Maria Kofterou (b. 1986) studied painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts and obtained a BA in 2009. In 2016 she received a BA in philosophy at the University of Cyprus. Her work was featured in exhibitions, including, ‘The work of art as a functional object, part II’ in 2013, group show at the Centre of Contemporary Art Diatopos, Nicosia. She had a solo show on crystallography at Phaneromenis 70, Nicosia in 2015. In 2017, she participated in the group exhibition, ‘Lefkara lace: modi and modulations’ at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, organized by the Cyprus National Commission for Unesco.

Maria Kofterou is interested in the scientific dimension of drawing as a means to understand the natural world. Working mostly with ink, she makes reference and experiments with modes of representation from the traditions of illustration and engraving with a focus on a kind of ambiguity. This ambiguity, sometimes intentional and other times accidental, is developed by interpreting themes from nature, philosophy, tradition, and history, and is made visible by creating, at times, diametrically opposite connotations that coexist on the same surface.

In relation to historical themes, she focuses on things that seem to be forgotten and go through a process of researching, re-stipulating and therefore, preserving. Preservation is a recurring theme in Maria Kofterou’s work: it entails keeping a tradition alive by bringing it to present day or creating a specimen of sorts. For a particular series, intimate landscape ink drawings are enclosed into glass and bronze foil boxes, making reference to childhood objects of adoration, souvenirs, and processes of remembrance.
Lefkaritiko 2, cotton thread on linen, 100X120cm, 2017
Ink On Paper Glass, Bronze Foil & Solder, 2x21x30x2cm, 2017