR  
FEEDBACK! IF YOU HAVE IDEAS OR WOULD  
LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT AN EVENT, BOOK, OR  
ARTIST, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH AT  
VICA.GABOR@GMAIL.COM.

I HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE 5TH ISSUE.  
PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD BY  
RECOMMENDING THIS NEWSLETTER TO  
ANYONE WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED.  
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