

## Developing “Water Codes” in Larissa City Centre: the “Sculpted River” of Larissa, Municipality of Larissa

The project, which gives the keys to understanding the territory’s history, aims to create a new landscape identity for the city of Larissa, based on the lost physical and historical landscape of a theatre dating back to the 3rd century BC, the remains of which were recently unearthed in the centre of the city. It will involve local communities and evoke memories of a distinctive agricultural landscape, such as the plain of Thessaly with the Pinios River and its surrounding mythical mountains. The urban sculptor Nella Golanda wanted to create a new identity for the city of Larissa, based on the ancient city theatre. In order to achieve these goals, she proposed a design for a “sculpted river”, a symbol of the lost link between the city and its river (Pinios) which emphasises the different landscapes of Thessaly, the uplands and the lowlands, along its route.



The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. “Developing Water Codes in Larissa City Centre: the Sculpted River of Larissa” is an acknowledgment of the continuity of a landscape, from ancient times until today. The project provides keys to understanding the history of the area and fits into a territory “sculpted” by artistic practices which highlight the significance and role of water, essential in an urban setting. The city has regained its former distinction with a landscape that attests to the past, for the benefit of the residents’ quality of life.