Kyparissos

a project by irid.so developed during Interfaces residency (Cyprus) in collaboration with EUC University. First perfomance: 11th july 2018 Multipurpose Center,

irid.so *are:*

Silvia Cignoli
(electric guitar, effects)
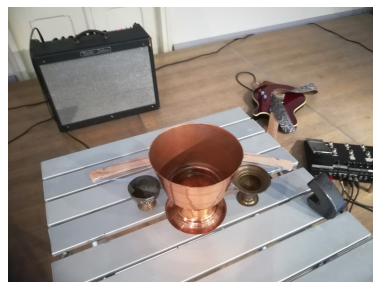**Andrea Tremolada** (electronics, sound objects)

Kyparissos is a site-specific project developed during the 2018 Interfaces Residency in collaboration with EUC (European University of Cyprus).

First performance: 11th july 2018, Multipurpose Center, Nicosia, Cyprus

For the Interfaces residency we've been asked to realize a site-specific work to perform in Nicosia. As a starting point we look for the meaning of the name Cyprus, so we found many hypothesis and among them we chose the legend of "Kyparissos". Kyparissos was a mythological character that accidentally killed his best friend, a deer, and because of all the sorrow he felt he asked the gods to die and to suffer forever.

The gods turned him into a cypress, still nowadays a symbol of mourning.

Our work is divided into two parts; in the first part we extrapolate the playful aspect of the main characters, a sort of joking chat, but at the end of this section the drama and the shock happened and Kyparissos lost his friend.

In the second part we want to call to mind a sort of contrast between two imaginary landscapes: we

imagine Kyparissos after his lost in a summer afternoon, there were the cicadas and the weather was hot and sunny, but the emotional feelings of Kyparissos is like a dark night. So, we want to create a paradox, in the way Magritte did in his "Empire of light".

The work is a mix of contemporary music composition and improvisation; we wanted to blend our musical languages with the traditional music of Cyprus. We took some elements from the folk and byzantine music plus some field recordings of Nicosia landscape and turned them into something different, in order to create a personal, immersive soundscape.