



M a r i a L e h t m a n

The Dreaming Doors

T h r o u g h t h e S o u l G a t e w a y s

U n e k s i v a t o v e t

S i e l u n k a a r i h o l v e i l l a

Naturepic Production | The Digital Teacup

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#TheWhisperingsOfNature
#TheSacredLivesOfTrees
#SevenCsToCalm

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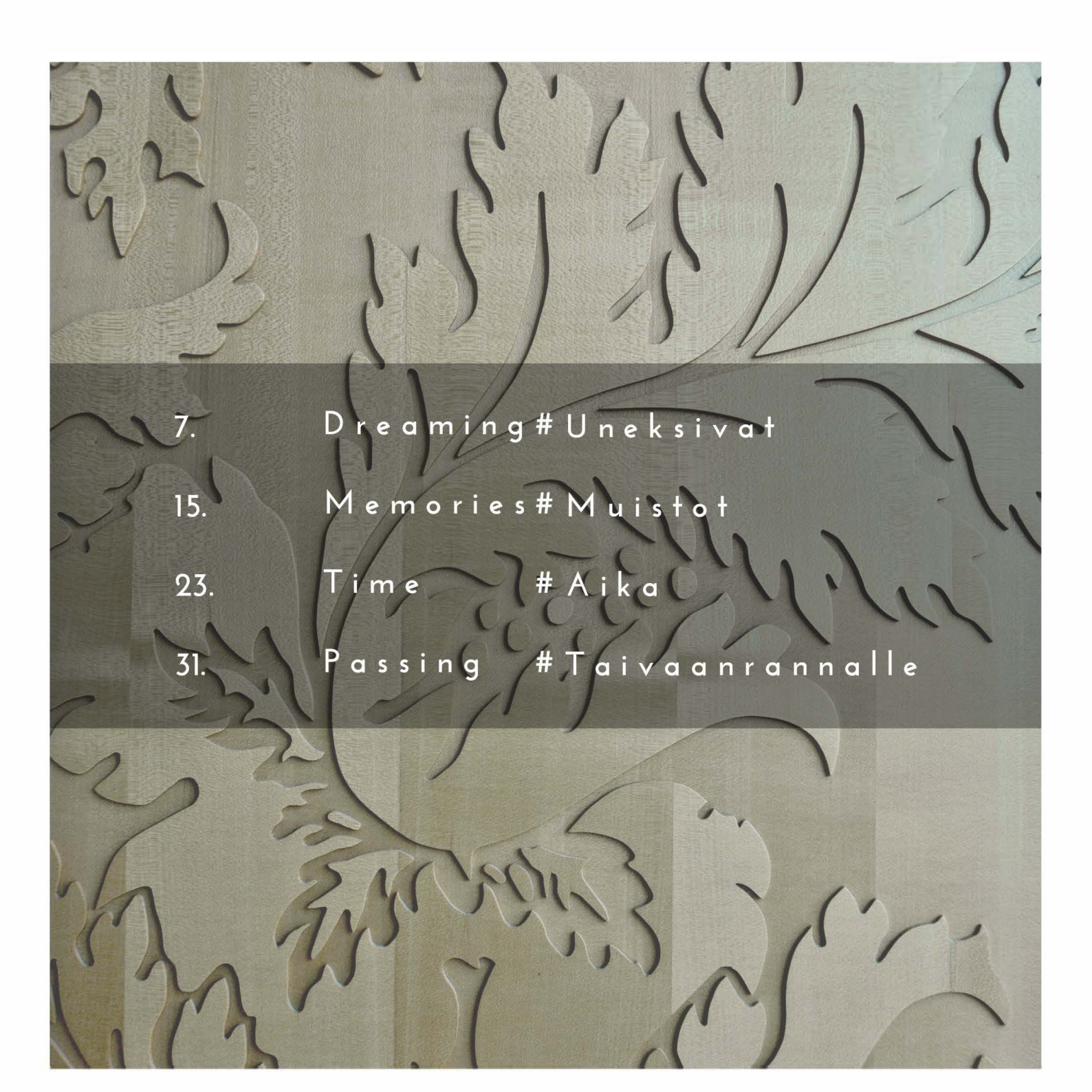
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7. Dreaming # Uneksivat

15. Memories # Muistot

23. Time # Aika

31. Passing # Taivaanrannalle

The Soul Gateways

Doors create an illusion of safety, a world of privacy. They are silent guardians of our physical world. I have always wondered about the stories they could tell us if we only understood their language.

In 2014 I was flying back from Athens with my husband when I had the urge to start writing down poems for this book. I wanted to manifest our photographic journeys through beautiful old towns in mainland Europe and Mediterranean islands.

At the time I thought I would complete this book with ease. After all, I already had the material. Instead, my soul searching lead me to many blocked paths and locked doors. I found myself standing in a courtyard in front of a castle filled with secret passages and 1'000 doors to open.

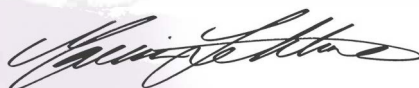
The challenge with time is that your vision evolves. My thoughts about this book were quite different five years ago compared to the world I live in now. However, I still felt the doors needed to have an outlet, but instead of a journey, this book became a reminiscence.

For over 30 years I have traveled around the world to different destinations for work and holidays until my circumstances changed. In time, I realized staying at home did not stop me from exploring the world. After all, I had worked with virtual teams throughout my career in telecommunications.

The time I had used in transit, I now devoted to searching for game-changers in different fields, experts dealing with digital transformation, and finding like-minded souls. I discovered healing and more efficient intuitive lifestyle. During my search, I found this book's featured talent and artist, Caroline Cunningham, who shared my fascination for old doors and expressing creativity.

Doors are calling cards: the grandeur of the doorway demonstrates ambition. Our private assets and identities are now mainly digital. Social media has become our front door. Therein lies an opportunity:
Digital transformation empowers self-expression across the human condition.

If you feel curious about an old, beautifully carved, rustic door, it may be an invitation to explore an untold story within you. I hope this book motivates you to embark on that journey and find your authentic path.



The Sacret Doors

One of my earliest memories from childhood is of a red door of a house I lived in for a short time in the south-west of Ireland. In 2009, at the start of my creative career, it was a trip to India that ignited my curiosity with regards to doorways. I was intrigued by the variety of colour and designs that I encountered in these Indian doorways.

On my return to Ireland, I included two doorways in my painting collection 'Indian Heart Way', a theme that told a story of travels through the heart of India via the soul of the journey maker.

Doorways give so much inspiration to me as an artist and story-teller. Some doorways are elaborate and some may be in shambles, but there is always a semblance of character and a hint as to the lives of those who lived beyond these doors. There are endless possibilities to be imagined.

Featured Paintings by Caroline Cunningham:

The In Between | Page 20.

This artwork is from a collection of paintings entitled 'The Sacred Lives of Trees', created to draw attention to the importance of Nature, and particularly trees, for our well-being. 'The In Between' may represent different possibilities to the viewer. My intention was to acknowledge that timeless place where we are fully present and connected to Nature itself.

Door Way of My Heart (Pink) | Page 36.

In a small town in Rajasthan, I came upon this vibrant doorway, with large white painted Hindi script painted across its doors. I decided to include it in my 'Indian Heart Way' painting collection. I wanted to apply different Hindi words to the doors, to portray the theme of my collection.

After some research, I settled on the phrase 'Dilieri ka Rasta.' Much later I discovered that this phrase has a more particular meaning, pertaining to the path of the courageous female heart. I confess I misplaced the order of the words in the phrase I chose. So all viewers, including Hindi speakers, may share my own experience of seeing that original doorway, with a script I could not decipher, giving rise to so much curiosity.

Caroline Cunningham

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DEDICATED TO

To all universal travelers

May our paths always guide us
To welcoming doorsteps

OMISTETTU

Kaikille universumin matkailijoille

Löytäköön tiemme aina
vieraanvaraisten ovien luo

DREAMING # UNEKSIVAT





The Dreaming Doors

The doors
Old, rustic, rugged or mended
At times
Restored
Like a well-worn pathway

A decade
A millennia
Owners changing
Without names
They turn
The old doors

Their souls asleep
Dreaming of passing faces
Bearing the wrinkles
Like an insignia
A coat of arms carved by time

26.7.2014 10 km above the ground

A Dreaming Woman

Instead of dams
We build bridges arching
Across turbulent waters

Instead of walls
We craft doors
With ancient wisdom

Instead of weapons
We create future generations
By words of life

Instead of oppression
We live
We breathe

We adapt to life as it comes
Recreating it around us
Again and again

Hoping that one day
It will be allowed to stay

Original Poem: Women's Day 08.03.2016

11.02.2017 Edition II





The Dreaming Doors

M a r i a L e h t m a n

The Dreaming Doors (in Finnish: Uneksivat ovet) encompasses seven years (2011-2017) of fantastic photographic journeys through old towns in Europe with unique designs and poems by Maria Lehtman.

"Old doors have always fascinated me. As witnesses to the inside and outside worlds they protect our secrets and secure our perimeter. Digital transformation has moved our doors into a virtual space with limitless opportunities for self-expression." ~ Maria Lehtman

The Dreaming Doors exhibits a contemporary art concept of doors as embodiments of our soul gateways. The imagery and associated poems depict a dreamlike path into self-transformation. Maria's profound insight draws from her Finnish heritage, closeness to nature, and an extensive career in the global telecommunications.

Featuring Caroline Cunningham

"I am honored to be featured in The Dreaming Doors alongside Maria's thought-provoking poetry and imagery. Doorways represent our past, present, and future and offer us an invitation for connection and discovery of all three."

~ Caroline Cunningham

Caroline is a talented Irish artist and reflexology specialist. The Dreaming Doors features Caroline's beautiful doorway paintings and poems. She left a teaching career in science and math in pursuit of the 'Authentic Path' through creativity and wellbeing. A study at the Bel Canto School of singing has formed much of Caroline's creative approach. Her wellbeing & travel blogs' reached the finals of Ireland Blog Awards in 2015 & 2017.



"As Publisher & Executive Editor of a dominant global media digest, I've had the opportunity to review over 15,000 essays over the years, encompassing all facets of the business, life & culture spectrum. Rarely do I come upon such a treasure-trove of genuine inspiration as that discovered within this book. Delivered between the covers is a rare and priceless commodity these days - in the form of exceptional poetry brought to life by exceptional photography. Maria 'breaks the mold' when it comes to refreshing perspectives. A 'must read' as well as a keepsake to be embraced and treasured by all." ~ Dennis J. Pitocco Publisher | Editor in Chief BIZCATALYST360°



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