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Sarah Thilykou was born in Thessaloniki, Greece, where she studied theology, drama, and music, with further work in Utrecht and Paris. She holds a M.A. and a Ph.D. in theology. She has published five poetic collections, including *Duet of Islands* (with Maki Starfield, in English, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish), *The World in Three Acts*, *Their Name*, *Woman in the Garden*, book reviews, essays, translations in international literary publications, including *Nadwah* (www.nadwah.com) of which she is an editor, *Beltway Poetry Quarterly* (www.beltwaypoetry.com), *Poeticanet* (www.poeticanet.com) and anthologies including *Building Socialism* (San Francisco 2020). She has translated Gabriel Rosenstock (*The Floating Universe*, *Silver Birches*, *Angelic Flights*), Rua Breatnach (*The City Next Door*), Allen Ginsberg (*Buddha Died*) and others. A founding member of PEN Greece, she has performed professionally as an actor and singer and is currently teaching in secondary education in Athens. Her latest book in Greek is the poetic synthesis *Antigone in Haiti*.

MEDITERRANEAN GODDESSES: REFUGEES (7Tanka)

地中海の女神（難民） 短歌 7 首

like a mother's song

the lullaby of waves

how it unite us

the refrain of destiny

in the Mediterranean banks

母の唄 波の守唄 哀れかな
地中海（うみ）の岸には 運命の輪が

mothers and babies
citizens of the waves
immigrants

seeking in the world
the mystic country

母と子は 波の住民 移民たち
世界に求む 神秘の国

freedom!
women cry
in the two banks
on the one side hijabs
masks on the other

ああ自由！ 女の^{なき}啼泣が 両岸で
あっちは^{ヒジャブ}黒服 こっちはマスク

on board

watching her life

sinking

- how does a life last?

twenty five years?

船上で いのち見守り 沈みゆく
—どうなっていく？ この25年

I'm not afraid of you, man

my ancient enemy and friend

don't be afraid of me

we have been through a lot

together in these banks

怖れない 古代の兵士 怖れるな
ともに生きたり 互いの岸で

old women light candles
to unknown saints
so that to rest
those buried
by sea and history

老女たち 献灯したり 無名の人々
海に没した みな安らかに

girls collect clothes
for the rescued -
how will they last?
while only one word survives
for ever: refugees

少女たち 衣服集めを 避難民
救う一言 皆様 永久に

(from “Arouse the wind, Goddesses!” translation by Mariko Sumikura)