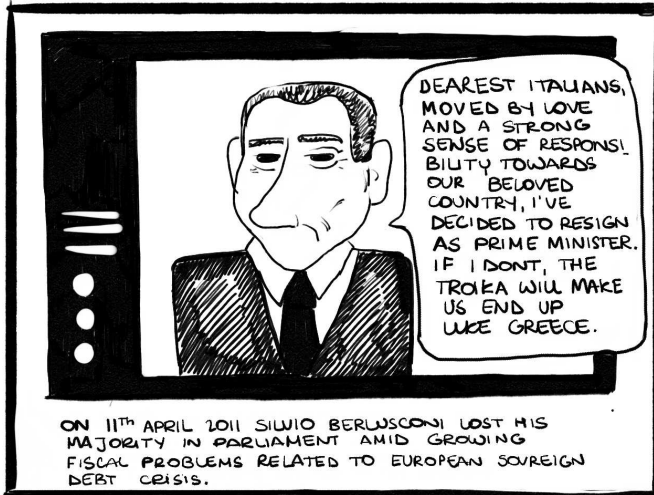
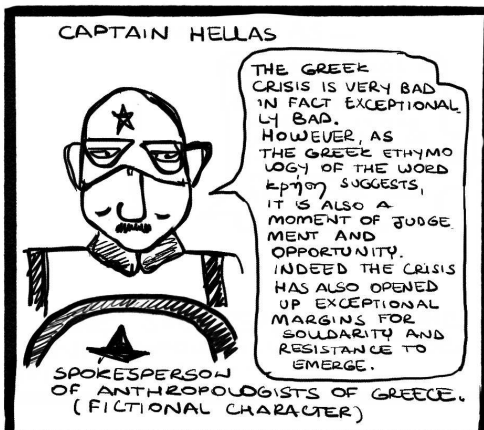
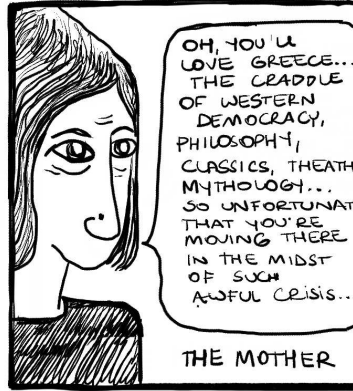


LUKE GREECE // REFRACTIONS

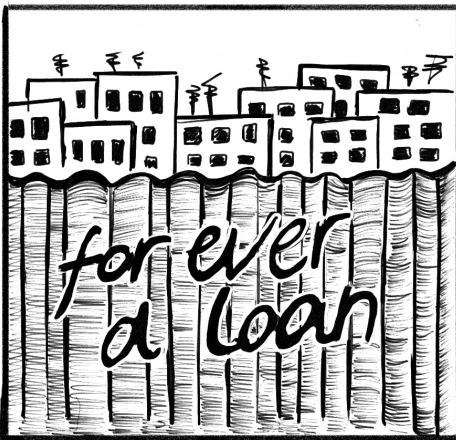
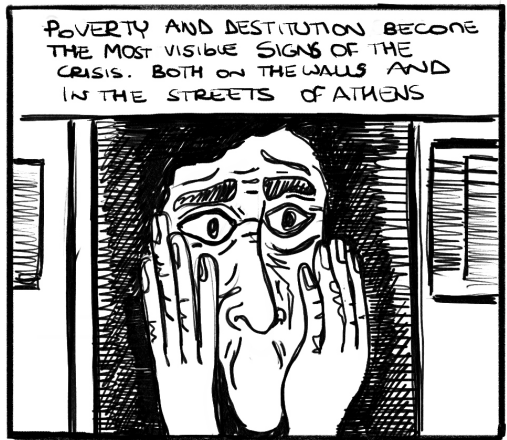


DESPITE MONTI AND THE AUSTERITY, THE CRISIS KEPT HITTING ITALY HARD: USUAL STUFF, HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT, CUTS TO PENSIONS AND WELFARE SERVICES, PRIVATISATION OF ANYTHING THAT COULD BE PRIVATISED. TIRED AND HUMILIATED (AS MANY OTHERS) TO ASK MY PARENTS €50 TO GET BY, AS MANY OTHERS I LEFT ITALY. IN 2012 I MOVED TO LONDON, IN 2014 TO MANCHESTER AND STARTED MY PHD. IN JULY 2015 I MOVED TO ATHENS TO START MY FIELDWORK.



και καλό ταξίδι.

REVERBERATIONS// SHIFTING IMAGINARIES



EXPLANATIONS // ENCOUNTERS

THE ENTHUSIAST



THE NATIONALIST



THE LEFTY INTERNATIONALIST
INTERMEDIATE INTO
MANIPULATING (IN THE GRAPE
OF SARCASM)



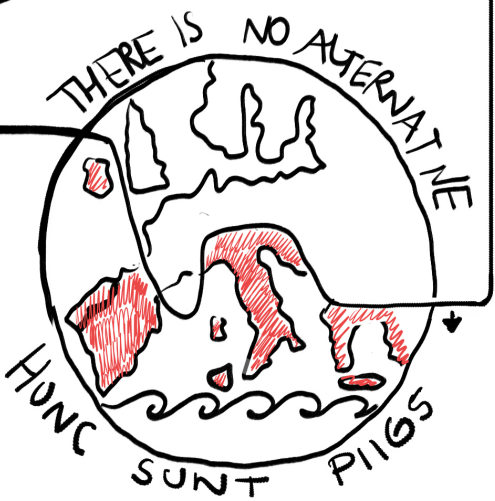
CULTURAL INTIMACY
ADVOCATE IN ANTI-
GERMANY FUNCTION
(IN THE SHAPE OF MARIA CALUS)



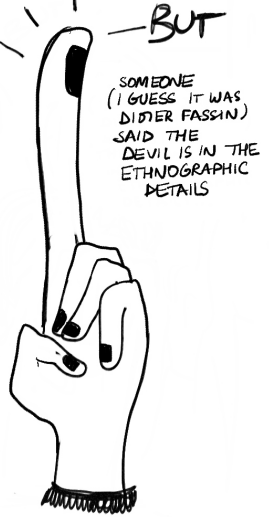
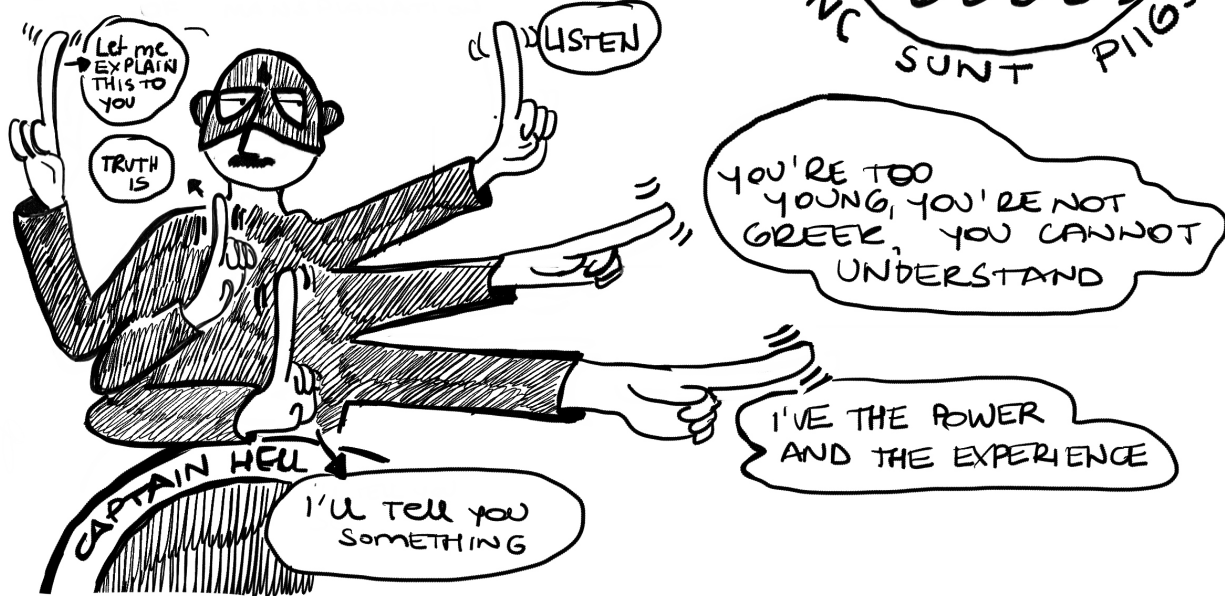
MANSPLANATIONS// THE IMMORAL ECONOMY OF THE SOUTH



THIS IS THE OMNISCIENT FINGER, TOOL OF THE PATRIARCHY AND REVIEWER2, IN FACT ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESSFULLY MANSPLAINING (SEE BELOW:)

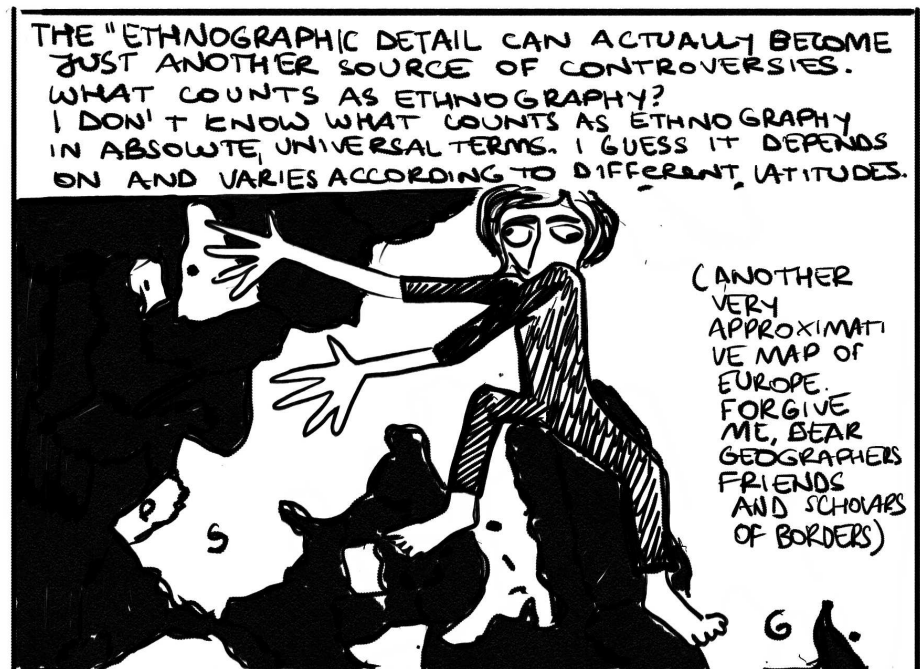
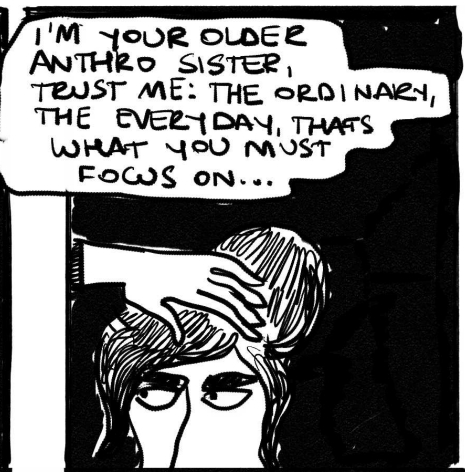
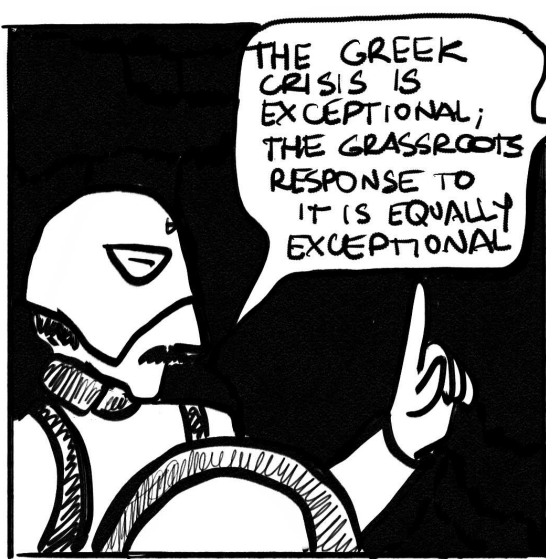


PIIGS IS A VERY UNFORTUNATE ACRONYM USED TO DESIGNATE THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (NAMELY PORTUGAL, IRELAND, ITALY, GREECE AND SPAIN) THAT HAD BEEN IMPACTED BY THE 2008 CRISIS MORE VIOLENTLY. SUCH CRISIS - AS ANY OTHER CRISIS - HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS ORGANIC TO CAPITALISM, IN FACT ESSENTIAL TO THE PROCESS OF CAPITALIST ACCUMULATION. EVEN THOUGH THE CRISIS WAS ECONOMIC, CONSIDERATIONS OF MORAL ORDERS WERE OFTEN NOBILISED TO EITHER JUSTIFY SOME POLITICAL DECISION MADE AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL OR TO EXPLAIN WHY THE CRISIS UNFOLDED WITH SUCH EXCEPTIONAL VIOLENCE IN THE SOUTH. SOME SAY THAT ECONOMICS IS A MORAL SCIENCE, INDEED DISCOURSES ON "WHO ACTUALLY DESERVES TO BELONG TO EUROPE" STARTED CIRCULATING MORE & MORE.



HOWEVER THE OMNISCIENT FINGER CAN BE USED AGAINST BOTH THE PATRIARCHY AND REVIEWER2, ESPECIALLY IN ANTICIPATION OF THOSE "MORE A COMMENT THAN AN ACTUAL QUESTION" THINGS.

INTERPRETATIONS // THE ETHNOGRAPHIC DEVIL (IN DETAIL)



DOING FIELDWORK AND WRITING MY ETHNOGRAPHY FELT TO ME LIKE PLAYING TWISTER... A NERVE WRECKING EXERCISE TO KEEP BALANCE WHILE YOUR LIMBS ARE BENT IN QUITE UNNATURAL POSITIONS...

IMAGINATIONS// REPRESENTATIONS

(GREXIT WAS THE SPECTRE THAT HAUNTED EUROPE (THEN BREXIT HAPPENED))

WHAT I AM TRYING TO SAY IS AS OBVIOUS AS HARD TO ADMIT...

BEHIND AND BEYOND THE DIFFERENT POLITICS OF REPRESENTATIONS, THERE ARE POLITICS SHAPING REPRESENTATIONS

GREECE HAS NEVER BEEN PART OF EUROPE.

THE GREEK CRISIS IS THE ULTIMATE SIGN OF THE FAILURE OF THE EU

SOMETIMES THESE POLITICS MIRROR AND AT THE SAME TIME INFORM THESE LATITUDES...

I'M FROM A PIGS COUNTRY!

AND BY LATITUDES I MEAN POSITIONINGS AND POSITIONS, NATILITIES ALONG THE SOUTH-NORTH AXIS,

CRISIS IS JUST ANOTHER WORD, EMPTY WORD FOR ME. THE REFUGEE CRISIS, THE ECONOMIC CRISIS... ALL THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR THE PAST THIRTY YEARS, IN GREECE AS WELL IN ITALY

I MEAN HOW UP WE ARE ON THE ACADEMIC LADDER OF PRESTIGE, POWER AND REPUTATION

IF YOU ASK ME HOW THE GREEK CRISIS LOOKED TO ME, I'D SAY IT WAS A SHITTY ONE, AS SHITTY AS ANY OTHER CRISIS: IT HAS MADE THE RICH RICHER, THE POOR POORER.

HOW MUCH DEEPLY WE ARE ENTANGLED (OR ENTRAPPED) IN NETWORKS OF POWER

AND THIS IS NOT TO UNDERMINE OF OTHER SCHOLARS OR TO UNDERSTIMATE AND TRIVIALIZE PEOPLE'S SUFFERING AND HARDSHIP. I KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE

SEE PAGE 5

ALL THESE ASPECTS ADD TO SOME BASIC DEMOGRAPHICS

THIS IS JUST TO SAY THAT MY EXPERIENCE OF THE SO-CALLED GREEK CRISIS, MY FIELDWORK IN ATHENS AND MY ETHNOGRAPHY HAVE BEEN SHAPED BY MY BEING ITALIAN, WHATEVER IT MIGHT MEAN...

WHICH ALTOGETHER CHANGE HOW WE THINK WITH AND THROUGH ETHNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS ABOUT CULTURAL INTIMACY OR CULTURAL PROXIMITY OR NEITHER OF THEM, OR THEIR ACTUAL NEGATION,

BUT ALSO HOW WE DO ETHNOGRAPHY AND WHAT WE WANT ETHNOGRAPHY TO DO FOR US

THE FACT IS THAT IT WAS HARD FOR ME TO MAKE SENSE (ethnographically speaking) OF THE MANY IMAGINATIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS ABOUT GREECE...

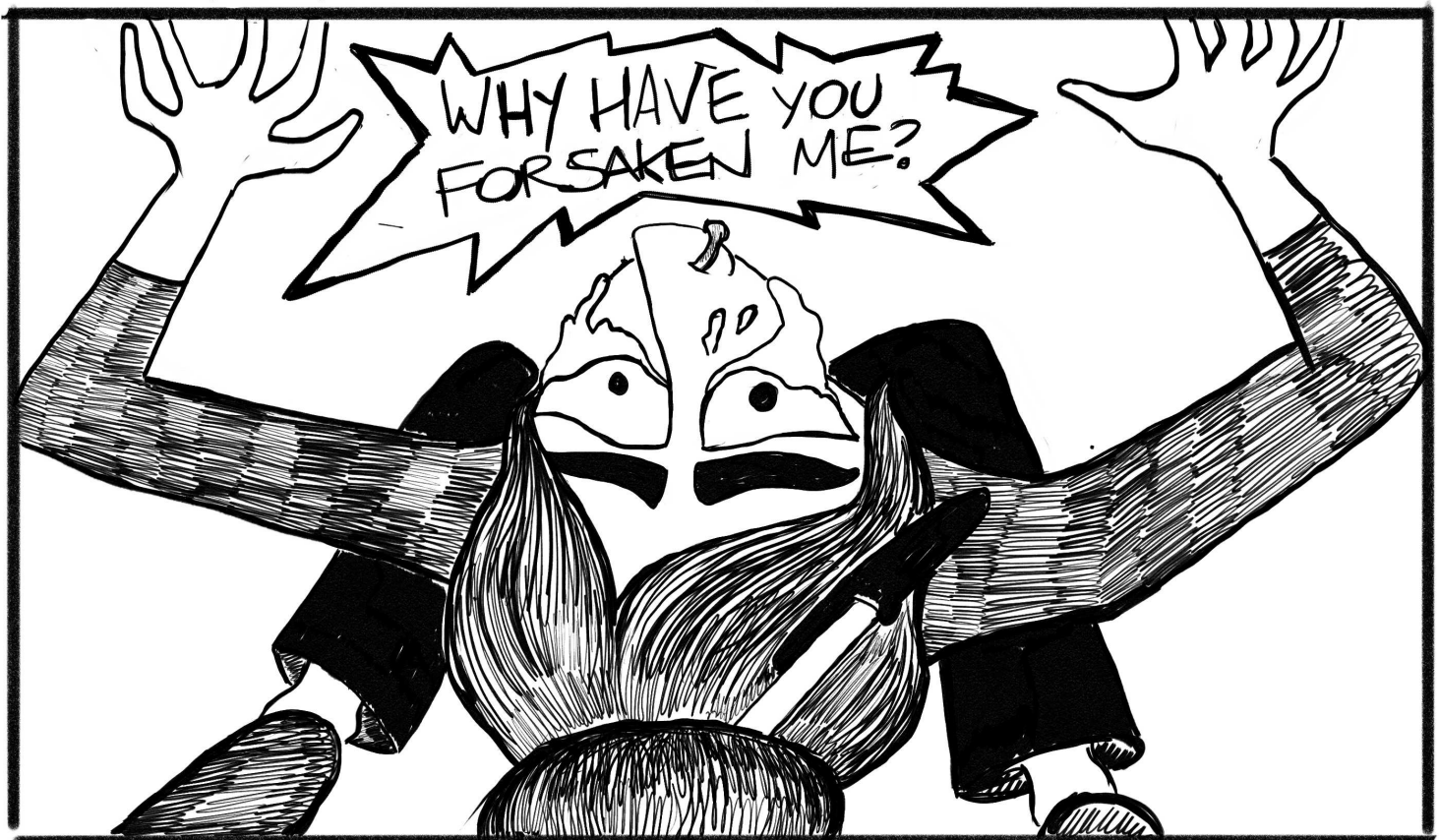
SEE PAGE 3

. MORE A COMMENT THAN A CONCLUSION .

I KNOW THAT SOMETIMES I CAN BE A BIT DRAMATIC, IT IS NOT BY CHANCE THAT I EARNED THE TITLE OF DRA(CH)MA QUEEN (SEE BELOW). JOKES ASIDE, IT TOOK ME SOME TIME TO RECONCILE ALL THE EXPECTATIONS THAT COME WITH DOING AND WRITING ETHNOGRAPHY.

I'VE FOUND VERY INSPIRING, USEFUL IN FACT ENLIGHTENING WHAT GREEK ANTHROPOLOGIST MARIA COUROUCI SAYS ABOUT THE OFTEN UNFAVOURABLE CIRCUMSTANCES OF OUR FIELDWORK. SHE SAYS THAT TENSIONS ALWAYS ARISE WHEN ETHNOGRAPHY ENTERS THE REALM OF POLITICS, NATIONALISM AND IDENTITY POLITICS. THESE TOPICS, SHE CONTINUES, SHOULD PROMPT A THOUGHTFUL CONSIDERATIONS OF THE ETHNOGRAPHER AS AN OUTSIDER AND THE COMMUNITY.

THE ETHNOGRAPHER'S IDENTITY AND POSITIONALITY PREDETERMINE THE CONTEXT (AND TO AN EXTENT THE CONTENT) OF THE ETHNOGRAPHIC ENCOUNTER AND EXCHANGE. 'ALL THIS MIGHT SOUND OBVIOUS TO MANY OF YOU. I FOUND THESE WORDS SOOTHING AND EMPOWERING TOO.



OTHER INFO: I DID MY FIELDWORK IN ATHENS BETWEEN 2015 AND 2017, AT THE HEIGHTS OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS. I CARRIED OUT MY RESEARCH ACROSS SOME GRASSROOTS MEDICAL FACILITIES AND I'VE ENDED UP WRITING ABOUT PHARMA CEUTICALS. HOWEVER MY DECISION TO GO TO GREECE WAS MOTIVATED BY THE FACT THAT THE PSYCHIATRIC SYSTEM WAS INSPIRED BY BASAGLIA AND I WANTED TO LOOK AT COMMUNITY CARE. BUT THEN I LET THE ETHNOGRAPHY SPEAK...