
“Nothing disappears completely ... In space, what came earlier continues to underpin what follows ... Pre-existing space underpins not only durable spatial arrangements, but also representational spaces and their attendant imagery and mythic narratives.”

Henri Lefebvre, The Production of Space.

Born in the early 80’s in the Soviet Union makes Victoria Leonidou part of the last generation who grew up behind the iron curtain. Although the former USSR’s hegemonic narratives and sovereign language are no longer viable, their symbolic authority are still sensed or rather embedded in the country’s present collective memory. Her research and practical work proposes and stages Spaces that examine the nature of questions around the post-Soviet, in open-ended readings, within the current sociopolitical context. It reflects upon the fragilities of these ambiguous territories – historical, spatial, mental, social and geographical – that have opened up since the collapse, and investigates, through a series of works, their currency today. Questions are raised as to how these excessive mnemonics could, when aroused within an art context, reconstitute or shape spaces of negotiation in the quest for a post-Soviet identity. How might these spaces appear? Tensions, in respect to context and materiality, expose uncertainties and irregularities, but at the same time, point out to new possibilities and readings.