

## Imaging Islands

People and places are my thing. Whenever I think I am too happy, too cozy, too sheltered, too confident, too professional, too sorted, too healthy – when things are too perfect in general – I go to places where this is not the case or my photographs capture an image as a reminder of the world's imperfection and hence, its beauty.



*The Motorcyclist* has his show-off gear, but his look reveals that he might be thinking about his age or the fact that he found himself sitting on his own on a summer day in a busy street. A perfect man who created an island of himself?

*Easy Rider* took his bike, but left his waistcoat as a momentum – marking a territory he might come back to in a spiritual rather than a physical way as the coat will be flying with the wind and in that flight it will touch people or hang around buildings and trees as the cyclist is hoping to be able to. Yes, I am both – a cyclist and a photographer.





*Somerset House Fairy* delighted and frightened me when I saw her picture after taking it. I thought I was playing with the light while the kids were playing with the water, but she might have done something sinister to the workings of the sunshine and directed the whole seemingly innocent ritual. So London.



*Thai Market* is the picture taken by my sister, Sally Kiddle. She travelled the world that year and came back with images of dozens of countries I have never been to. I was hearing stories of the faraway lands like I was a child again being read a bedtime story. The world still fascinates so much even though we now have the greatest ever access to other places.

**Nela Milic** is a writer and a visual artist born in Belgrade. She started her career as a journalist writing reviews, critiques and conducting interviews for the Culture and City pages of the *Daily Telegraph* and for the performing arts magazine *Ludus*. She studied Film and Television Direction and the History of the Theatre at the University of Belgrade and she worked as a filmmaker and a journalist at the very popular BK television station in Serbia. She completed a course in Film and Television Production at the University of Westminster and is currently studying for a doctoral degree in Visual Sociology at Goldsmiths, University of London. Milic is also a producer of many arts events from theatre and film festivals to exhibitions and she regularly speaks at symposia on media, art and refugee issues. She is a member of OISTAT, NUJ and the United Nations Association. Her latest project can be seen at [www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/balkanising-taxonomy](http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/balkanising-taxonomy)