



*Embassy of Greece
National Day Reception*

Programme

*Wednesday 25th of March 2015
Canberra*



Theodoros Vryzakis, "Karaouli", 1854

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Greek National Day Reception Wednesday 25th of March 2015 Greek Residence, 115 Empire Circuit, Yarralumla

Starting at 19:30 for 20:00

Arrival of guests : 19:30 - 20:00

Official part of the Program begins (20:00-20:45)

- Toast to the President of the Hellenic Republic and the People of Greece (by the Chief of Protocol, DFAT, Mr. Chris Cannan).
- National Anthem of Greece.
- Toast to the Queen and the People of Australia (by the Greek Ambassador Mr. Charalampos Dafaranos).
- National Anthem of Australia.
- A few words by the Ambassador of Greece in English and then in Greek.
- Decoration bestowed on Justice Emilios Kyrou, Victoria Supreme Court Judge. Justice Kyrou replies.
- A few words by the Hon. Nickolas Varvaris MP, Chair of the Greece-Australia Friendship Group.
- Acceptance of a hand-made trireme donated to the Embassy by Mr. Dionyssis (Denis) Paraskevatos, master replica shipbuilder. Mr. Paraskevatos replies.
- Recognition awards to distinguished members of the Greek-Australian society.
- A few words by Ambassadrice Mrs. Eva (Eyvah) T. Dafaranos introducing artist Mr. George Raftopoulos and presenting the exhibition. Mr. Raftopoulos replies.
- Opening of the exhibition by Hon. Nickolas Varvaris MP.
- The exhibition is open. A music programme follows.



Canberra, 25 March 2015

Message from the Ambassador of Greece to Australia

Dear Friends,

The brochure at hand on the occasion of the National Day of Greece contains details on the programme for this year's event.

Eva and I wanted to present various dimensions of Hellenicity in Australia. We begin with the presentation of an exhibition by eminent artist George Raftopoulos with a retrospective of his most representative works. We continue with the presentation of the miniature wooden trireme created and donated to the Embassy by renowned miniature master shipbuilder and craftsman Mr. Denis Paraskevatos. We conclude with the Canberra Mandolin Orchestra conducted by Michael Sollis, presenting a modern greek music repertory.

We welcome you to enjoy our National Day reception.

Haris D. Dafaranos
Ambassador



Canberra, 25 March 2015

Message from the Curator of the exhibition

Distinguished guests, dear friends,

In curating this year's side events accompanying our National Day reception, I tried to bring colour, artistry and soul, because Hellenicity, after all, is about these values.

I asked **Mr. George Raftopoulos** to give us the pleasure to present a retrospective of his works, because I adore his artistic style and his non conventional spirit, a spirit of freedom and dignity which expresses Greece and the Greeks. I am confident that you will love George's pieces of art.

I was also very touched by our miniature master shipbuilder and craftsman **Mr. Dionyssi (Denis) Paraskevatos**. I was first touched by his personality when I met him in Melbourne and was enchanted by his ethos and just character, spirituality, his dexterity, patience and passion. I am sure that you will like very much the replica of the "Paralos" sacred trireme exhibited permanently from now on at the Embassy's Residence.

Lastly I would like to present to you the "**Canberra Mandolin Orchestra**" with its conductor **Mr. Michael Sollis**, a distinguished composer, researcher, artistic director, educator, arts administrator and philhellene presenting a beautiful repertory of greek songs, accompanying the two greek singers **Mrs. Theodora Volti** and **Mr. Antonios Vlachos**.

With these sentiments in mind, I invite you all to enjoy both side events.

Eva (Eyvah) T. Dafaranos
Art Curator



GEORGE RAFTOPOULOS

Born in 1972 in Sydney, NSW
Lives and works in Sydney, NSW

EDUCATION

Postgraduate Honors, Sydney College of the Arts, Sydney, NSW 1996
BFA, Visual Arts, Sydney University, Sydney, NSW 1994

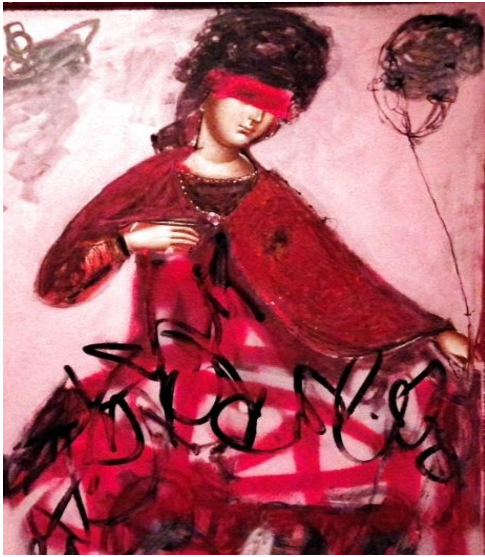
SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2015 - Greek Embassy Canberra, ACT, Australia - Chasm gallery New York, USA -
Buratti Fine Art gallery, Perth W.A, Australia
2014 - Bega Regional Gallery, Bega NSW Australia - MCLEMOI GALLERY, Sydney, NSW,
Australia - Hellenic Museum, Melbourne, Australia - Tatler Sydney, Darlinghurst Australia
2013 - Hillsmith Gallery Adelaide South Australia, Australia
2012 - MCLEMOI GALLERY, Sydney, NSW
2010 - Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney, NSW - Hill Smith Art Gallery, Adelaide, SA
2008 - Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC - Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney, NSW -
Amanda Gillespie, New York, NY
2007 - Hill Smith Gallery, Adelaide, SA
2006 - The Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong - Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2005 - Axia Modern Art, Melbourne, VIC
2004 - Axia Modern Art, Melbourne, VIC - Axia Modern Art, Sydney, NSW - Gallery
Phillipe Neville, Darwin, NT
2003 - Bark Modern Art Gallery, Hong Kong - Axia Modern Art, Melbourne, VIC -
Australian Art Resources, Melbourne, VIC
2001 - Axia Modern Art, Melbourne, VIC - Liquid, Michael Carr Art Dealer, Sydney, NSW
2000 - Bilbao, Michael Carr Art Dealer, Sydney, NSW
1999 - Volvo Gallery, Sydney, NSW,
1998 - Olsen Carr Art Dealer, Sydney, NSW
1997 - Varga Gallery, Bourdeaux, France
1996 - Olsen Carr Art Dealer, Sydney, NSW

He also participated in numerous selected group exhibitions and his exceptional work
adorn public and private collections around the world.

Email: graftopoulos@aol.com

**George Raftopoulos
Exhibition
"An unconventional dreamer"**



"San Panagia"

86cm x 120cm, mixed media on canvas, 2014



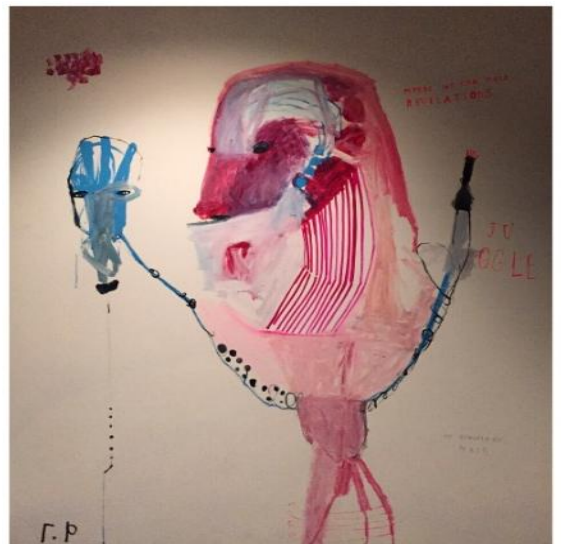
"I AGAPI (AMORE)"

120cm x 120cm, mixed media and oil on canvas, 2014



"The magic moment"

198cm x 183cm, oil on canvas, 2015



"He removed the mask"

168cm x 198cm, oil on canvas, 2015



"San Foustanella"

95cm x 111cm, mixed media on canvas, 2014



"Persephone and her suitor"

116cm x 129cm oil on canvas, 2014



"Floriade"

115cm x 146cm, oil on canvas, 2013



"She planted the seeds"

62cm x 91cm, oil on linen, 2014



"The Dreamer"

183cm x 122cm, oil on Japanese linen, 2015



"Afrodite"

92cm x 92cm, oil on canvas, 2014



"Trojan horse"

123cm x 204cm, oil on canvas, 2014



"I am human"

105cm x 125cm, mixed media on canvas, 2014



"Self portrait as a jockey"
86cm x 119cm, oil on canvas, 2014



"IKONA"
85cm x 101cm, oil on canvas, 2015



"ENTROPY"
156cm x 87cm, mixed media oil on canvas, 2014



"Saltimbanques I"
55cm x 55cm, oil on canvas, 2013



"Walks on water"
91cm x 120cm, oil on canvas, 2014



"Dream weaver"
51cm x 76cm, oil on canvas, 2014



"Zougla"

183cm x 183cm, oil on Japanese linen, 2013



"I could've been a jockey"

152cm x 198cm, mixed media and oil on polyester, 2014



"Boy walking dog"

119cm x 85cm, oil on canvas, 2014



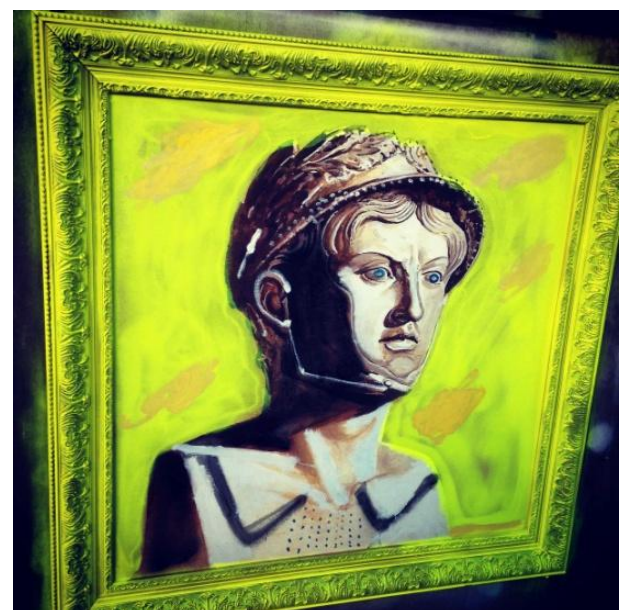
"The gift"

92cm x 86cm, oil on canvas, 2014



"Aeschylus"

214cm x 203cm, oil on Japanese linen, 2014



"Socrates"

86cm x 85cm, mixed media on canvas, 2014



"The magician"
86cm x 116cm, oil on canvas, 2014



"Queenie"
92cm x 92cm, mixed media on linen, 2013



"Demeter vs Xerxes"
120cm x 72cm, oil on canvas, 2014



"Baller look at me"
60cm x 80cm, mixed media on board, 2014

The History of Triremes

A wooden replica model of an ancient Greek trireme is going to be donated to the Greek Embassy by an acclaimed Greek-Australian wooden ship replica builder of Victoria, Mr. Dionyssi (Denis) Paraskevatos on the occasion of the National Day of Greece. The model is built according to the exact specifications of the Athenian vessel. The model constructed over a period of eighteen months is a replica of the holy ship, the "Paralos", that is "of the shores". Holy triremes, such as the "Salamina" and the "Paralos" were only used for Ambassadors and Consuls on overseas trips.

Ancient Greek society was composed of three social classes: the mountaineers, the agriculturalists and the merchants from the shores, the "paralii". So the term Paralos derives from the Greek social class of the shores, that is the merchant class. The Paralii as a class influenced democracy and deliberation by vote.

Every trireme held between 20-50 soldiers and around 170 oarsmen. When engaged in sea battle, masts were removed and the deck was cleared. When the oarsmen were not needed to maneuver the ship, they also engaged in battle.

The name trireme comes from the distinct three rows of oarsmen: the Thranites (Thrones) in the upper part, the Zygites (Balancers) in the middle section and the Thalamites rowing next to the water.



Musical Programme

Presentation of the artists performing

Formed in 2003,
the Canberra
Mandolin
Orchestra brings
together players



of mandolin, mandola, mandocello, guitar
and double bass. Our repertoire includes
Australian compositions, ritzy tunes from the
dawn of the jazz age, light classics, film
themes and world folk music. Our favourite
genre is the music of Theodorakis and
Hadjidakis. We meet every Monday at the
Hellenic Club in Civic. New players are always
welcome and we can provide tuition and
free instrument loans. For more information
call 6161 2177 or visit www.cmo.org.au



For more information call 6161 2177 or visit www.cmo.org.au

Conductor Michael Sollis

Michael Sollis is a Canberra composer, researcher, artistic director, educator, and arts administrator. He is artistic director and composer of The Griffyn Ensemble, Canberra's premier chamber ensemble with a national reputation of innovative programming. Michael is commissioned regularly to write for professional, amateur, and youth musicians and ensembles around Australia, and his works have been performed by groups such as The Australian String Quartet, The Australian Voices, The Griffyn Ensemble, dominantSEVEN, Ku-Ring-Gai Philharmonic Orchestra Tucana Flute Quartet, the Canberra Mandolin Orchestra, the Queensland Conservatorium Brass Band, and many schools in the ACT region. He is also a published researcher within the interdisciplinary fields of anthropology-composition-linguistics and ACT Manager for Musica Viva Australia. Michael plays mandolin with the first mandolins while conducting.



Soloist singers:



Theodora Volti



Antonios Vlachos

Orchestra members:

First Mandolins

Michael Sollis
Louise Ibbotson
Wal Wjurkiewicz

Guitars

Brett Lidbury
Grant Morrison

Second Mandolins

Ian Bull
Terry Heins
John Hyam

Mandocello

Geoffrey Nelson

Mandolas

Gary Floyd
John Furlonger
Polly Garland
Sam Leone

Double Bass

Ben Loudon
Karen Dahl

Greek songs repertory

1. Never On Sunday (M. Hadjidakis), Singer: Mrs. Theodora Volti
2. Kathe Kipos (M. Hadjidakis), Singer: Mrs. Theodora Volti
3. Penia (M. Theodorakis), Singer: Mrs. Theodora Volti
4. Athena (M. Hadjidakis), Instrumental
5. Tis Dikeosinis Ilie (M. Theodorakis), Singer: Mr. Antonios Vlachos
6. Strose to Stroma sou gia dio (M. Theodorakis), Singer: Mr. Antonios Vlachos
7. Greek to Greek (R. Schulz, Australian composition), Instrumental
8. Sweet Movie (M. Hadjidakis), Instrumental
9. I Want To See You (M. Theodorakis), Instrumental
10. Tou Mikrou Voria (M. Theodorakis), Instrumental
11. Ena to Helidoni (M. Theodorakis), Instrumental
12. Vals (M. Theodorakis), Instrumental
13. Party (M. Hadjidakis), Instrumental
14. Mi Mou Thimonis Matia mou (G. Dalaras), Instrumental
15. Pherte Mou Ena Mandolino (M. Hadjidakis), Instrumental
16. Annoula Too Hionia (M. Tokas), Singer: Mrs. Theodora Volti
17. Ela Pare mou ti lipi (M. Theodorakis), Singer: Mrs. Theodora Volti
18. Margarita Margaro (M. Theodorakis), Singer: Mr. Antonios Vlachos
19. Ballad of Ouri (M. Theodorakis), Singer: Mrs. Theodora Volti
20. Margarita Magiopoula (M. Theodorakis), Singer: Mrs. Theodora Volti
21. Sto Lavrio Ginetai Khoros (Music: M. Hadjidakis, Lyrics: N. Gkatsos), Instrumental
22. White Rose of Athens (M. Hadjidakis), Singer: Mrs. Theodora Volti
23. I Hartaeti (M. Theodorakis), Instrumental
24. My Land (Lyrics: Mrs Eva (Eyvah) T. Dafaranos Music: Prince Ope Fadina), Instrumental

- **Brochure's artistic preparation and supervision:**

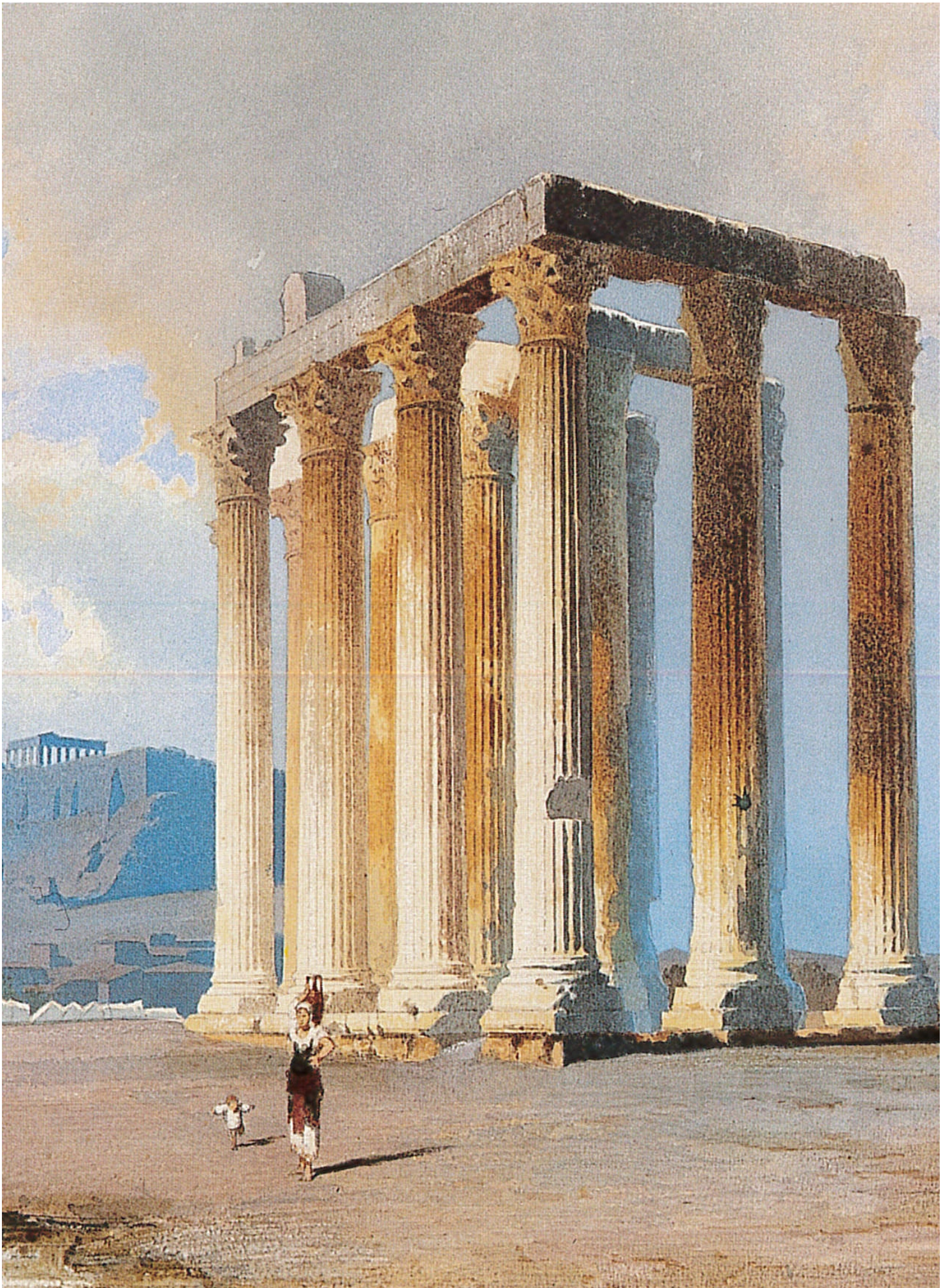
Mrs. Eva (Eyvah) T. Dafaranos

- **Technical layout:** Mr. Konstantinos Koutsopoulos

- **Installation of the artworks:** Mr. Berend Kaak



Nikephoros Lytras, "Milkman Resting", 1895



Vincenzo Lanza, "The Temple of Olympian Zeus", 1870-1880