



President of the Hellenic Republic, signing the condolences book at Church House for the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, 19.09.2022



Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew at the Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of the Divine Wisdom in London



On October 14, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nikolaos Dendias met with his UK counterpart, James Cleverly, in London in order to discuss how to further enhance Greek-British relations

## DOOMED COMPANIONS UNSUBSTANTIAL SHADES



NEON

07 OCTOBER –  
12 NOVEMBER  
2022

HELLENIC  
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### Also in this issue:

- *Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Andreas Katsaniotis in London*
- *NEON exposition at the Hellenic Residence*
- *Bestowal of Honorary Titles to Bruce Clark & Richard Clogg*
- *Bestowal of Honorary Titles to Sir Michael Llewelyn's, Betanny Hughes & Sarah Buxter*
- *The «OXI» anniversary celebrated at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Divine Wisdom*
- *Piano Recital at Royal Holloway*
- *Agenda*

## President of the Hellenic Republic, Katerina Sakellaropoulou, at the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II



The President of the Hellenic Republic, Katerina Sakellaropoulou, attended the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II in Westminster Abbey on Monday 19th of September, in London, as well as the reception, immediately after the funeral, hosted by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom, James Cleverly.

As the President of the Hellenic Republic stated: "Queen Elizabeth, during her long-lasting reign, served her country with exemplary devotion. She ensured the stability of the United Kingdom and cemented its relations with the Commonwealth and the rest of the world, becoming the reference point for the course of its country from the Second World War to the present day. The feelings of love and respect evident from the British people on the streets of London will stay with her forever."

President Sakellaropoulou also attended the reception hosted by King Charles III to the Heads of State and other official guests, one day before the state funeral.

After the state funeral, President Sakellaropoulou, attended the reception, hosted by the Secretary of State, James Cleverly, where she also signed the condolences book and made the following statement:

"Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, was an inspiring woman. A leader who firmly steered her country through times of great changes, always serving her nation with an incomparable sense of duty. Her wisdom and charisma will be greatly missed"

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## His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in London

His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visited London in 21-25 October for the Centenary Celebrations of the Holy Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain.

On Sunday 23rd October, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew presided over the Divine Liturgy at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Divine Wisdom in London, while on Monday 24th October, Greek Ambassador in UK, Ioannis Raptakis, hosted a dinner at the Hellenic Residence in London, in honour of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, in the presence of Archpriests of the Ecumenical Throne and members of the venerable Patriarchal Delegation.

On Tuesday, October 25, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew was received by King Charles III at Buckingham Palace. During their private meeting, they discussed issues of mutual concern. The Patriarch was accompanied by the Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain, Greek Ambassador in the UK, Ioannis Raptakis, and British Ambassador in Greece, Matthew Lodge.



## FM Nikolaos Dendias meets British FM, James Cleverly, in London



On October 14, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nikolaos Dendias met with his UK counterpart, James Cleverly, in London in order to discuss how to further enhance Greek-British relations and coordination in International Organisations. During their meeting, they also reviewed the progress in the implementation of the MoU on the Strategic Bilateral Framework signed in October 2021.

Ahead of his meeting with the UK Foreign Minister, Mr Dendias addressed the Greek correspondents in London stating the following:

«Today I will have the opportunity to meet for the first time with the new Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, James Cleverly. First of all, we will discuss the bilateral framework, the implementation of the agreement on the Strategic Framework, which I signed with Liz Truss, when she was Foreign Secretary. Furthermore, I will be able to brief him on the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean, on Turkish unlawful and provocative conduct, on the issues raised by the so-called Turkish-Libyan “memorandum”, the invalid Turkish-Libyan “memorandum”, and aside from that, the situation in the Western Balkans. And, as always, we will examine together the Cyprus issue and the possibility of a process to begin, at last, that will settle the Cyprus issue. The United Kingdom has always been an important country, a strategic and long standing friend of Greece. And for the Greek Government, the Mitsotakis Government, it is particularly important for the UK to have a full picture of Greece’s views».

## Deputy FM for Diaspora Greeks, Andreas Katsaniotis in UK

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Greeks abroad Mr Andreas Katsaniotis visited London in 20-24 October. On Thursday, October 20, Mr Katsaniotis attended the opening of the exhibition “Alexander the Great: the making of a myth” presented at the British Library, until February 19, 2023. In the following day, Friday 21, Mr Katsaniotis visited the Hellenic Institute of Royal Holloway, University of London, where he met with the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Mrs Giuliana Pieri, as well as with Dr Charalambos Dendrinou, Senior Lecturer in Byzantine Literature and Greek Palaeography and Director of the Hellenic Institute at Royal Holloway and Dr Achilleas Hatzikyriakou, Director of the Centre for the Study of the Greek Diaspora.

Mr Katsaniotis attended, also, a series of anniversary events, on the occasion of the Centenary of the establishment of the Holy Archdiocese of Thyateira & Great Britain, in the presence of the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. On Sunday, October 23, he attended the Patriarchal Divine Liturgy at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Divine Wisdom in London. During his statement to foreign correspondents at the end of the liturgy, Mr Deputy Minister underlined the valuable and long-standing contribution of the Archdiocese to the large Greek and Cypriot communities in the UK, under the guidance of Ecumenical Patriarch.



## «Doomed companions, unsubstantial shades» at the Hellenic Residence in London

(6 October 2022 - 12 November 2022)



In collaboration with the Embassy of Greece in London, NEON organization, presented the exhibition «Doomed companions, unsubstantial shades» at the Hellenic Residence in London that was inaugurated on the 6th of October 2022 and lasted till the 12th of November. The show introduced an encounter between the legacy of the Greek poet, diplomat and Nobel laureate George Seferis and the work of twelve Greek-speaking contemporary artists reflecting on the themes of identity, nostalgia and trauma in the current socio-political condition.

The participating artists are: Ellie Antoniou, Irini Bachlitzanaki, Savvas Christodoulides, Nikos Kessanlis, Karolina Krasouli, Amanda Kyritsopoulou, Stathis Logothetis, Maro Michalakakos, Yorgos Petrou, Erica Scourti, Stefania Strouza, Antrea Tzourovits. The Curator of the exposition is Akis Kokkinos, NEON Scholarship Alumnus.

The exhibition presents 18 works in a variety of media - including historically significant works from the D.Daskalopoulos Collection, which are part of the D.Daskalopoulos Collection Gift to 4 museums in 3 countries over 2 continents (Tate, EMST and Guggenheim and MCA Chicago jointly).

As Mr Ioannis Raptakis, Ambassador of Greece in UK said "It is with great pleasure that we welcome the group exhibition *Doomed companions, unsubstantial shades* in the 'house of Seferis', the Hellenic Residence. The exhibition is the offspring of NEON's artists creativity and inspiration whom we wholeheartedly thank. Moreover, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Mr Dimitris Daskalopoulos, founder of NEON for his invaluable contribution to culture. The Residence is a historic building, a landmark for the Greek community in the United Kingdom, a venue for political, economic and cultural events, as well as a meeting place

for the Greek and British societies. In its premises we have hosted piano and music concerts, dance performances, lectures, receptions, dinners, screenings, meetings of Prime Ministers and Ministers and all kinds of events. This is the first time we will host such an important exhibition; an exhibition open to the public, which, along with the exhibits, our visitors will have the opportunity to discover a piece of history of Greece in the UK: as the home where Giorgos Seferis lived and the office where he worked from 1957 to 1962 when he served as Ambassador of Greece to the UK, the piano where Mikis Theodorakis performed in 1961 and the commemorative plaque placed by the English Heritage in 2000 to mark the 100th birth anniversary of the Nobel Prize laureate Giorgos Seferis".

According to Mr Dimitris Daskalopoulos, founder of NEON, "the NEON exhibition to be presented in a historic building with the valuable cooperation of the Embassy of Greece in London, was designed relying on the work of young contemporary artists, some of whom we have supported in their professional artistic journey. Since its genesis, NEON has consciously focused on supporting young artists and contemporary creation through a targeted scholarship program. In 10 years, a large community of people has been formed; people who via the contribution of NEON gained access to knowledge, evolved and connected with each other through artistic creation. This exhibition promotes the excellent work of young contemporary artists and makes us very proud that they can stand on the international artistic stage expressing their creativity and pioneering ideas."

As Akis Kokkinos, curator of the exhibition, notes "At a time where the aftermaths of Brexit resonate within the arts and education sectors, creating thresholds to new streams of European creative forces to enter and live in the UK, *Doomed companions, unsubstantial shades* celebrates the polyphony of contemporary diasporic culture while allowing us to re-imagine new ways of belonging."

The response of the public to this exhibition exceeded all expectations. Hundreds have so far visited the Exhibition leaving with the greatest impressions. The artworks were incorporated in a unique way to the house of Seferis, giving new life and light to the Residence.

## Bestowal of the Gold Cross of the Order of the Phoenix to Mr Bruce Clark



In a ceremony that took place at the Hellenic Residence on September 12th 2022, the Ambassador of Greece in UK Mr Ioannis Raptakis awarded the Gold Cross of the Order of the Phoenix to the famous author, lecturer and journalist Bruce Clark, on behalf of the President of the Hellenic Republic and in the presence of Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain. Mr Clark was bestowed the Gold Cross in recognition of his contribution to the dissemination of Greek culture and history.

The Greek Ambassador said in his speech that Mr Clark has had strong bonds with Greece since his childhood and a strong interest in Greek history and politics. In 2007 he won the Runciman Award for literature for his book "Twice a Stranger: How forced Migration Forged Modern Greece and Turkey". In 2021, he wrote the book "Athens: The City of Wisdom", which brings to life the 3,000-year history of Athens. Mr Raptakis reminded the audience that he is also an advocate for the Reunification of the Parthenon sculptures in Athens, noting that the Reunification of the sculptures would generate an enormous amount of goodwill in both countries, and improve the level of public awareness of ancient Greece in Athens, London and elsewhere.

Mr Clark thanked the Ambassador for the great honour and explained that his interest in Greece started when he was 13. His parents took him on a Greek sailing trip in an old wooden boat, and the high point was exploring Delos. This trip was a starting-point in his journey as an ancient and modern Hellenist.

## Mr Richard Clogg's bestowal as a Commander of the Order of the Phoenix

On September 8th 2022, the Ambassador of Greece in the UK, Mr Ioannis Raptakis presented the distinguished British academic Professor Richard Clogg with the Commander of the Order of the Phoenix on behalf of the President of the Hellenic Republic.

Richard Clogg, an Emeritus Fellow of St Antony's College, Oxford, has written widely on the modern history of Greece and also on Greek politics. His Concise History of Greece (Third edition, Cambridge 2013) has been translated into 13 languages. His most recent publication is Greek to Me: a Memoir of Academic Life (I.B. Tauris 2018).

At the bestowal ceremony, at the Hellenic Residence, the Greek Ambassador underlined Professor Clogg's contribution to the promotion of a better understanding of Greece in the UK and the enhancement of Greek-British relations. After praising Mr Clogg's ethos and professionalism, Mr Raptakis also reminded that Professor Clogg has a reputation as one of the most important and influential specialists in modern and contemporary Greek history and one of the most widely read British academics on Modern Greek history but also on Greek politics. He thanked Professor Clogg for his collaboration with the Embassy and expressed the hope that they will continue to work together on many projects.



## Bestowal of the Grand Cross of the Order of the Phoenix to Sir Michael Llewellyn – Smith



On the 4th of October, Sir Michael Llewellyn – Smith was bestowed the Grand Cross of the Order of the Phoenix by the Greek Ambassador in UK, Mr Ioannis Raptakis, on behalf of the President of the Hellenic Republic, at the Hellenic Residence in London.

Sir Michael Llewellyn – Smith was presented with this award as a mark of profound respect, for his contribution to the enhancement of Greek-British relations.

Sir Michael Llewellyn – Smith, a retired British diplomat and academic, served as British Ambassador in Greece from 1996-99. He is the author of four books with themes in Greek history and culture: "The Great Island", "Ionian Vision: Greece in Asia Minor 1919-1922", "Olympics in Athens 1896: the Invention of the Modern Olympic Games" and last but not least "Athens: a Cultural and Literary History".

Michael Llewellyn-Smith has also written a short book about the history of the British Embassy at Athens, which was the house of the Greek statesman Eleftherios Venizelos before it became the British Embassy in 1936.

Sir Michael Llewellyn-Smith, who was awarded the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George (CMG) in 1990 and the Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (KCVO) in 1996, is Vice President of the Council of the British School at Athens and member of the Council of the Anglo-Hellenic League.

## Gold Cross of the Order of Beneficence for Ms Bettany Hughes and Ms Sarah Baxter

Ms Bettany Hughes and Ms Sarah Baxter were bestowed the Gold Cross of the Order of Beneficence of the Hellenic Republic by the Ambassador of Greece, Mr Ioannis Raptakis, on behalf of the President of the Hellenic Republic, during a ceremony at the Hellenic Residence, on Thursday 6th of October. The Hellenic Republic has decided to confer on Bettany Hughes and Sarah Baxter those honorary distinctions, in recognition of their continuous support in giving prominence, through their work, to Greece's universal values; democracy, freedom and solidarity, which are the cornerstones of Greek and European civilization.

Ambassador Raptakis emphasized on the exceptional services and outstanding achievements in the arts and letters, both of Bettany Hughes and Sarah Baxter, since «they have both succeeded to familiarize the British and the International Community not only with the issue of the Reunification of the Parthenon Sculptures, but also with the Hellenic civilization». Bettany Hughes and Sarah Baxter both expressed for one more time their love and appreciation for Greek civilization.



## The 'OXI' Anniversary at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Divine Wisdom



On the 30th of October, the Orthodox Cathedral of the Divine Wisdom celebrated the Anniversary of «OXI», (28 October 1940). The Doxology was attended by members of the Embassy of Greece in London and armed forces representatives, as well as representatives from the Greek schools in London.

At the end of the Doxology, a message of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Diaspora Greeks, Mr Andreas Katsaniotis, was read, underlining that "Every year on this day, our minds recall the loud and proud "NO" of our Nation to the would-be conqueror... Our ancestors, defending the values of freedom, democracy and justice, became symbols of heroism and self-sacrifice... Today, with faith in our creative powers, with an open mind, unity and national self-confidence, we move forward together towards a better and fairer world", the message concluded.



## Piano notes at Royal Holloway

A piano recital was performed by Panayiotis Gogos on Saturday, October 15, at the Royal Holloway, University of London.

The event was organised by The Hellenic Institute of the Royal Holloway to commemorate the centenary of the Asia Minor Catastrophe in 1922, as well as to open the celebrations of the 30th Anniversary of the Hellenic Institute in support of all students of Hellenic and Byzantine Studies.

Royal Holloway's Hellenic Institute is a research centre for the interdisciplinary and study of Hellenism. Within the Hellenic Institute, the Centre for Greek Diaspora Studies (CGDS) was established in 2015, which is the first academic university centre dedicated to the study of the Greek diaspora in the United Kingdom.

The event was hosted by Dr Charalampos Dendrinis, Director of the Hellenic Institute and Senior Lecturer in Byzantine Literature and Greek Palaeography and was in memory of Julian Chrysostomides (1928-2008) and Michael Heslop (1941-2022) The late Julian Chrysostomides was a Greek historian of Constantinople, lecturer at Royal Holloway for nearly 30 years, and instrumental in establishing it as a centre of Byzantine studies.



## Agenda

### The Oinoussian Ball 2022

When: 19/11/2022, 7.00 pm – 2.00 am

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/the-oinoussian-ball-2022/>

### The Privatisation of Public Space by Leisure Industries and Commercial Gentrification in (post) Pandemic Greece

When: 22/11/2022, 6.00 – 7.30 pm

Where: LSE, Hellenic Observatory

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/Hellenic-Observatory/Events/Research-Seminar-Series/2022-2023/>

### King's Expert Series: Children's mental health and the lost voices of Greece

When: 23/11/2022, 5.30 – 7.30 pm

Where: Kings College London, Centre for Hellenic Studies

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/events/kings-expert-series-childrens-mental-health-and-the-lost-voices-of-greece>

### In Conversation with Professor John Bennet

When: 23/11/2022, 7.00 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre, organised by the Anglo-Hellenic League

<https://www.anglohellenicleague.org/>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/in-conversation-with-prof-john-bennet-university-of-sheffield-tickets-456914602877>

### A Vain Endeavour: Greek Rule in Asia Minor, 1919-1922

When: 24/11/2022, 7.00 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/a-vain-endeavour-greek-rule-in-asia-minor-1919-1922/>

### Greece – the Way Forward: in conversation with Kyriakos Mitsotakis

When: 28/11/2022, 6.45 – 7.45 pm

Where: LSE, Hellenic Observatory

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/>

[Events/2022/11/202211281900/greece](https://www.lse.ac.uk/Events/2022/11/202211281900/greece)

### 25th Annual Award of the London Hellenic Prize

When: 28/11/2022, 7.00 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/25th-annual-award-of-the-london-hellenic-prize/>

### Lyktos, "the most ancient city in Crete, and the source of the bravest men"

When: 29/11/2022, 7.00 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/lyktos-the-most-ancient-city-in-crete/>

### Biennial Andrew David Memorial Lecture

When: 30/11/2022, 7.00 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/andrew-david-memorial-lecture/>

### Smyrna, September 1922: Memories of "others"

When: 1/12/2022, 7.00 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/smyrna-september-1922-memories-of-others/>

### Greek Dialogues Online - Is Greek a sexist language? At the crossroad between grammar and language use

When: 6/12/2022, 6.30 pm

Where: Cambridge Centre for Greek Studies

<https://www.ccs.csa.cam.ac.uk/events/greek-dialogues-online-greek-sexist-language-crossroad-between-grammar-and-language-use>

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