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My Mother In Time (Working Title)

My mother is turning 69 years old in 10 days, when the Lebanese civil war broke out in 1975 she was 23 and she's been dealing with life as it comes ever since. Her brother was killed in the early days of the war and that devastated her and her family. Her marriage in 1978 did not turn out the way she expected it to, but it did fulfill her longterm dream of motherhood as she would go on to navigate the trials and tribulations of marriage, motherhood, and postwar Lebanon and its disappointments. After her divorce in 2000, she has been living alone and dedicating her life to the care of her children.

My project aims to examine my mother's life traces through time: her past recollections, her present life, and her hopes for the future (one that keeps getting bleaker and bleaker specially in Lebanon where an entire country is disintegrating before our eyes). Revisiting her wounds of the past from loved ones lost, to life disappointments, and life in an ever tumultuous Middle East.

Beirut itself and its history will be an essential part of the project as my mother has spent the majority of her life in this bittersweet city that is over-brimming with life and death and everything in between. A place very well suited for the theme of this year's award "Les Lieux Du Monde".

Furthermore, I believe this project relates to the literature of Albert Camus in the sense that it examines the existential toll that time and personal history take on individuals. The eventual loneliness and indifference that set into lives as they develop and stretch on through time faced by the absurdity of life, society, and time.