

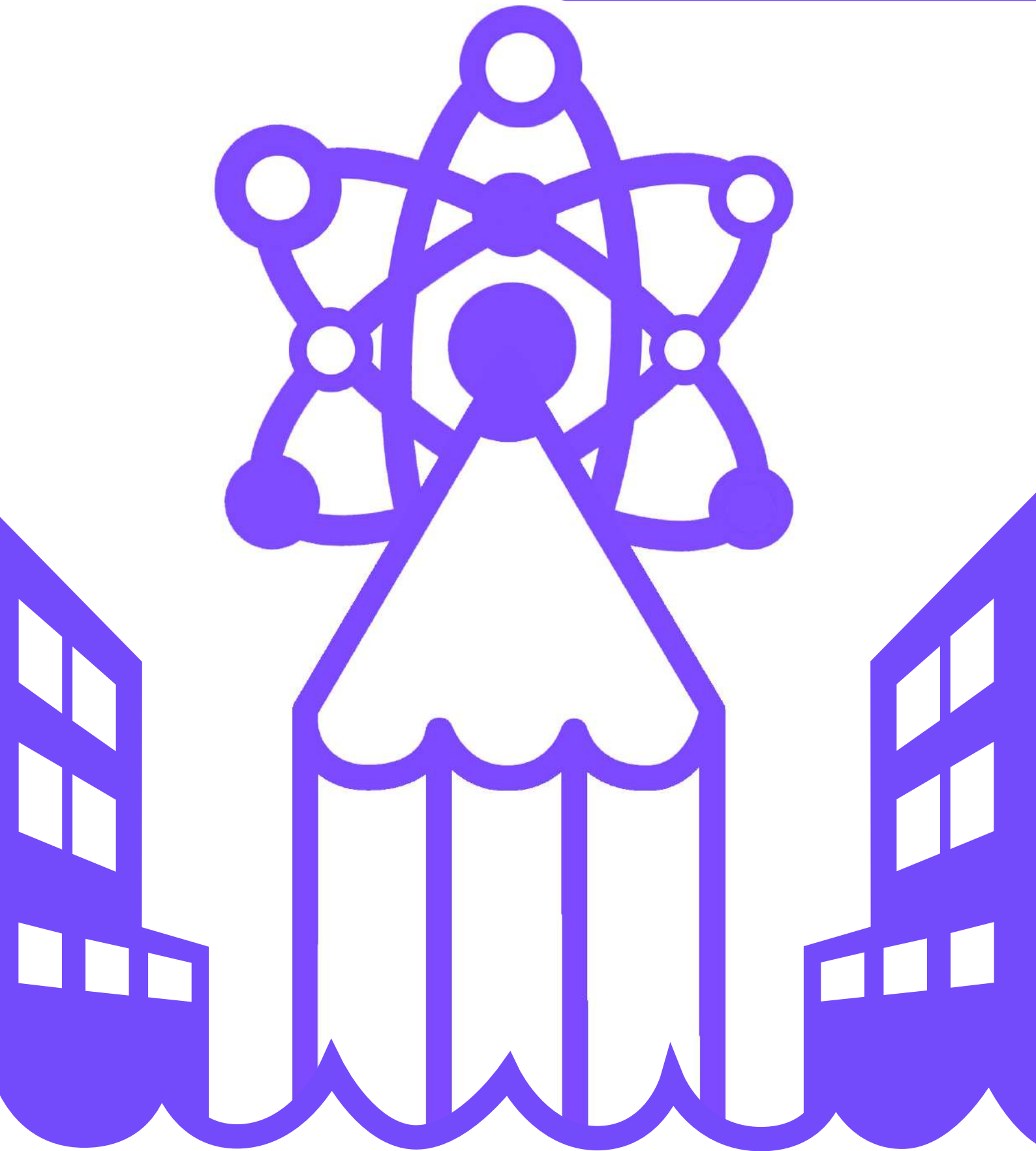


**EU CONEXUS**

European University for Smart  
Urban Coastal Sustainability

# EU-CONEXUS

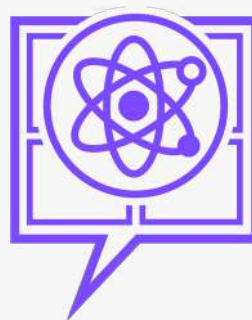
## Comic Strip in Science



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# EU-CONEXUS

## Comic Strip in Science



### INTRODUCTION

EU-CONEXUS, the European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability, is an integrated transnational higher education and research institution covering the smart urban sustainable coastal development from a holistic perspective.

The Alliance brings together nine universities strategically distributed across Europe: La Rochelle Université (France), Agricultural University of Athens (Greece), Catholic University of Valencia (Spain), Klaipeda University (Lithuania), University of Zadar (Croatia), Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest (Romania), South East Technological University (Ireland), University of Rostock (Germany), and Frederick University (Cyprus). Together, they aim to develop science and innovation into a hub of excellence on Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability.

EU-CONEXUS Comic Strip in Science project promotes nine

research projects - one at each partner university - addressing coastal sustainability through a wide range of scientific disciplines, from social sciences to fundamental research. The main objective of the project is to inform a non-expert audience on how EU-CONEXUS addresses coastal sustainability, raise the awareness of the general public (mainly young people and adults) on scientific research and increase their interest in science. The project also encourages dialogue and collaboration between scientists and artists.

**Scientists** were selected via a call for expressions of interest open to all EU-CONEXUS researchers and PhD students motivated by science communication and interested in exploring the intersection of art and science. Selected participants had the opportunity to collaborate with professional illustrators and comic artists.

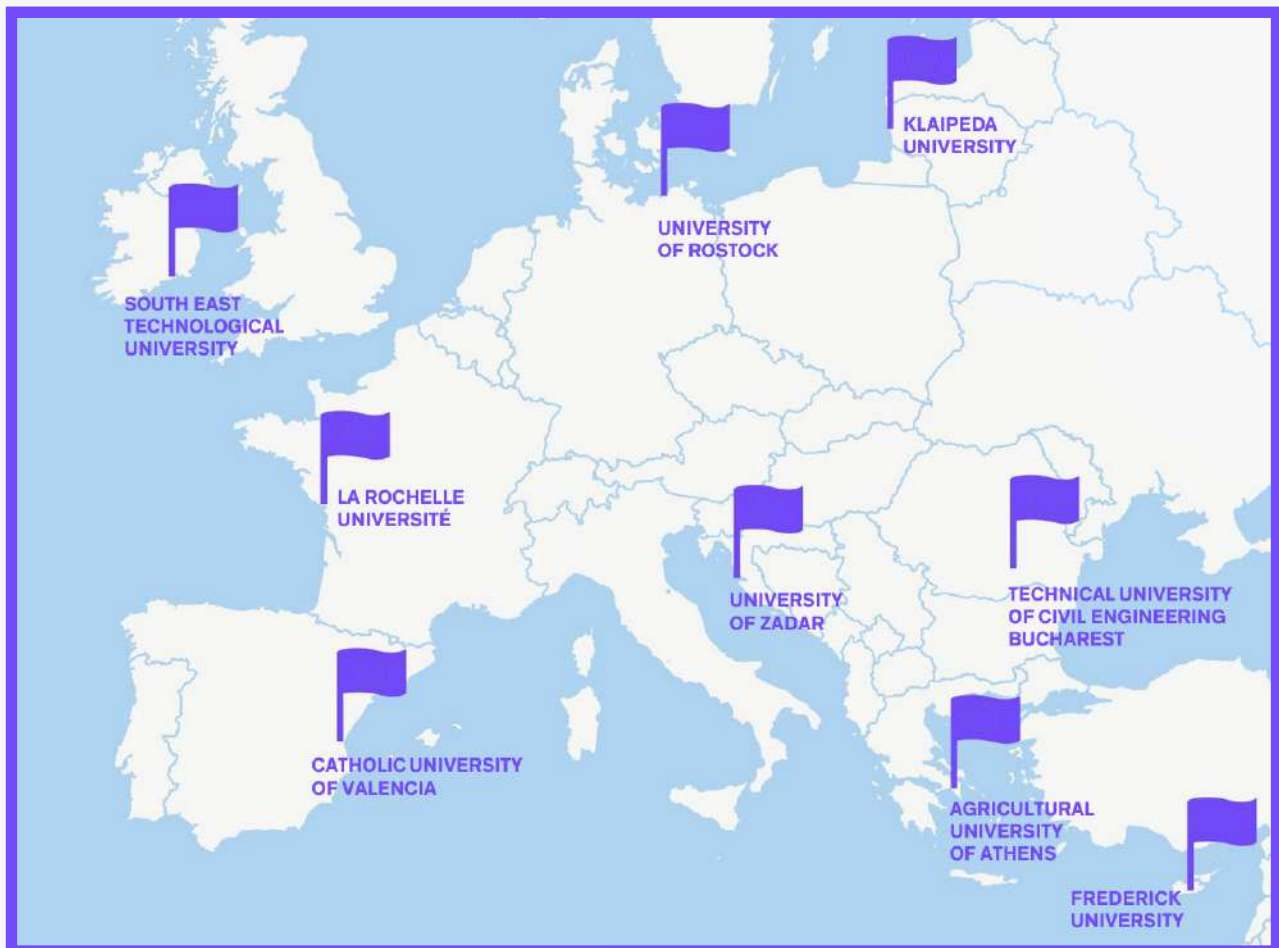
**Artists** were chosen based on their motivation to engage with the

public, the quality and originality of their artistic work, their storytelling abilities, and their interest in bridging art, science and society.

The project unfolded over two six month phases, from June to November 2025 with the creation of four comic strips and from November 2025 to April 2026 with the creation of five comic strips, pairing researchers and artists from the same country to bring scientific concepts to life.

Each research project was transformed into a 3 page comic strip with a cover page, designed to be creative, engaging and accessible for non-expert readers.

The project was coordinated in collaboration with PieR Gajewski, comic author from La Rochelle (France), who has long worked with La Rochelle Université.



# Comics

## June 2025 – April 2026

CREATION OF NINE COMIC STRIPS IN SPAIN, CYPRUS, ROMANIA, GERMANY, GREECE, LITHUANIA, IRELAND, CROATIA AND FRANCE

### 01 - Spain

“WALKABLE CITIES”

**Alonso Sanchez Rodriguez & Xulia Vicente (artist)** p.5

Research project: “Walkable Cities: Health Promotion and Well-Being Through Urban Trails in Three Neighborhoods of Valencia”  
[Catholic University of Valencia](#)

### 02 - Cyprus

“STRANGE RAIN”

**Lora Nicolaou & Kyriaki Mavroudi (artist)** p.9

Research project: “Resilient Coastal Neighborhoods (RECONe)”  
[Frederick University](#)

### 03 - Romania

“BLUE PRINT”

**Roxana-Laura (Oprea) Doncea & Andrada Băeș (artist)** p.13

Research project: “Integrated Multisource Geospatial Data Management for the Digital Twin”  
[Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest](#)

### 04 - Germany

“SEALS AND THE SENSE OF TIME”

**Caroline Spratte & Nele Brönnner (artist)** p.17

Research project: “A deeper look into the pinniped brain: functional MRI in harbor seals”  
[University of Rostock](#)

### 05 - Greece

“CHOICES, CHOICES”

**Konstantinos Velaoras & Steve Stivaktis (artist)** p.21

Research project: “The Impact of Environmental Certifications on Consumer Behavior for Certified Hotels: Analysis Through the Theory of Planned Behavior”  
[Agricultural University of Athens](#)

### 06 - Lithuania

“THE FLESH EATING MONSTER”

**Greta Gyraitė & Ula Rugevičiūtė Rūgytė (artist)** p.25

Research project: “From Sea to Sickbed: The Unseen Story of Vibrio spp.”  
[Klaipėda University](#)

### 07 - Ireland

“LOOK AT THE WHOLE, NOT THE HOLE”

**Louise Skerrett & Clíodhna Lyons (artist)** p.29

Research project: “Unveiling the wound crisis: Examining Aetiology, Prevalence, Resource Drain, and Antibiotic Misuse in a Community Healthcare Setting”  
[South East Technological University](#)

### 08 - Croatia

“VOICE FROM THE DEPTHS”

**Irena Radić Rossi & Tomislav Košta (artist)** p.33

Research project: “The Shipwreck at Gnalić - Mirror of Renaissance World”  
[University of Zadar](#)

### 09 - France

“BEYOND ROBINSON”

**Annabel Audureau & PieR Gajewski (artist)** p.37

Research project: “Robinsona: Adventurers of the Postmodern World”  
[La Rochelle Université](#)



# WALKABLE CITIES

By Alonso Sánchez Rodríguez & Xulia Vicente



Would you like to take a stroll around this city?

What about this one?

Narrow pavements

Lack of Local businesses

Obstacles

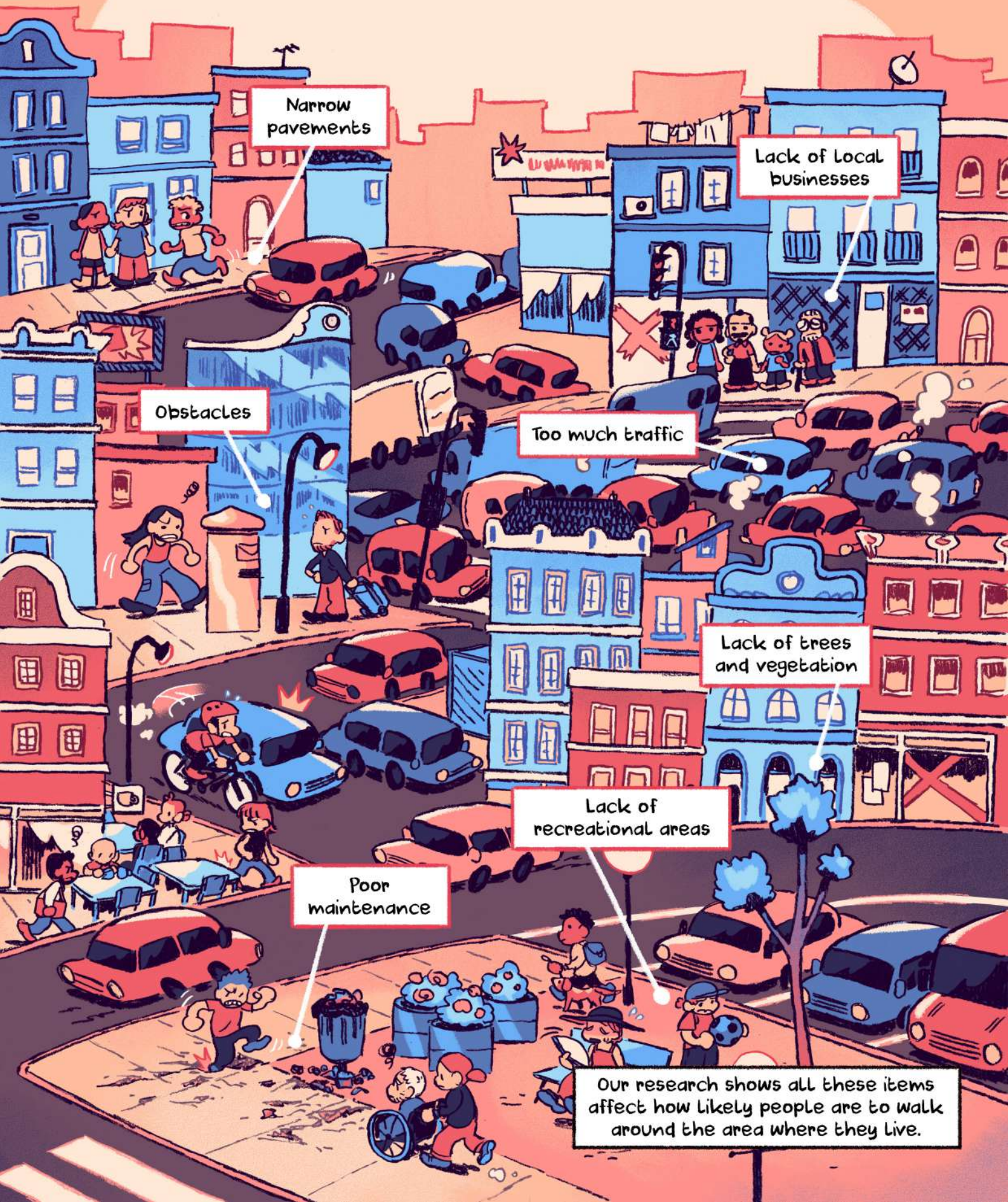
Too much traffic

Lack of trees and vegetation

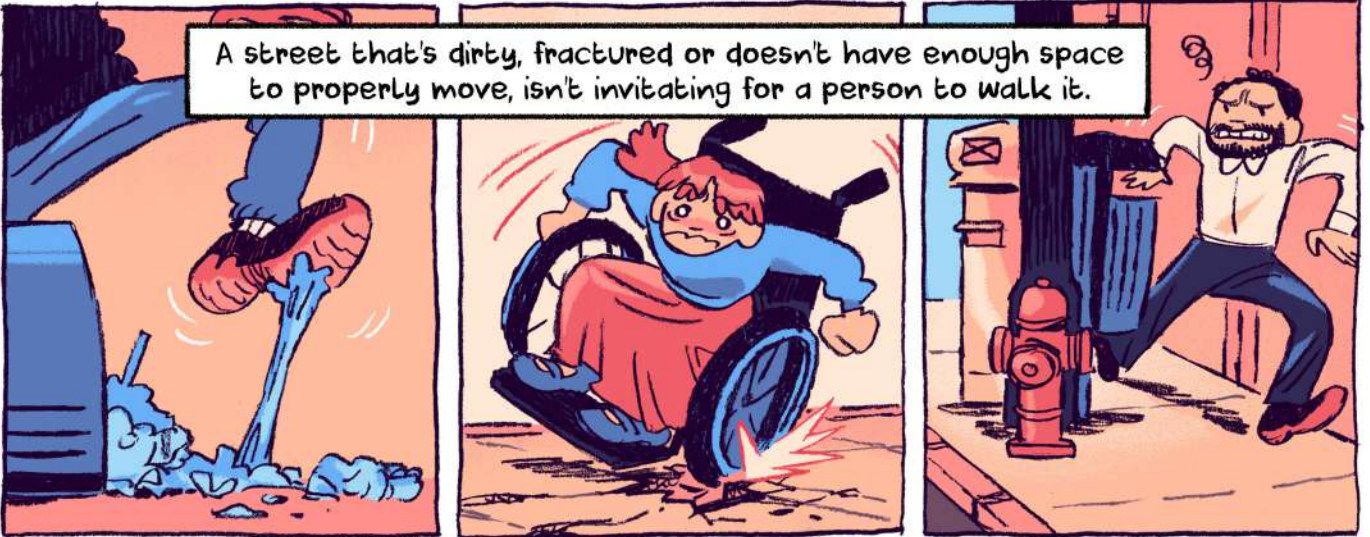
Lack of recreational areas

Poor maintenance

Our research shows all these items affect how likely people are to walk around the area where they live.



A street that's dirty, fractured or doesn't have enough space to properly move, isn't inviting for a person to walk it.



When consulted, neighbors also ask for more green areas, local businesses or parks for children as incentives that make for a nice promenade.

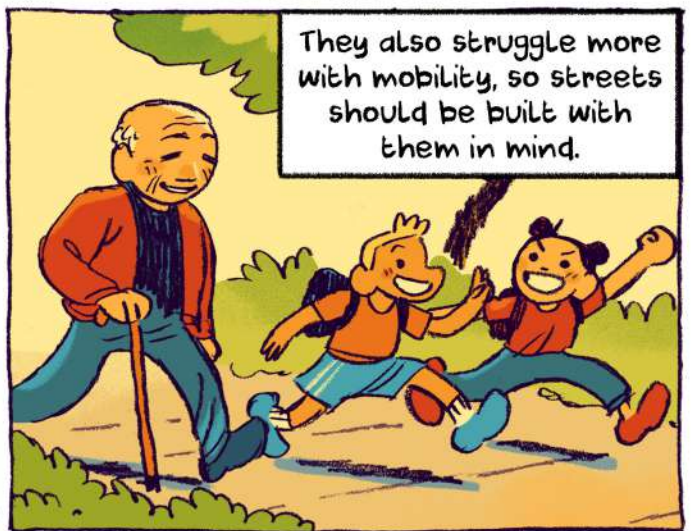


Why is this important? Well, walking is vital for the health of the population, helping prevent depression, feelings of loneliness and even cancer.

This is especially relevant for older age groups, who are more vulnerable to these issues.



They also struggle more with mobility, so streets should be built with them in mind.



But the issue doesn't end there: areas that prioritize car traffic (more lanes, higher speed) are way less walkable.



If people don't find it easy to walk or cycle, they'll usually take a car.

The use of the car pollutes the air, which then affects water in coastal areas.



This pollution raises seaweed population, creating an imbalance in the sea's biodiversity.

Thus, urban planning and maintenance is vital for taking care of our environment: both soil, air and water. And of course, for all their inhabitants, including us.



Let's strive for more walkable cities!



KYRIAKI MAVROUDI

LORA NICOLAOU

# STRANGE RAIN



Once upon a time...



...a strange storm reached Limassol

Bringing rain that no one had ever seen

And...

...with every falling drop...



...a new building was sprouting from the ground

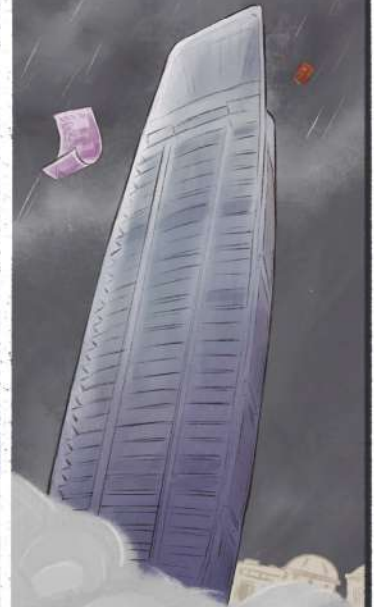
on top of old buildings



on top of streets



on top of entire neighbourhoods



Until Limassol stopped resembling itself

And every single structure wanted to have...



Just the actual sea left...





That was really stressful!



WOW



It feels like a completely different place and it's only a block away!



Take a picture if you like what you see cause they will demolish this entire neighbourhood soon



What a shame! It has so much character

and it could turn into a wonderful coastal neighbourhood

Why ruin it?

Unfortunately, the rain doesn't fall here. It only reaches the sea front buildings



Wouldn't it be better for the local government to preserve these buildings

and their unique character

and use them as schools, stores, co-working affordable spaces?

My aunt used to have a shop here but she was forced to shut it down

like everyone else as they couldn't afford the cost



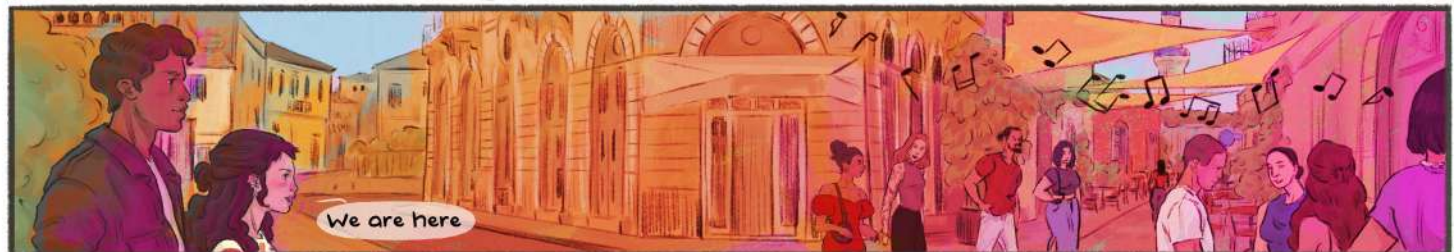
... and the residents wouldn't even need cars because all amenities will be in close proximity!

They could walk or use their bikes

Yes it could be a great way to connect the old with the new city.

Based on the research of Lora Nicolaou.

the old neighbourhoods could be sustainable and more resilient to the passage of time this way too.



We are here



Look. It's raining!

Is it me or is the sky looking promising all of a sudden?

THE END.

# BluePrint

ROXANA LAURA DONCEA

ANDRADA BÄES







OOKAY! NICE LANDING, CAPTAIN!

I MEAN, IT IS MY JOB AFTER ALL.

?



I THINK WE'RE ALL DONE HERE, LET'S GO DOWNSTAIRS AND SEE IF MAYBE WE MISSED A SPOT.

CLAP CLAP



I DON'T THINK SO. ANYWAY, WHAT'D YOU SAY YOU'LL DO WITH THE FOOTAGE AGAIN?

PLOP



I'M 3D SCANNING A HISTORIC MONUMENT USING MULTIPLE SCANNERS AND DRONES, PROCESSING AND MERGING THE DATA.



HOP

I'M BRINGING THE RESULT INTO VIRTUAL REALITY SO IT CAN BE EXPLORED WITH VR HEADSETS.



SO YOU WON'T USE MY FOOTAGE?

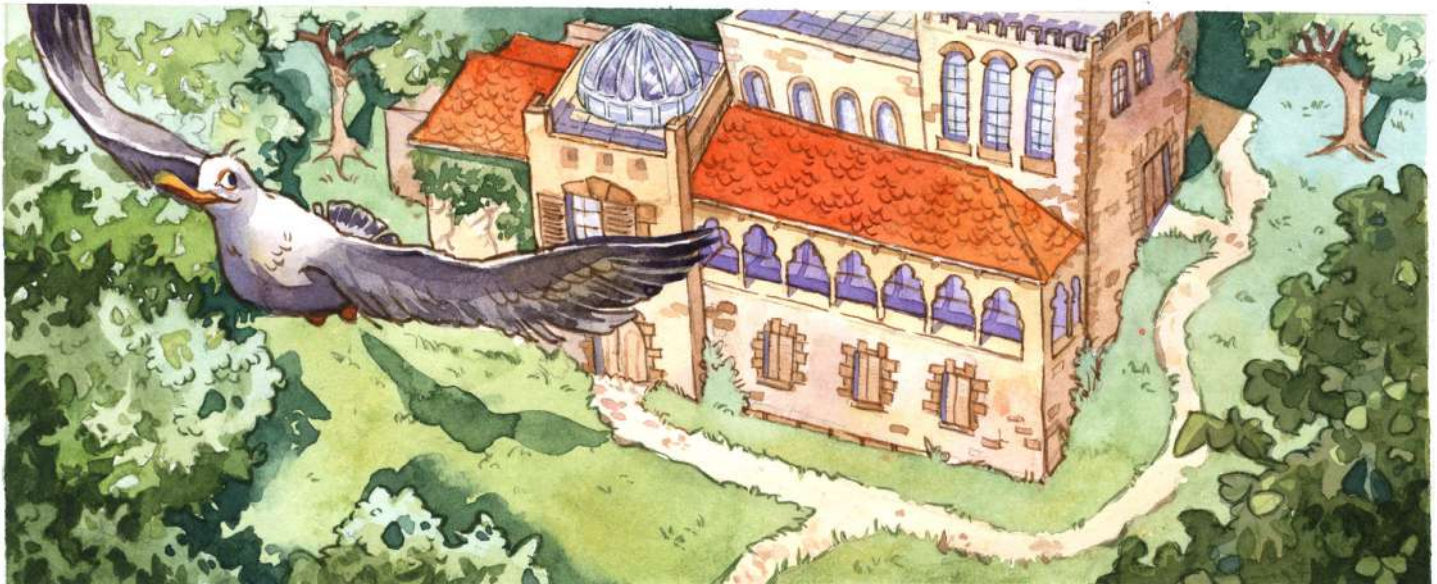
I CREATE HIGH-FIDELITY DIGITAL TWINS OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS USING LASER SCANNING AND DRONES.



THIS COASTAL VILLA IS A PERFECT CASE STUDY DUE TO SALT EXPOSURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION.

SO TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION, THE FOOTAGE IS NEEDED, HAHA!

Hop Hop Hop



CAROLINE SPRATTE & NELE BRÖNNER

# SEALS AND THE SENSE OF TIME



MOIN\*, MY NAME IS RÜDIGER. ME AND MY COLLEAGUE MIRO WORK AT THE MARINE SCIENCE CENTER IN ROSTOCK AND STUDY THE SENSE OF TIME.

TWO HARBOR SEALS IN SCIENCE - YOU SEE.

TIME IS SPECIAL

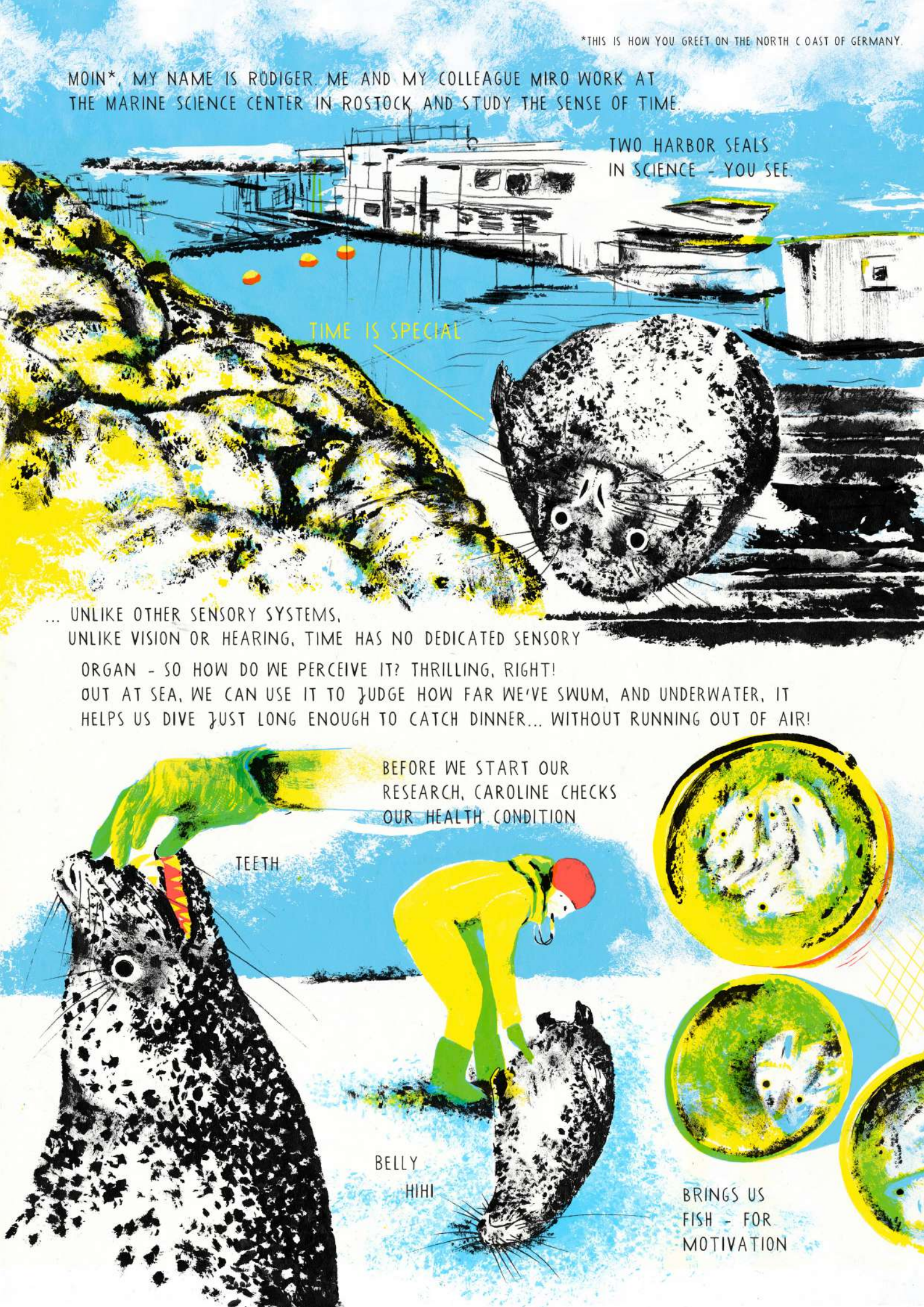
... UNLIKE OTHER SENSORY SYSTEMS, UNLIKE VISION OR HEARING, TIME HAS NO DEDICATED SENSORY ORGAN - SO HOW DO WE PERCEIVE IT? THRILLING, RIGHT! OUT AT SEA, WE CAN USE IT TO JUDGE HOW FAR WE'VE SWUM, AND UNDERWATER, IT HELPS US DIVE JUST LONG ENOUGH TO CATCH DINNER... WITHOUT RUNNING OUT OF AIR!

BEFORE WE START OUR RESEARCH, CAROLINE CHECKS OUR HEALTH CONDITION

TEETH

BELLY  
HIHI

BRINGS US FISH - FOR MOTIVATION



SETUP



THIS IS HOW OUR TIME PERCEPTION EXPERIMENT WORKED:

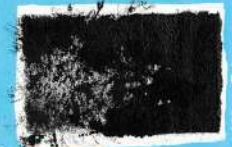
HEAD IN THE RING



WHITE DOT ON BLACK BACKGROUND FOR 200MS IS THE STARTING SIGNAL



- THEN NOTHING ...FOR 10 SEC



THEN A WHITE DOT

THIS MEANS:

NOSE TO THE BALL ON THE RIGHT AND HEAD BACK INTO THE RING



NEXT: THE WHITE DOTS APPEAR SHORTLY AFTER ONE ANOTHER... 3 SEC IN BETWEEN



NOSE TO THE LEFT

YEPP!

CAROLINE GIVES ME FISH TO



ACKNOWLEDGE ME FOR BEING CORRECT



SEE - I DISCRIMINATE EMPTY INTERVALS IN THE SECONDS RANGE PROVING WE SEALS HAVE OUR OWN BUILT-IN SENSE OF TIME!

BUT WHICH SENSORY ORGANS AND BRAIN REGIONS ARE INVOLVED? YES, THAT IS THE QUESTION: WE STARTED ANOTHER EXPERIMENT



MIRO 5

FUNCTIONAL MAGNETIC  
RESONANCE IMAGING (FMRI).

WHEN OUR ANCESTORS  
LEFT THE LAND BEHIND,  
EVOLUTION RESHAPED  
OUR BODIES FOR LIFE AT  
SEA, AND OUR BRAINS  
PROBABLY EVOLVED  
DIFFERENTLY FROM THOSE  
OF LAND ANIMALS MAKES  
SENSE, RIGHT?

OUR MAIN GOAL?  
TO FIND WHICH PARTS OF  
OUR BRAINS LIGHT UP  
WHEN WE PROCESS TIME,  
NOT JUST SIGHTS AND  
SOUNDS!

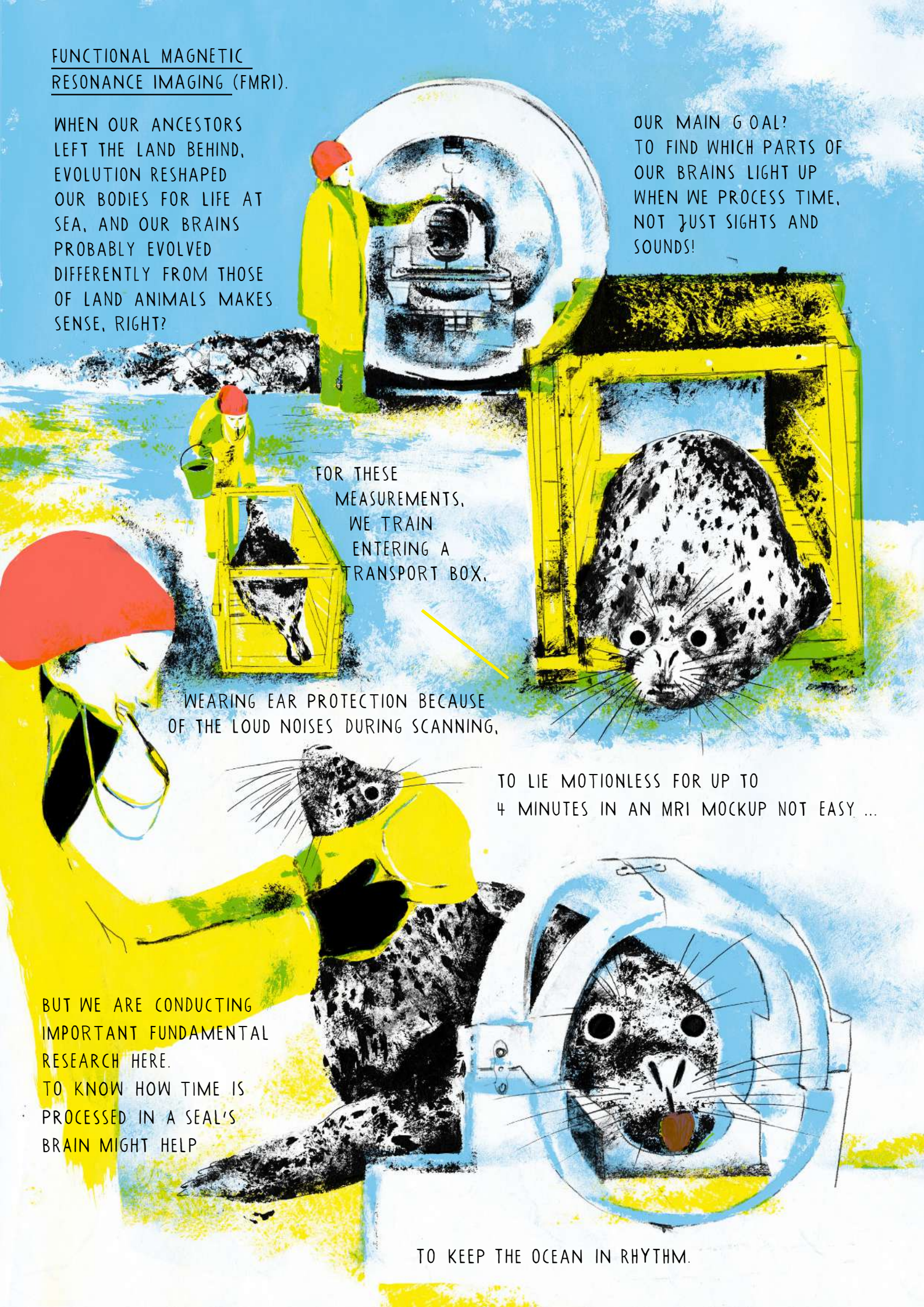
FOR THESE  
MEASUREMENTS,  
WE TRAIN  
ENTERING A  
TRANSPORT BOX.

WEARING EAR PROTECTION BECAUSE  
OF THE LOUD NOISES DURING SCANNING,

TO LIE MOTIONLESS FOR UP TO  
4 MINUTES IN AN MRI MOCKUP NOT EASY ...

BUT WE ARE CONDUCTING  
IMPORTANT FUNDAMENTAL  
RESEARCH HERE.  
TO KNOW HOW TIME IS  
PROCESSED IN A SEAL'S  
BRAIN MIGHT HELP

TO KEEP THE OCEAN IN RHYTHM.









LOOK, THERE'S A BUNCH OF WEBSITES TELLING YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW. YOUR HOTEL IS CHEAP, SURE, BUT --

SEAL KILLERS.

WELL, THEY'RE NOT ON A MURDER SPREE, BUT STILL.



LOOK AT THIS BNB OVER HERE. SAFE AREA, NICE VIEW, AND LOOK!

OH, A LITTLE LEAF. AND IT'S... TURNING TO DUST?



THEY'RE TREE-DESTROYERS.

NO! THEY'RE USING BIODEGRADABLE PRODUCTS! AND SEE THIS LITTLE "V"?

THEY'RE VAMPIRES!

THEY-- WHAT? THEY'RE A VEGAN-SAFE PLACE. ARE YOU OKAY?



I DON'T WANT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DESTROYING NATURE, MATE. AND I BOOKED A ROOM IN A VAMPIRE DEN!

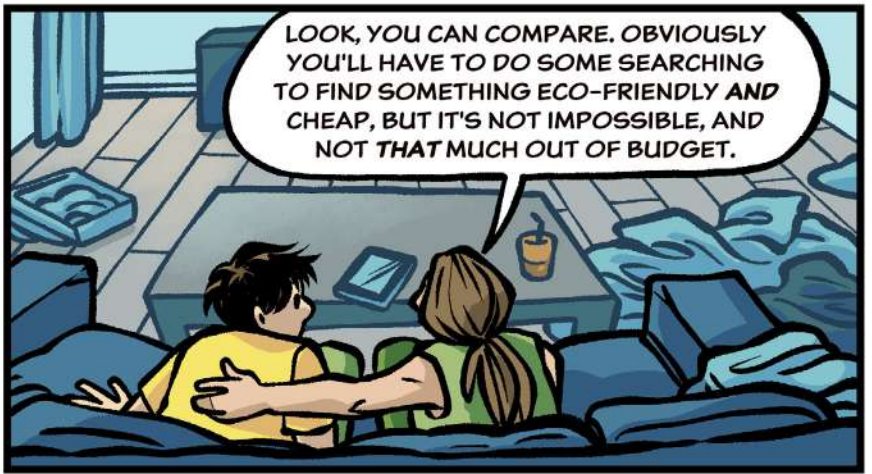
GEORGE? STILL NO VAMPIRES.

BUT YES, POLLUTERS!



NOT ALL OF THEM! DON'T PANIC, MAN.

THERE ARE SYMBOLS FOR RECYCLING, FOR USE OF LOCAL PRODUCTS, FOR SOLAR PANELS... AND YOU CAN SEE WHICH LODGINGS DO WHAT BY SPENDING LIKE, A COUPLE OF HOURS ONLINE.



BASED ON  
TRUE STORIES

LILA RUGEVIČIŪTĖ RUGYTĖ  
& DR. GRETA GYRAITĖ

SCIENTIFICALLY  
APPROVED

# THE FLESH EATING MONSTER

WHAT ON  
EARTH?!!



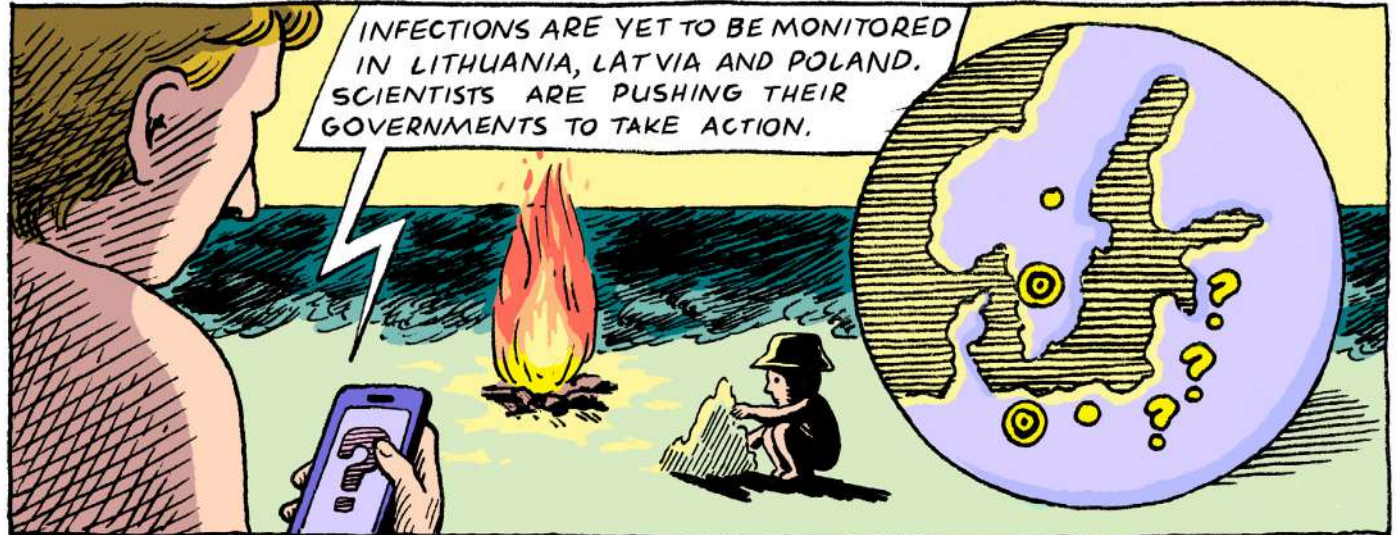


FOR 62 YEAR-OLD SARAH, THE LOVE OF DAILY SWIMS AND GARDENING HAS LED TO A TRAGIC END.

THE WOMAN REPORTEDLY DIED AFTER A DIP INTO CONTAMINATED WATERS. OVER 1500 CASES OF INFECTIONS BY THE VERY SAME DISEASE AGENT HAVE BEEN REGISTERED IN THE BALTIC COAST.

THESE NUMBERS SHOW THE POWER OF THE AQUATIC MICROBE. SCIENTISTS WORRY A BIG PART OF CASES GOES UNREPORTED.

ONCE A HAVEN OF TRANQUILITY THE BALTIC SEA HIDES A GROWING THREAT BENEATH ITS WAVES.



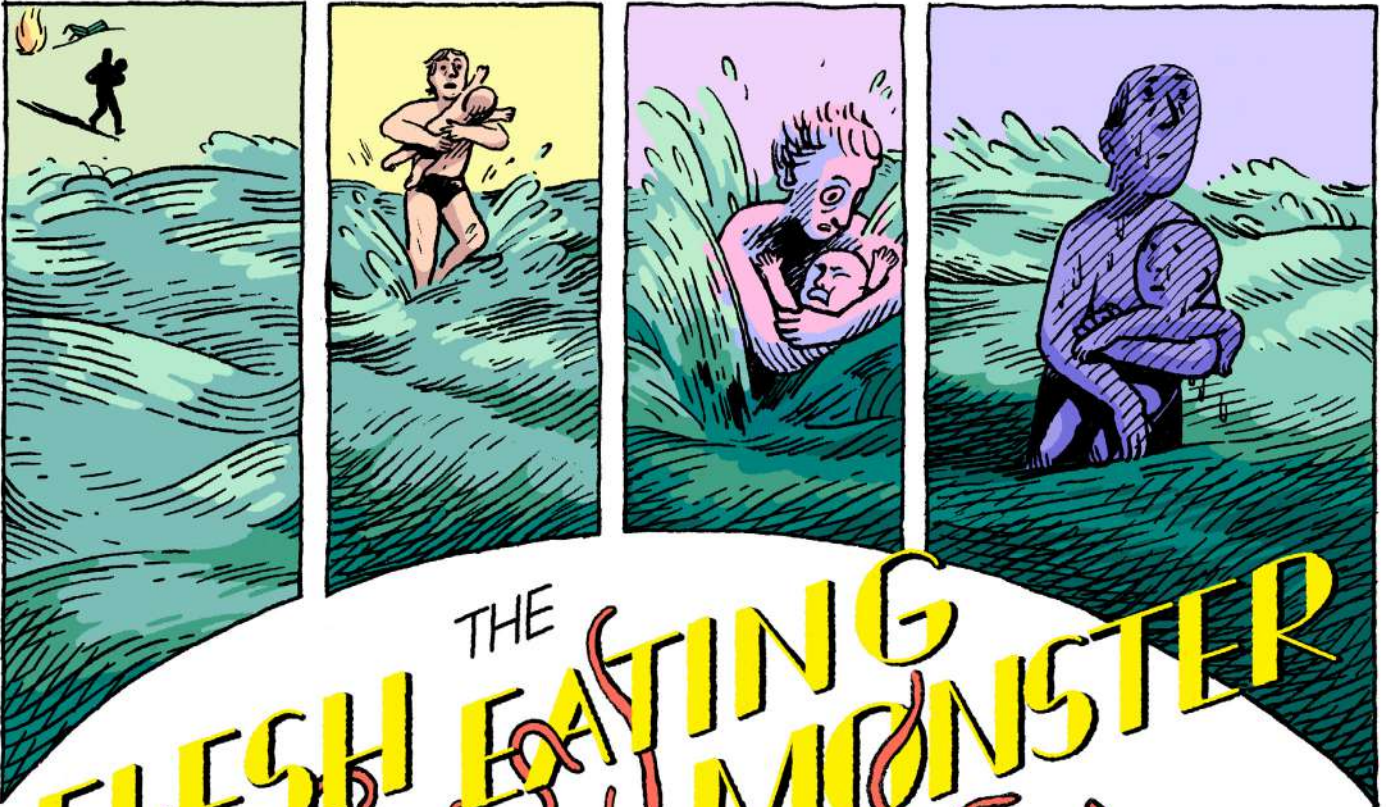
THE HEALTH-CARE AND AGRICULTURE SECTORS HAVE ALSO FACED CRITICISM OVER THE EXCESSIVE...

...USE OF ANTIBIOTICS, AS THE GERM IS GROWING INCREASINGLY MORE RESISTANT TO THE DRUG.

MUCH LIKE US, THE SILENT ENEMY PREFERS WARM TEMPERATURES AND THRIVES IN THE EVER WARMING BALTIC SEA.

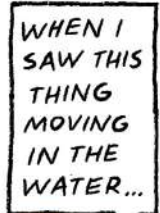
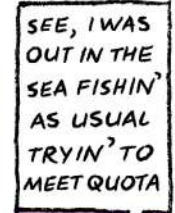
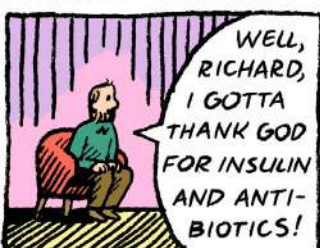
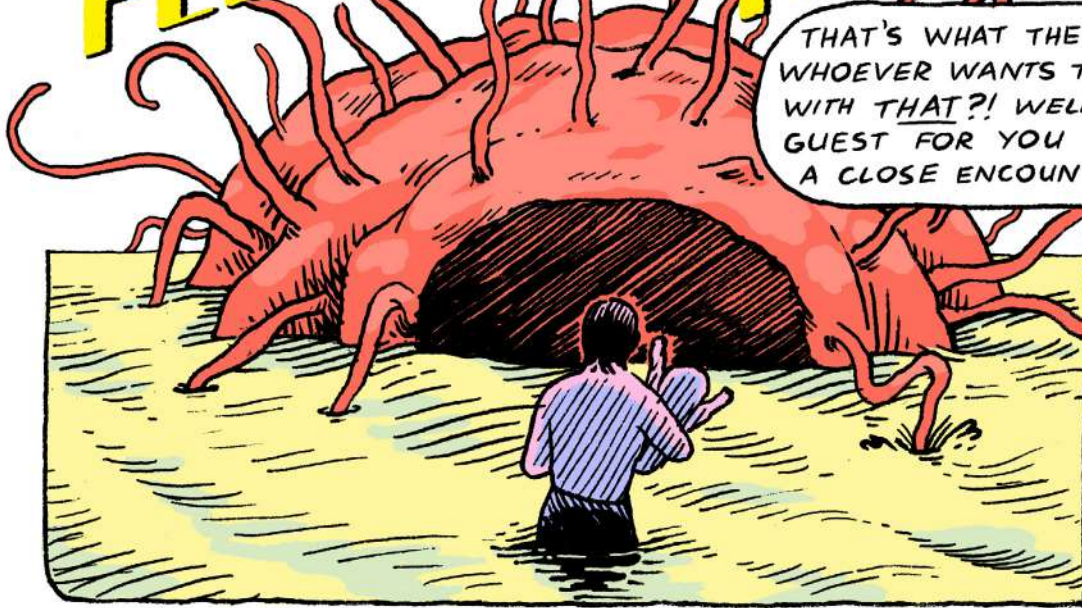
VACATIONERS ARE ADVISED TO AVOID SWIMMING OR WADING IN THE BALTIC SEA, SHOULD THEY BE WOUNDED...

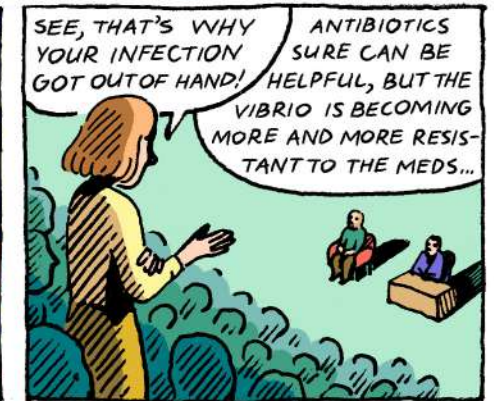
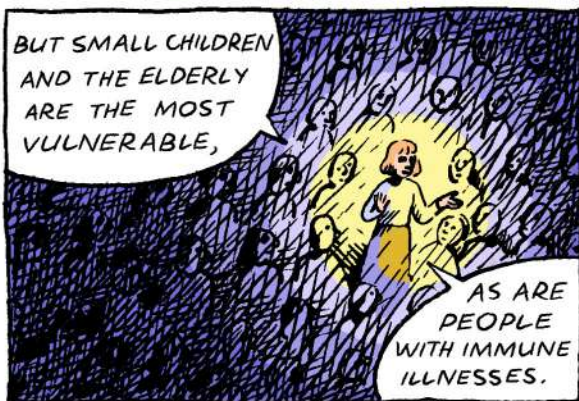
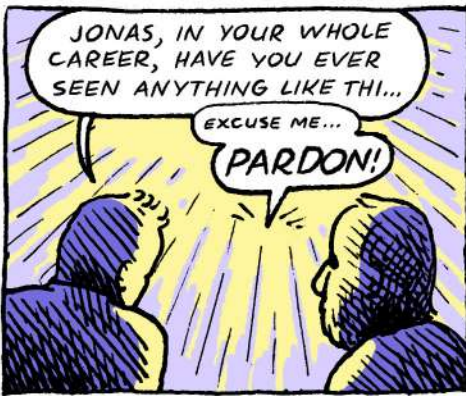




# THE FLESH EATING MONSTER

THAT'S WHAT THEY CALL IT THESE DAYS! WHOEVER WANTS TO GO INTO THE WATER WITH THAT?! WELL, WE HAVE A SPECIAL GUEST FOR YOU TONIGHT WHO'S HAD A CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH THE THING!





# LOOK AT THE WHOLE NOT THE HOLE

LOUISE SKERRITT

CLÍODHNA LYONS





I AM REVIEWING THE CHARTS OF ALL CLIENTS IN THE COMMUNITY CARE AREA WHO RECEIVED WOUND CARE FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE OVER A ONE-YEAR PERIOD TO TRY AND IMPROVE WOUND CARE SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY.

I'VE GOT INFORMATION ON 331 INDIVIDUALS AND OVER 632 WOUNDS. WOUND MANAGEMENT CAN BE COSTLY TO THE HEALTH SERVICE AND USES A LOT OF RESOURCES.

I AM TRYING TO ESTABLISH THE PREVALENCE OF WOUNDS AND THEIR ASSOCIATED AETIOLOGY TO HIGHLIGHT AREAS WHERE WOUND CARE OR SERVICES CAN BE IMPROVED OR DEVELOPED.

WOUNDS? WHY IS THAT A CONCERN?

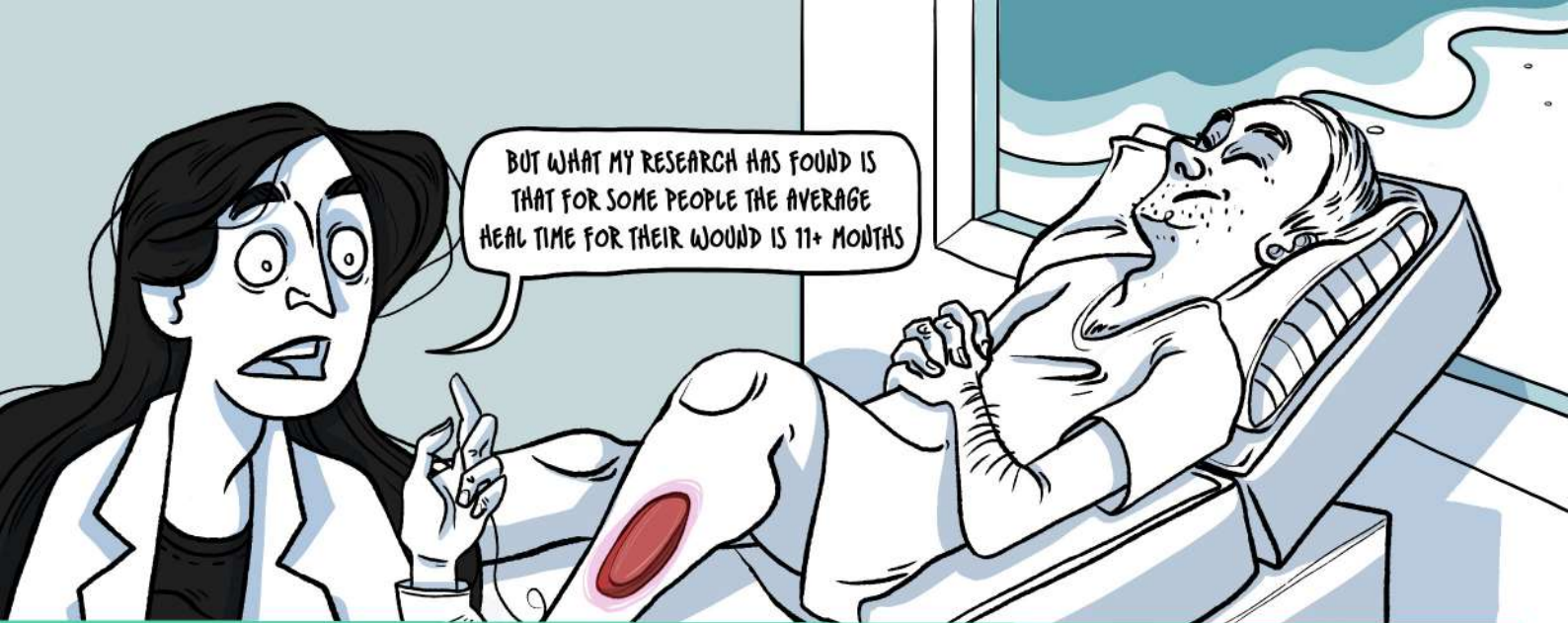
WELL FOR MOST PEOPLE IT'S NOT A HUGE WORRY

TYPICAL WOUND HEALING SHOULD BE WITHIN 4 TO 6 WEEKS



WOUNDS  
A LIFE CYCLE



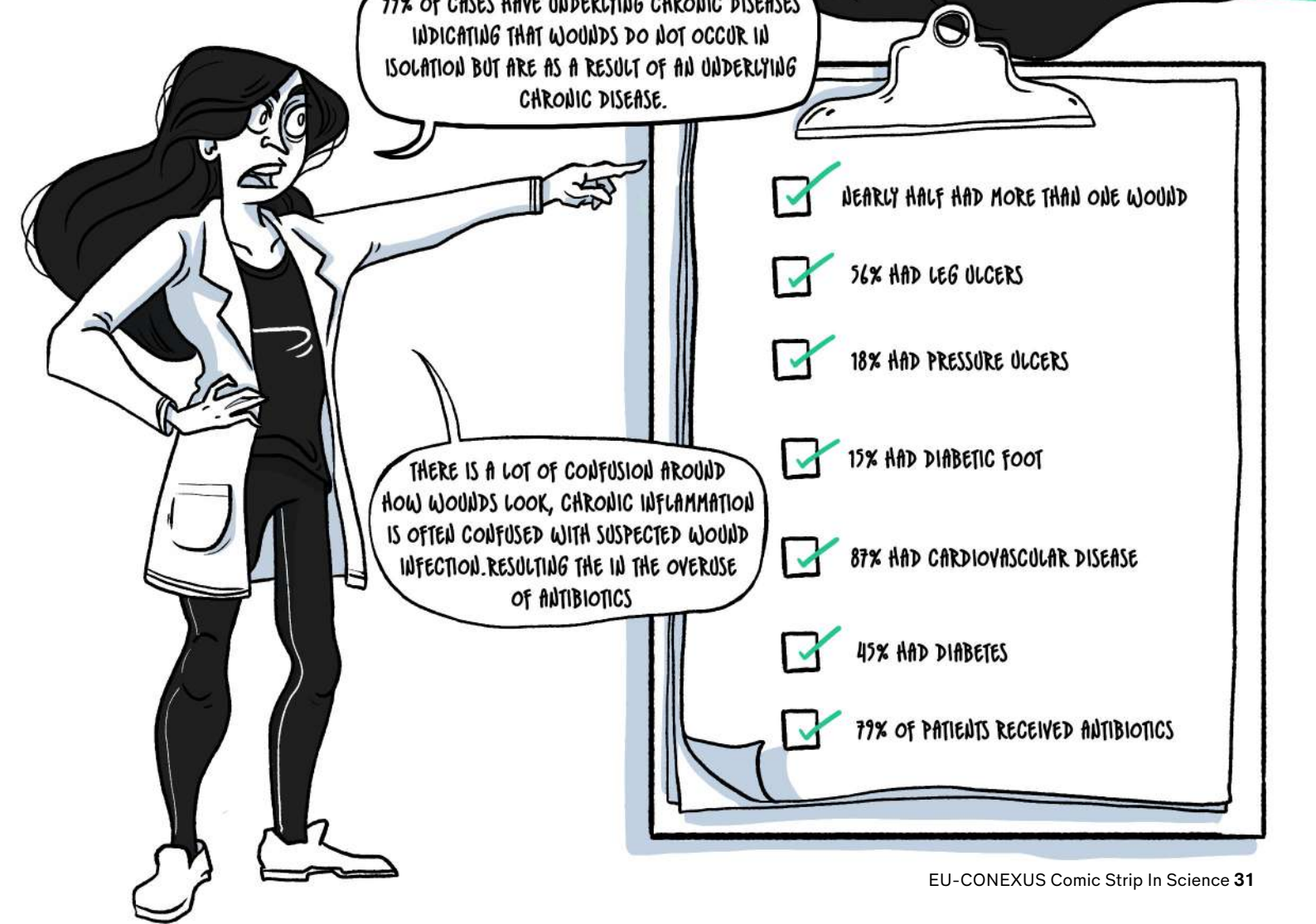


BUT WHAT MY RESEARCH HAS FOUND IS THAT FOR SOME PEOPLE THE AVERAGE HEAL TIME FOR THEIR WOUND IS 11+ MONTHS



11 MONTHS!!!  
WHY IS THAT HAPPENING?

FOR MANY WOUNDS THE ROOT CAUSE REMAINS UNDIAGNOSED, WITH INCONSISTENT DOCUMENTED WOUND ASSESSMENTS AND TIMELY REFERRAL PATHWAYS



99% OF CASES HAVE UNDERLYING CHRONIC DISEASES INDICATING THAT WOUNDS DO NOT OCCUR IN ISOLATION BUT ARE AS A RESULT OF AN UNDERLYING CHRONIC DISEASE.

THERE IS A LOT OF CONFUSION AROUND HOW WOUNDS LOOK, CHRONIC INFLAMMATION IS OFTEN CONFUSED WITH SUSPECTED WOUND INFECTION. RESULTING IN THE OVERUSE OF ANTIBIOTICS

- NEARLY HALF HAD MORE THAN ONE WOUND
- 56% HAD LEG ULCERS
- 18% HAD PRESSURE ULCERS
- 15% HAD DIABETIC FOOT
- 87% HAD CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE
- 45% HAD DIABETES
- 79% OF PATIENTS RECEIVED ANTIBIOTICS



# Voice From the Depths

Irena Radić Rossi - Tomislav Košta

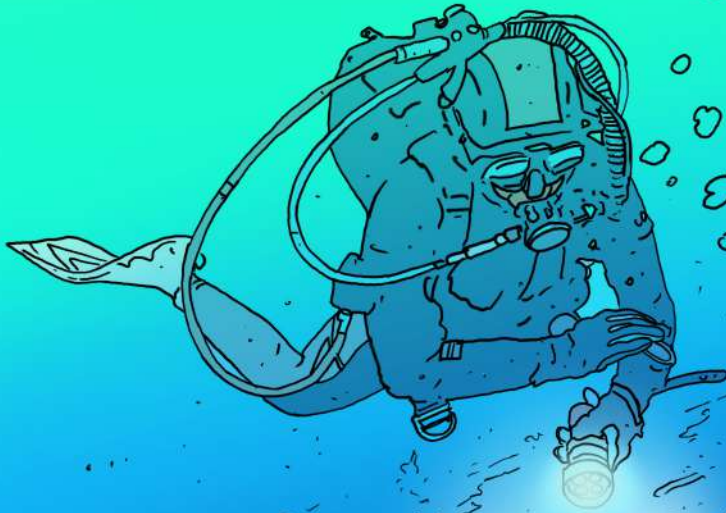
THE RENAISSANCE SHIP GAGLIANA GROSSA HAS LAIN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ADRIATIC SEA FOR MORE THAN FOUR CENTURIES. NEAR THE DALMATIAN ISLET OF GNALIĆ, THE STORY OF THIS MERCHANT VESSEL HAS RESURFACED THANKS TO SCIENTISTS AND DIVERS, REVEALING A LOST WORLD OF TRADE, ART, AND HUMAN CONNECTIONS.

THE RESEARCH PROJECT THE SHIPWRECK AT GNALIĆ - A MIRROR OF THE RENAISSANCE WORLD DEMONSTRATES HOW THE SEA ONCE CONNECTED CULTURES AND HIGHLIGHTS WHY PROTECTING THIS HERITAGE REMAINS IMPORTANT TODAY.



THERE ARE SECRETS  
I WILL KEEP TO  
MYSELF.  
PLEASE DO NOT THINK  
THAT I AM UNGRATEFUL.

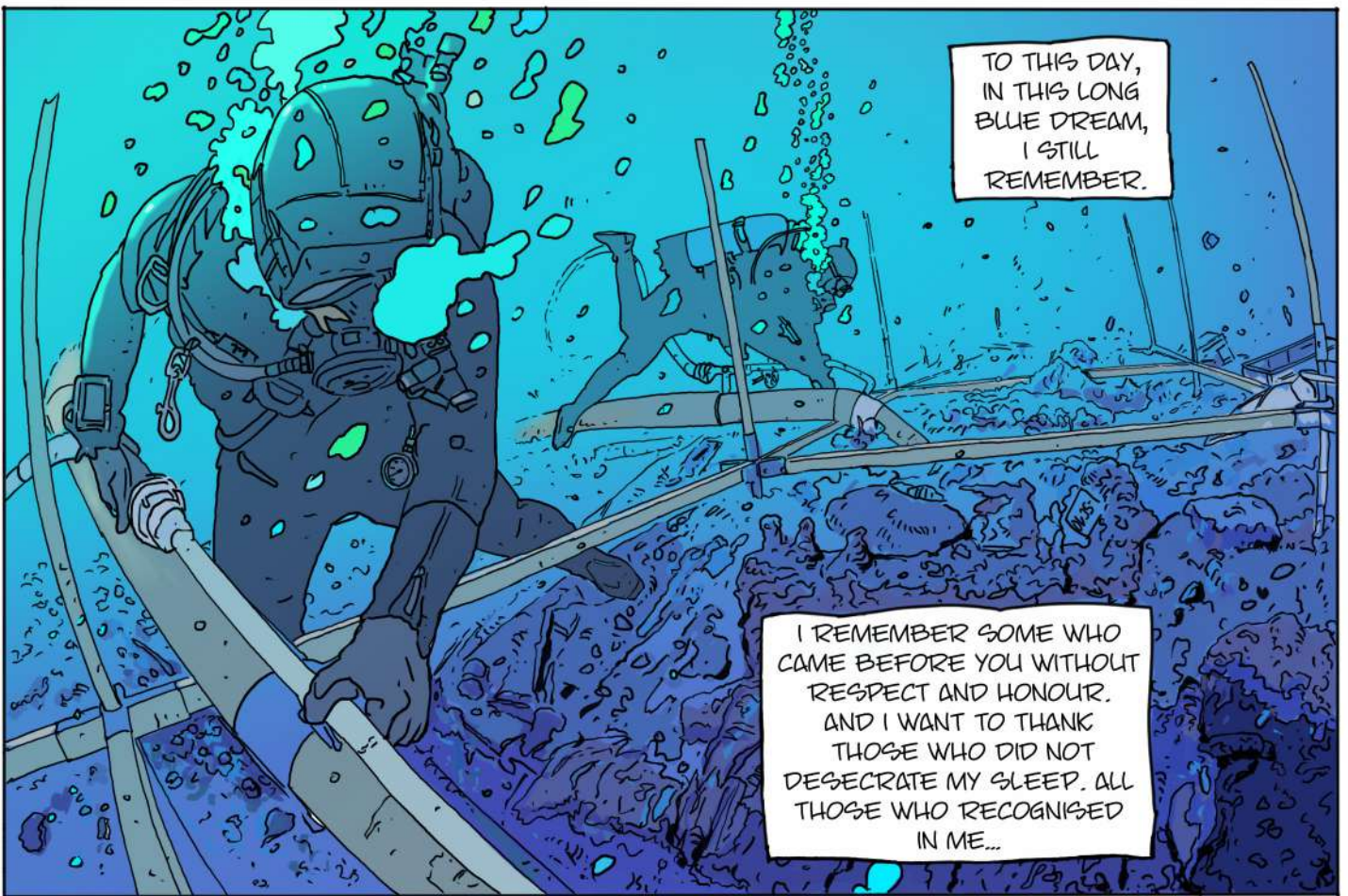
WHEN I WAS YOUNG  
I FELL ASLEEP  
IN THE QUIET BLUE  
OF AUTUMN,



...IN THE YEAR OF OUR  
LORD 1583. I WAS ONLY  
FOURTEEN, AND I WAS  
THE PRIDE AND JOY...

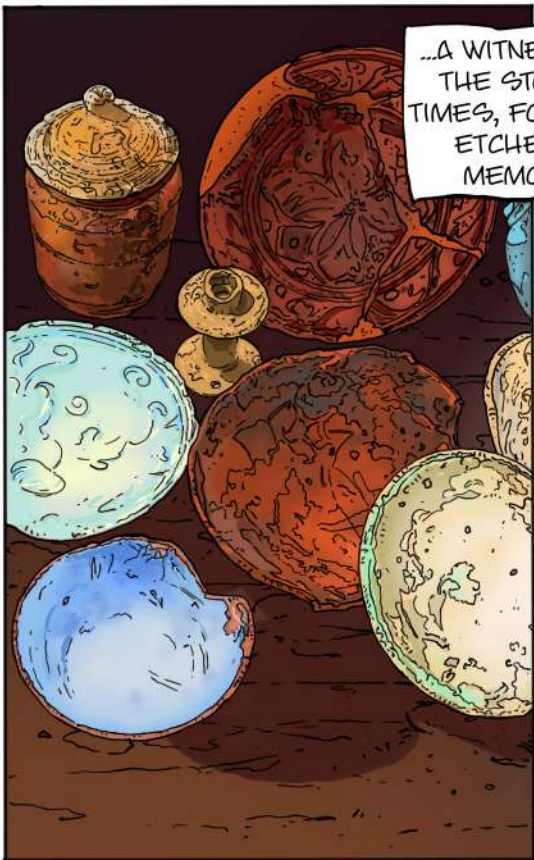
...OF BENEDETTO, LAZARO,  
AND PIERO. I SHARED THE  
FATE OF MANY WHO FELL  
VICTIM TO THE OTTOMAN  
EMPIRE. HOWEVER, YOU WILL  
KNOW ME THROUGH THE  
GAGLIANO FAMILY.

GAGLIANA GROSSA!  
OH, HOW I LOVED THAT NAME.  
AS IN MY WOMB, I LOVINGLY  
PRESERVED ALL THE  
KNOWLEDGE AND EFFORT  
OF THOSE SOULS THAT HAD  
FAITH IN CALM SEAS AND  
SAFE HARBOURS.

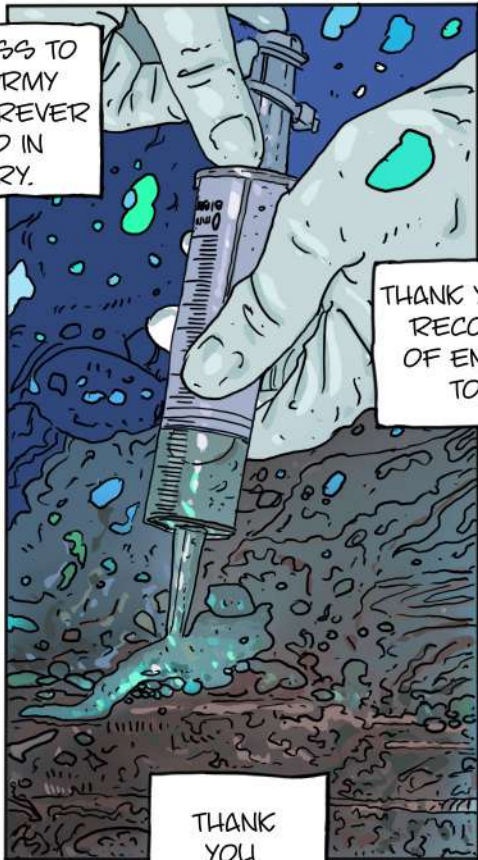


TO THIS DAY,  
IN THIS LONG  
BLUE DREAM,  
I STILL  
REMEMBER.

I REMEMBER SOME WHO  
CAME BEFORE YOU WITHOUT  
RESPECT AND HONOUR.  
AND I WANT TO THANK  
THOSE WHO DID NOT  
DESECRATE MY SLEEP. ALL  
THOSE WHO RECOGNISED  
IN ME...



...A WITNESS TO  
THE STORMY  
TIMES, FOREVER  
ETCHED IN  
MEMORY.



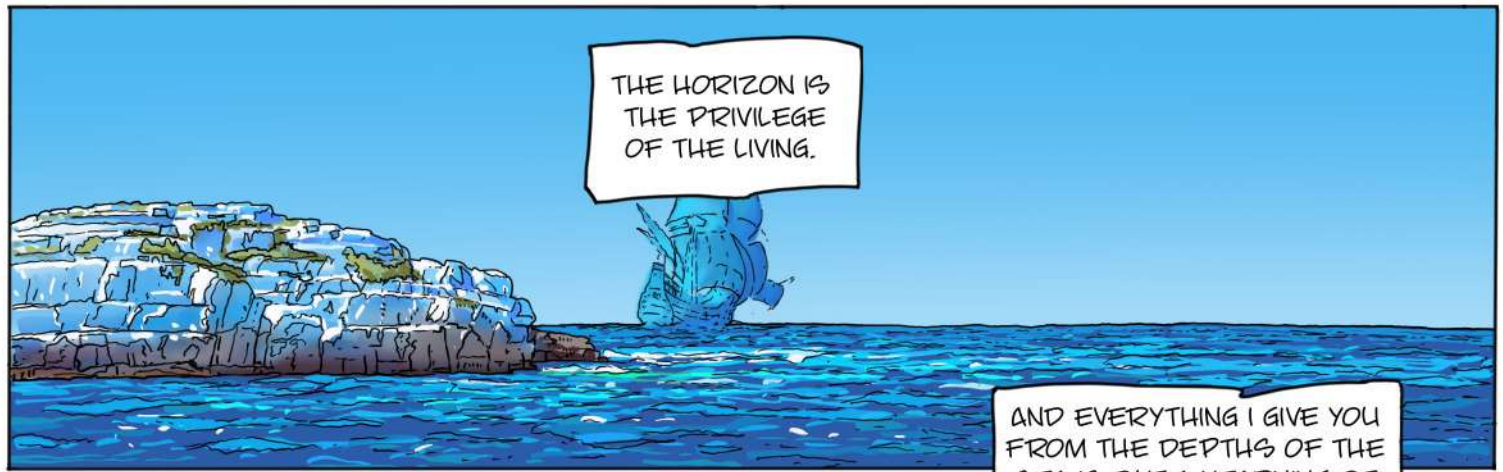
THANK YOU FOR THE  
RECOLLECTIONS  
OF ENCOUNTERS  
TOO YES...

THANK  
YOU.



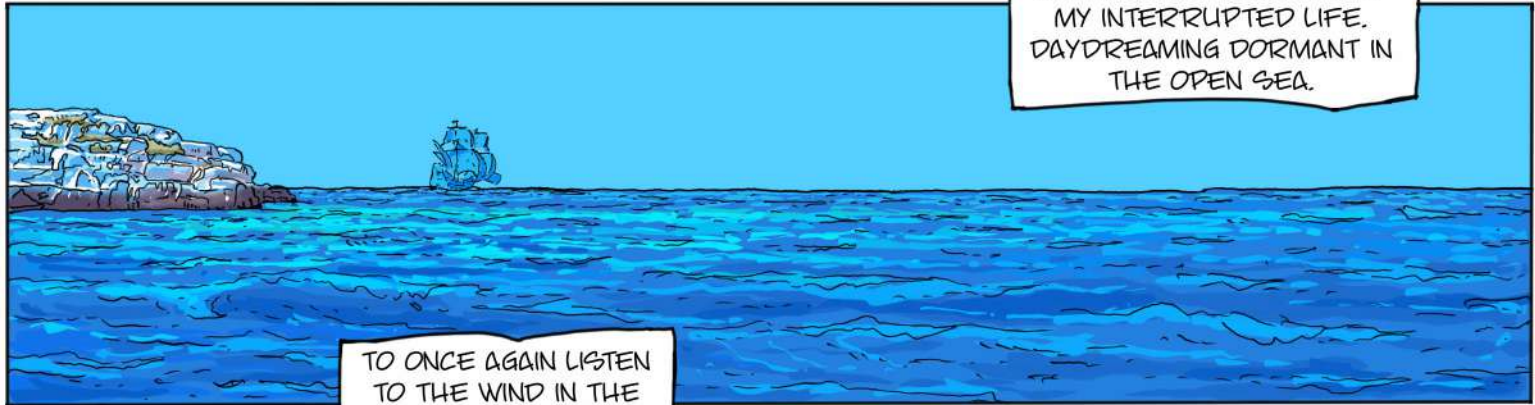


FOR EACH OF YOU WHO  
DIVED OFF THE COAST  
OF GNALIC TO VISIT MY  
GRAVE, I WILL SHARE  
THIS FOR THE END:

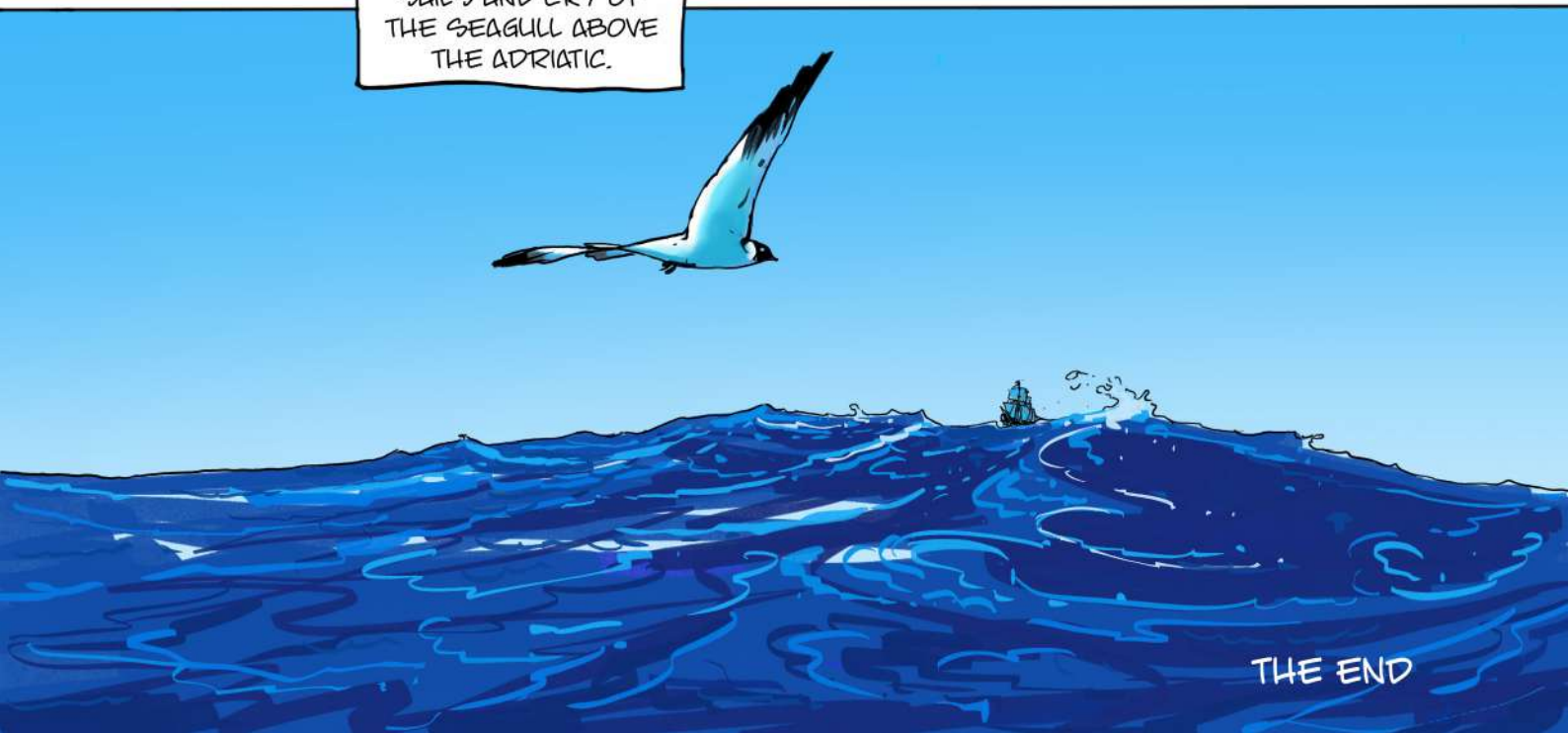


THE HORIZON IS  
THE PRIVILEGE  
OF THE LIVING.

AND EVERYTHING I GIVE YOU  
FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE  
SEA IS BUT A YEARNING OF  
MY INTERRUPTED LIFE.  
DAYDREAMING DORMANT IN  
THE OPEN SEA.



TO ONCE AGAIN LISTEN  
TO THE WIND IN THE  
SAILS AND CRY OF  
THE SEAGULL ABOVE  
THE ADRIATIC.



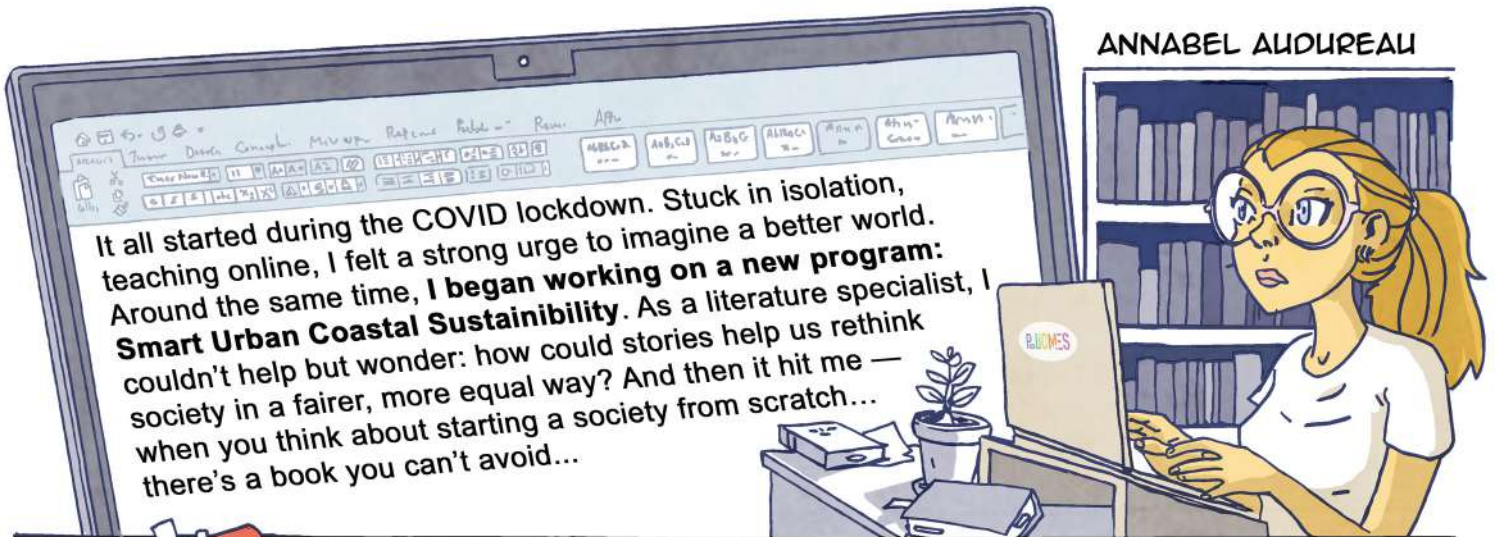
THE END

# Beyond Robinson

*Annabel Audureau*

*Piér Gajewski*





**ROBINSON CRUSOË,**  
 WRITTEN BY DANIEL DEFOE IN 1719.  
 WE ALL KNOW THE STORY: A MAN  
 SHIPWRECKED ON A DESERT ISLAND.  
 FROM THIS BOOK ROSE A MYTH,  
 A GENRE ALL ITS OWN.

BUT WHAT DEFINES A 'ROBINSON'?

**LOCATION AN ISLAND,**

BACK THEN, ISLAND MAPS WERE OFTEN  
 DRAWN AS WOMEN... A METAPHOR FOR  
 SOMETHING TO BE POSSESSED



**WAY OF LIVING**

**HIERARCHICAL AND PATRIARCHAL.**  
 ROBINSON IS THE MASTER ABOVE ALL  
 (SLAVES AND NATURE.)



**TIME NOTION**

HE KEEPS A METICULOUS JOURNAL  
 (LOG), COUNTING DAYS,  
 OBSESSED WITH **LINEAR TIME.**



**BODY CHANGES**

WILD AND HIRSLUTE, HE EMBODIES A RAW,  
 ALMOST **DEHUMANIZED MASCULINITY**

**DEEPEST WISH**

'ROBINSON' SHOWS A MINDSET ROOTED  
 IN CAPITALISM, COLONIALISM AND  
 DOMINATING OTHER LIVING THINGS...  
 HE ONLY DREAMS OF GOING BACK TO THE  
 OLD ORDER, THE WORLD HE CAME FROM.

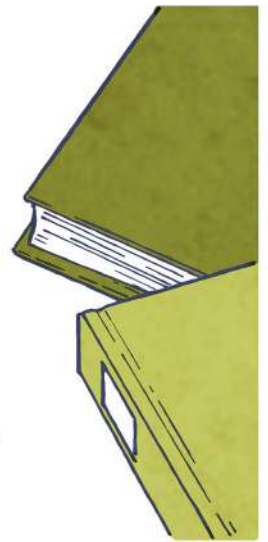
**IN SHORT: OUR SOCIETY IS MADE FOR HIM,  
 DESPITE HIS OWN TRANSFORMATION.**



WE CAN ALL AGREE: SUBORDINATING NATURE TO OUR NEEDS (AS CAPITALISM DOES) INEVITABLY LEADS TO CLIMATE CHANGE, POISONED OCEANS, AND THE DEVASTATION OF COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS.

SO, I ASKED MYSELF: DO FEMALE ROBINSON OR 'ROBINSONNA' STORIES EXIST, AND CAN THEY OFFER NEW PATHS TO A BETTER WORLD?

I FOUND TWO MAJOR CONTEMPORARY BOOKS. BOTH TAKE PLACE IN POST-APOCALYPTIC WORLDS, WITH ISOLATED WOMEN STRUGGLING TO SURVIVE.



NOW, LET'S EXAMINE WHAT DEFINES A 'ROBINSONNA', THROUGH THE LENS OF "THE WALL"

**Into The Forest**  
by Jean Hegland (1996)



**The Wall (Die Wand)**  
by Marlen Haushofer (1963)

**LOCATION**

**A MOUNTAIN, A PHALLIC SYMBOL, A SPACE FOR INTROSPECTION.**



**WAY OF LIVING**

**NON-HIERARCHICAL, CLOSELY CONNECTED TO NATURE AND CARE.**



**TIME NOTION**

**CIRCULAR, SHAPED BY THE SEASONS, DAILY TASKS, AND KAIROS (LIVED TIME).**

**BODY CHANGES**

**DE-GENDERED, FUNCTIONAL, ADAPTED FOR CARE AND RESILIENCE.**

**DEEPEST WISH**

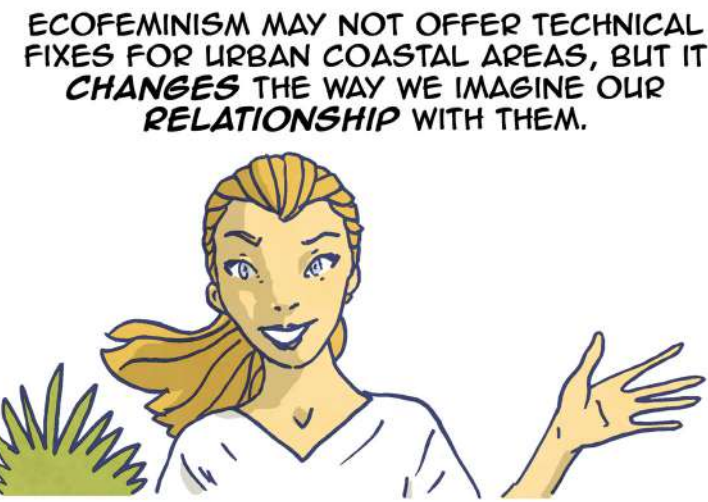
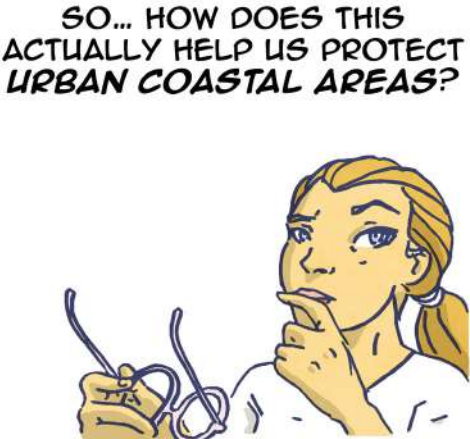
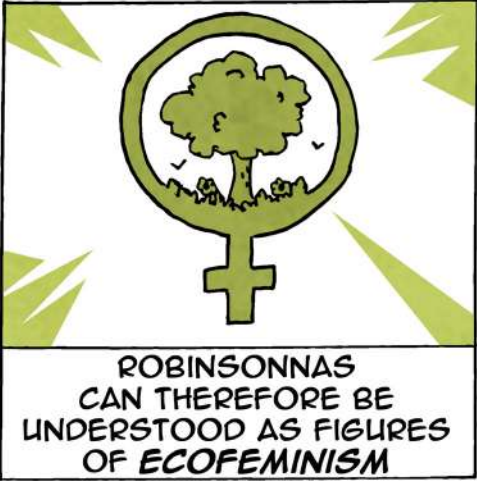
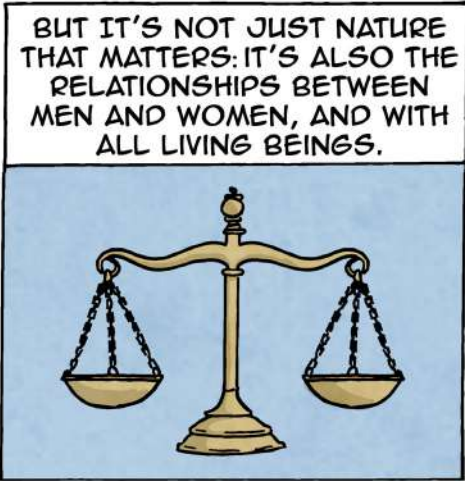
**SHE REFUSES TO RETURN TO THE WORLD SHE ONCE KNEW.**

**IN SHORT: OUR SOCIETY IS HOSTILE TO WOMEN'S EMANCIPATION AND NATURE.**



*Conclusion*

ROBINSON'S AND ROBINSONNA'S VISIONS OF SOCIETY DIFFER IN HOW THEY RELATE TO THE ENVIRONMENT



SUCH A SHIFT IS CRUCIAL, BECAUSE EVEN THE BEST TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS WILL FAIL WITHOUT THE **COLLECTIVE WILL** TO MAKE THEM WORK.

READ. ACT. UNITE. THE CHANGE IS IN OUR HANDS.



# BIOS



**Alonso SÁNCHEZ RODRÍGUEZ** is both a researcher and a PhD candidate at the Catholic University of Valencia (Spain). His work focuses on increasing physical activity in urban environments and how exercise contributes to brain health. During his PhD training, he has completed several research stays, including at the University of Stavanger in Norway and at Yale University in the U.S. He is also interested in how mountain activities (especially friluftsliv) can enhance health and well-being.

[Research gate >](#)



**Xulia VICENTE** is a cartoonist and illustrator from Spain. She grew up in the northern region of Galicia, and eventually moved to study Fine Arts in Valencia, where she currently lives. Her main focus is comics and narrative work, either through publishing, work-for-hire or self-made zines. She's also worked as a freelance illustrator, mostly in editorial, and as an art teacher at Barreira's Illustration Master's degree. Some her most notable comic books are *Sello de dragón* parts I and II (Sallybooks) with Manuel Gutiérrez, *Elisa y Marcela (La Cúpula)*, and *I see a knight* (Shortbox), winner of an Ignatz Award for 'Outstanding comic' in 2022.

[More info >](#)



**Lora NICOLAOU** is an architect with postgraduate studies in urban design and a qualification in town planning. She served as Director of Urban Strategies at DEGW (London) from 1998 to 2009 and, in parallel, as Head of Research for the Urban Renaissance Institute (URI) at the University of Greenwich, UK, from 2004 to 2010. Alongside her professional practice, Lora has taught at Oxford Brookes University (JCUD) between 1989 and 2000. She is currently a Professor in the Department of Architecture at Frederick University, Cyprus, and a co-founder of UPDU (Urban Planning and Development Unit) at Frederick University. She has also established her own consultancy specializing in design, strategic briefing, and masterplanning. She is currently an elected member of ETEK and has served as a member of the National Planning Board since 2023. Professor Arch, Frederick University, Department of Architecture Nicosia, Cyprus  
Academic qualifications: Dip. Arch, MSc Arch, MA UD, PhD  
Professional Qualifications: ARB (UK), TEE (Greece), ETEK (Cyprus), MRTPI (UK)



**Kyriaki MAVROUDI** is a Cyprus based artist, Kyriaki has been drawing since she was a kid, creating characters and their stories whilst daydreaming. She studied animation and storyboarding in DJCAD, Scotland and VIA, Denmark respectively. Throughout her career, Kyriaki had the opportunity to work on unique and diverse projects executing her talents as an illustrator, character designer or storyboard artist. She collaborated with multiple artists and companies including animation and game studios. She was introduced to children's book illustration in 2023 with "*Kingdom of Sunshine*". In 2024 she won a book illustration contest run by BOCCF, illustrating the book "*Combien sont les degres de votre myopie?*". Lastly, Kyriaki is an active member in the artistic community of Cyprus. She is a core member of the Art Collective (órama.cy), a creative group based in Cyprus with the main goal of building a creative community and space on the island.

[Instagram >](#)

# BIOS

## Roxana-Laura (OPREA) DONCEA

Is a PhD student at the Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest, Faculty of Geodesy, focusing on multi-source geospatial data integration and Digital Twin applications for cultural heritage conservation. Alongside her academic research, she works as a cadastral and land registration counsellor at the Office of Cadastre and Real Estate Publicity, Dolj, Craiova, ROMANIA.

[ORCID profil >](#)

[LinkedIn >](#)



**Andrada BĂEȘ** (b. 2000) is a comic book and illustration artist based in Cluj-Napoca, working primarily in watercolor. Her artistic explorations began as experiments with different mediums and colors, eventually finding watercolor to be the most natural way to express herself.

She weaves elements of nature into her work whenever she can, drawing heavily from the images and colors she remembers from her childhood. She is drawn to creating images that feel safe, echoing the atmosphere of the village where she was raised. She has contributed to different collaborative publications such as *DRACULA* in Comics, *Vekovnici XIII*, and to exhibitions including *KAFKA-100*, *FAN[TE]ZINE* Anthology and the XXV Balkan Festival of Young Comic Book Authors.

[Instagram >](#)



**Caroline SPRATTE** is a PhD researcher in the neuroethology group at the University of Rostock, investigating how harbor seals perceive time. She is particularly interested in how time-related and other sensory stimuli may be processed in the harbor seal brain, given their evolutionary adaptations to the marine environment, which likely led to changes in brain structure and function. As part of her research, she implemented neuroimaging techniques such as non-invasive EEG for the first time in cooperating harbor seals. Passionate about sharing her research with wider audiences, she saw this comic as the perfect opportunity to communicate her science in a creative way.



**Nele BRÖNNER** lives in Berlin and works as an illustrator, children's book author, and comic artist. She enjoys working with black ink and printing in strong colors. Her drawings are populated by what she loves: all kinds of plants, strange beings, and animals. How wonderful when a job —like this comic— offers the opportunity to stroke a beautiful seal named Rüdiger.

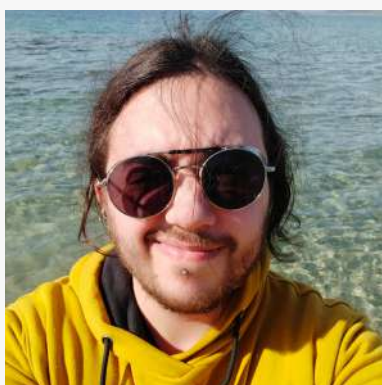
Her children's book debut was honored with the Serafina Prize for Children's Literature in 2015. In 2019, she was awarded the Gold Medal for *The Best German Book Design* by Stiftung Buchkunst. Nele Brönnner received the Berlin Comics Grant in 2020. Her book *Frog Wants Too* was awarded the Troisdorfer Picture Book Prize in 2021 for Best Illustration. *Superglitter*, her first comic for children, won the Austrian Children's and Youth Book Prize in 2023. Nele Brönnner's work was awarded the Bologna Children's Book Fair Prize in 2024 and 2026.



# BIOS



**KONSTANTINOS VELAORAS** is an Environmental Engineer with over 17 years of experience in environmental auditing, sustainability, and ESG methodologies. He is currently a PhD candidate at the Agricultural University of Athens, where his research focuses on the economic characteristics and consumer behavior related to environmental and energy certifications in the hospitality industry. His expertise includes environmental auditing, sustainability strategies, and carbon footprint management systems. He has co-authored several publications on environmental certification and its economic impact within the tourism sector. Professionally, Konstantinos works as an Environmental Inspector for the Region of Attica, ensuring industrial and commercial compliance with environmental legislation. He holds three master's degrees from Imperial College London, the University of Patras, and the University of Ioannina.



**STEVE STIVAKTIS** is an award-winning comic artist, illustrator, and art teacher located in Athens, Greece. Known mostly for queer speculative fiction stories with elements from folklore, Steve's work aims to raise awareness for important issues as much as to entertain at the same time.

[Instagram >](#)



**Dr. Greta GYRAITĖ** is a Lithuanian marine microbiologist specializing in the relationship between coastal water quality and potentially pathogenic microorganisms. She holds a PhD in Ecology and Environmental Sciences (2021) and has gained extensive international experience through studies and research in Belgium, Germany, and across the Baltic Sea region. She is currently affiliated with the Marine Research Institute at Klaipėda University and Vilnius University's Life Sciences Centre. Her work focuses on the occurrence, virulence, and antimicrobial resistance of *Vibrio* spp. in coastal environments, particularly in the context of climate change. In 2021, she received the prestigious "*Švyturio Klaipėdos Ateities Stipendija*" for her contributions to marine science in Lithuania. Greta is committed to science communication and raising awareness of coastal microbial risks to public and environmental health.



**Ula RUGEVIČIŪTĖ RUGYTĖ** is an illustrator, comic author and the co-founder of the Lithuanian Illustrators Association "ėėė". Originally from Kaunas, Lithuania, she is currently based in Strasbourg, France, where she earned her DNSEP in *La Haute école des arts du Rhin* (2017). She explores visual storytelling in various forms, merging the intimate, the dream-like, and the political in her work. She has been illustrating articles and books for adult and young audiences, as well as participating in comic zines. Her illustrations for Jurga Vile's book "*Fallen from the moon. A dream about Oscar Milosz and other birds*" has been awarded "Illustration of the year" by the K.A.2023. Her first comic book "*The Murmur of the Shadows*" (2024) explores collective memory and the trauma of the Russian occupation of Lithuania. Ula's upcoming graphic novel is set to be published by the French publishing house *éditions ça et là*.

[Website >](#)

# BIOS

**Louise SKERRITT** is the Operational Lead for Integrated Healthcare for Older Persons in Dublin South East. Previously, she worked as an Advanced Nurse Practitioner in chronic disease management, vascular care, and dermatology, and as Assistant Director of Public Health Nursing, where she witnessed firsthand challenges such as referral duplication, lack of referrals, inconsistent care, antibiotic overuse, and the significant burden of wound care on healthcare services. She is currently in her fifth year of a PhD in the Department of Nursing and Health Care (supervised by Prof. Martina Gooney and Dr. Linda Sheahan). Her research focuses on wound care delivery from a multidisciplinary and community perspective, representing the first independent study of its kind and scale in Ireland. With over 20 years of clinical experience, including more than a decade specialising in wound care, she is a highly experienced and dedicated clinician in this field.



**Clíodhna LYONS** is an award winning Animation Director and Illustrator with a first name that few people outside of Ireland can pronounce or spell. Her parents named her after a lifeboat on the Aran Islands where she was born for which she feels slightly jibbed as boats are usually named after people and not the other way round. She has worked on both Animated feature films and tv series for the past 15+ years and is a regular exhibitor at art and comic festivals around the world. She has a passion for travel and considers Eurovision to be her national sport.

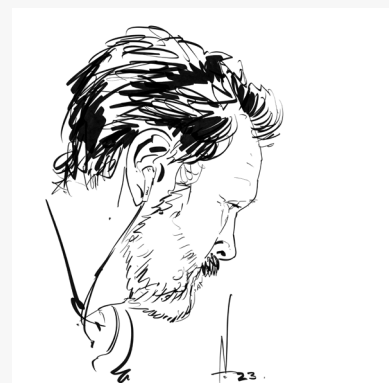


[Website >](#)

**Irena RADIĆ ROSSI** graduated from the Department of Archaeology at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, in 1988. In the same year, she obtained a permanent position at the Department of Archaeology of the Republic Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments in Zagreb, which later became the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia. In 2009, she moved to the University of Zadar. She subsequently obtained the positions of associated researcher at the Centre Camille Jullian (Aix-Marseille Université, CNRS), adjunct professor at Texas A&M University, and affiliated scholar at the Institute of Nautical Archaeology. Her main research interests focus on maritime cultural heritage, with particular emphasis on the technological development of Adriatic shipbuilding and seafaring.



**Tomislav KOŠTA** was born in Zadar in 1974, he is a Croatian painter and graphic novel artist. He studied history and art history at the Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences in Zadar, where he began painting intensively—an activity that became his life's calling. He has exhibited widely in Croatia and abroad, and his work has been featured in International Artist Magazine. His style, evolving over time, remains rooted between impressionism and lyrical realism, with a focus on ambiance, atmosphere, and composition. His themes include sacred subjects, landscapes, cityscapes, portraits, and scenes from everyday life. In his forties, he turned to comics and illustration, publishing several albums with *Fibra*, *Stripforum*, and *Sputnik*, and contributing regularly to the Croatian Comics Yearbook. His work has also been reviewed in *Kvadrat magazine*, and he has illustrated book covers and the picture book *The Crusader Siege of Zadar, 1202*. He lives and works between Zadar and Preko (Ugljan Island).



# BIOS



**Annabel AUDUREAU** holds a PhD in Comparative Literature and teaches in the Literature Department at La Rochelle Université. A specialist in popular literature and culture, she is also the deputy director of the PoLiCÉMIES research unit. This interdisciplinary team brings together researchers in French and foreign languages and literatures, political science, and media studies around a central focus: analysing cultural transitions within the context of Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability. In this framework, her current research explores the relationships between popular cultures and the environment.



**PieR GAJEWSKI** is a French illustrator, printmaker, and graphic novelist. A graduate of the *École des Beaux-Arts* in Angoulême (BD section, with honors), he has been awarded several international artist residencies, including Villa Kujoyama in Kyoto, *Lingua Comica* (Japan), the *Maison des Auteurs* (Angoulême), and residencies in Essaouira, Kraków and Philippines. His work has been exhibited at the Centre Pompidou (Paris), the Kyoto International Manga Museum and in cities such as Istanbul, New York, Manila... He has collaborated with national and international media (*Libération*, *XXI*...). From 2008 to 2021, he developed a long-term visual dialogue with photographer Carole Sionnet around the imaginary city *La Ville Bleue*. He has also produced several graphic reports on artists-in-residence for La Rochelle Université.

[Website >](#)



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April 2026

