

Art et al. X Royal Society of Sculptors
Peer to Peer 12

# Artists Leslie and Eleni working together



This is an Easy Read resource about Art et al.'s Peer to Peer 12

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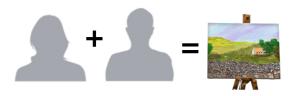
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#### What is a Peer to Peer collaboration?



A Peer to Peer collaboration is where 2 artists chat, and work together, to make new artworks



**X** 4

The 2 artists work together for up to 4 months altogether



The artists can meet, chat and share ideas and art over Zoom. Or they can meet in person if they live in the same area



They can make new artwork by themselves, using any material that they like



Or they can make new artwork together, so they work on the same piece of artwork, sometimes at the same time

#### What is a Peer to Peer collaboration?



# X 3? X 4? X 10 pieces?

The outcome of the collaboration is left open. This means it can be any amount of work, made in any medium, and made at any scale



One artist will usually be working out of a supported studio.

By this we mean a creative space for individuals with specific health or social needs that supports the different art practices of each artist

### Who were the people involved?



For the 12th collaboration, Art et al. worked with Manchester-based artist Leslie Thompson.

Leslie works out of the supported studio Venture Arts.



Leslie often does very detailed black pen drawings from his memory. Quite often they are drawings of animals or of places he has visited over the years.



Art et al. paired Leslie with Eleni Maragaki, who is London-based artist. Eleni was originally born in Greece.

Eleni is a member of the Royal Society of Sculptors. This is an organisation that supports artists who create sculptures.



Eleni works in lots of different materials. She likes to fold paper into different shapes, and work with clay or different woods to make 3D works. She likes to spend time looking at objects in lots of detail, to understand how they are made, etc. Her work often focuses on different environments in nature.

## What happened during the collaboration?



For the collaboration, the artists met several times over Zoom. They also met twice inperson, to learn new skills from each other.



When together in-person, Leslie showed Eleni how he makes his ceramic (clay) animals, as we can see in the photo here. Eleni showed Leslie how to fold paper to make 'spring flower fold books' that Leslie could then draw onto.



Much of their work was inspired by Leslie's love of animals. With Eleni coming from Greece, she showed Leslie photos of Greek animals. Leslie drew these and then made them out of clay.

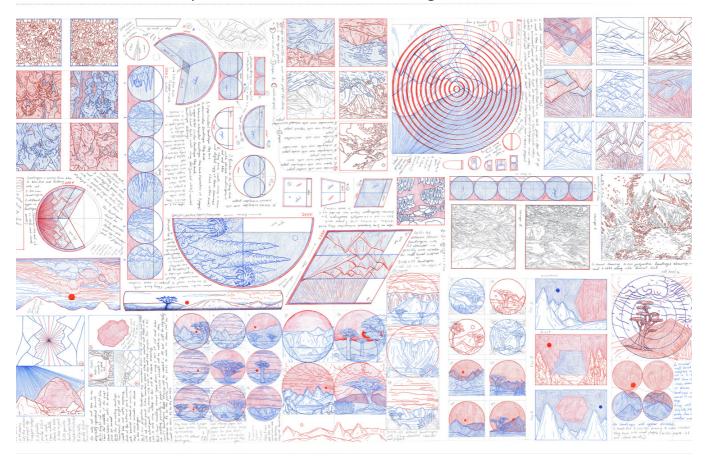


Leslie loves African trees, so Eleni researched into them, and did 99 drawings of them on small circles. She then made these into a book.

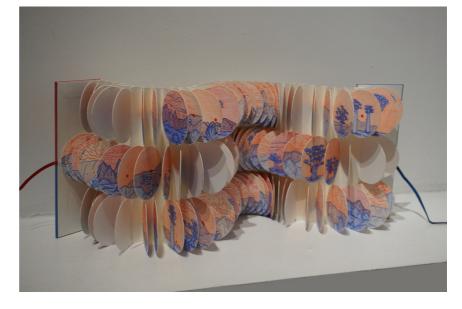
You can see more about this Peer to Peer collaboration, how they worked together, and see photos of their artwork exhibited here:

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Here are some images of the artwork created by Eleni. The first is a very large working drawing, showing how Eleni plans her artwork out. The bottom left is a circular piece made from folded paper and has red/blue lines across it. The bottom right is called a 'flag book' and is made up of small circular drawings of trees in red and blue.







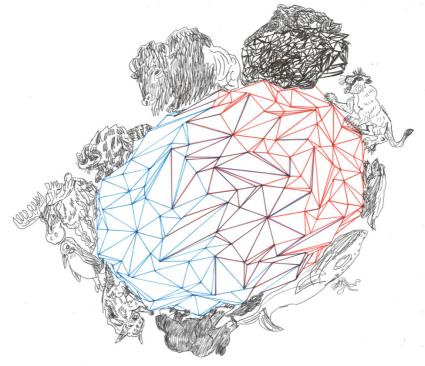
Here are some images of the artwork created by Leslie. The first is a drawing of lots of different animals in pen with the name of the animal next to them. The other two are ceramic animals, the bottom left being a Greek goat, and the bottom right being a Greek cat.





Here are some images of artwork made together by both artists. The top image is a linoprint featuring animals from Leslie and trees from Eleni. A linoprint is when you cut the design into a a piece of lino, that you can then roll ink across and print from. The bottom image has a meteorite in the centre, and animals walking around the outside.





Here are some images of the artwork installed in an exhibition at the Royal Society of Sculptors home, which is called Dora House. This was held from October-November 2023 and their exhibition was titled 'Fantastic animals, jungles and mountains from Africa, Greece and beyond.' Photographs by Mike Glide Photography.





## What were the thoughts of those involved?

I thought that...



Leslie said of the experience that it was "fantastic" and that he really enjoyed sharing different animals and their habitats with Eleni.

I thought that...



Eleni said, "I believe that after this collaboration I will feel I will be less afraid to get out of my comfort zone and try new things or even make mistakes and embrace that as part of the creative process. I think I will experiment much more from now on."





# Contact Us

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If you have questions about Art et al. or want to know more about the Peer to Peer collaborations, you can contact us using the information below.



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