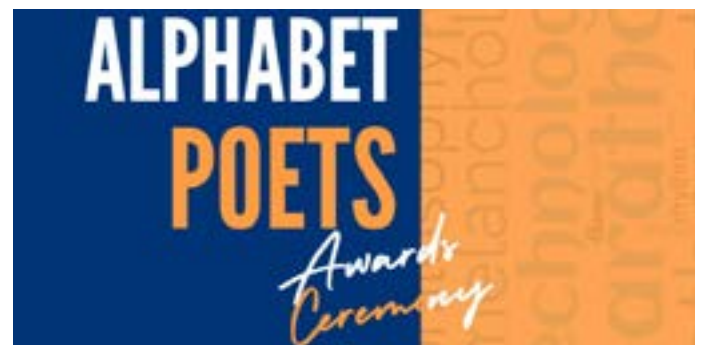




Greece's new Ambassador to the UK, Mr Ioannis Tsaousis, presented his credentials to the HM King Charles III, March 23, 2023



The Mayor of Athens, Mr Kostas Bakoyannis, receives the award for the city's public health policies, during an event at the inaugural Partnership for Healthy Cities Summit, taking place on 15 March 2023 in London.



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Awards Ceremony of the Alphabet Poets Competition at the Hellenic Residence



The presentation and award ceremony of the 'Alphabet Poets' Poetry Competition took place on the National Day of Greece, on Saturday 25 March 2023, at the Hellenic Residence. The "Alphabet Poets" competition was organised by the Embassy of Greece in the UK to mark the International Greek Language Day, observed annually on February 9. The competition aimed at pupils across the UK who were encouraged to write a poem using as many words of Greek origin as possible.

The event was attended by Archimandrite Chrysostomos Tymbas representing the Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain Nikitas, the Consul General of Cyprus Mr. Odysseas Odysseos, as well as representatives of Greek associations in the UK.

Following brilliant presentations of the ten shortlisted poems by the pupils, Ambassador Yannis Tsaousis announced the three winning poems awarding their authors with the competition's grand prize: a return flight ticket from London to Athens, Greece, courtesy of Aegean Airlines.

The three winning poems are:

- My Cat Artemis, by Toby Yates (Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School in Shepherd's Bush)
- An Echo from Cyprus, by Ioanna Michael, Annabell Paphitis and Florentia Morby (Greek School of Apostolos Andreas Birmingham)
- Feelings, by Orpheas Gklavopoulos (St. Sophia School, London)

All young pupils, joined by their parents and teachers, received as a gift an edition of Collected Poems by George Seferis, the Greek Nobel laureate who lived

at the Hellenic Residence between 1957 – 1962 when he served as Ambassador to the UK, and a copy of the two famous speeches of Professor Xenofon Zolotas. In 1957 and 1959, the Greek economist Professor Xenofon Zolotas, Governor of the Bank of Greece and Governor of the Funds for Greece, delivered two speeches in English using Greek words only.

The poetry competition was embraced by British and Greek schools in Great Britain and attracted the interest of young pupils who submitted in total 72 poems. Congratulations to all finalists and winners for their outstanding work! It was a great pleasure to be among so many talented young people on Greece's National Day for an event duly dedicated this 25th March to the great British poet and Philhellene Lord Byron.

<https://fb.watch/jyF-KYczqZ/>



Celebration of the National Day of 25th of March in London



On Sunday, the 26th of March 2023, the traditional Doxology of the National Day of March 25 was performed at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Divine Wisdom (Hagia Sophia) in London, in the presence of the Ambassador of Greece in the UK, Mr Ioannis Tsaousis, the High Commissioner of Cyprus in the United Kingdom, Mr Andreas Kakouris, members of the Greek Embassy and High Commission of Cyprus, the flag-bearers from the Greek schools in London, as well as many people from the Greek Orthodox Community.

In a very emotional atmosphere because of the recent tragic train crash at Tempì, the Ambassador of Greece in the UK, Mr Ioannis Tsaousis addressed the congregation, pointing out that the struggle of Greeks, which started on the 25th of March 1821, paved the way to the creation of the first independent Greek state, according to the Protocol signed in London in 1830. Mr Tsaousis referred to the immortal heroes and fighters, either from Greece or Cyprus, who sacrificed their lives for their vision and ideal: Lefteria, Eleftheria (Freedom), which Greeks enjoy for more than 200 years and for which they would be willing to give many more struggles, if they had to.

Mr Ambassador also made a special mention to the messages of King Charles III and British Prime Minister, Mr Rishi Sunak, for the National Day of Greece, referring to the strong friendship between our countries, as well as to the common values of our nations. A relationship which will continue to develop and strengthen in an era of international challenges

and diverse relations. Both Greece and United Kingdom, are firmly focused on international law and United Nations Charter, underlined Mr Tsaousis, declaring his commitment to the close relationship with the United Kingdom in an atmosphere of unity, companionship and solidarity.

In this framework, the role of thousands of Greek representatives of Hellenism in United Kingdom, is equally important, as the Ambassador highlighted, being literally the bridge between Greece and the United Kingdom. Besides the Greek Revolution was exactly that: the symbol of joint forces, without any traces of disagreement or clash. It was with spiritual elevation, strength & courage, self-denial & unselfishness that the heroes of Greek revolution fought and defended the ideal of freedom, as the President of the Hellenic Republic, Ms Katerina Sakelloropoulou, underlined, in her message for our National Day.

This is what we celebrate today, the double anniversary of Hellenism and Orthodoxy, the national and religious symbolism and significance of this special day, concluded Ambassador, Mr I. Tsaousis.

In a spirit of national pride and great emotion, the anniversary of the National Day of March 25 was celebrated at the Greek primary school in London, in order to honour the Greek heroes who sacrificed their lives for Greek Lefteria.

The students along with their teachers organized a beautiful and moving celebration, by reciting poems dedicated to the Greek struggle for freedom.

At the end of the celebration, the students paraded at the school yard and they were all applauded by parents and teachers of the school.

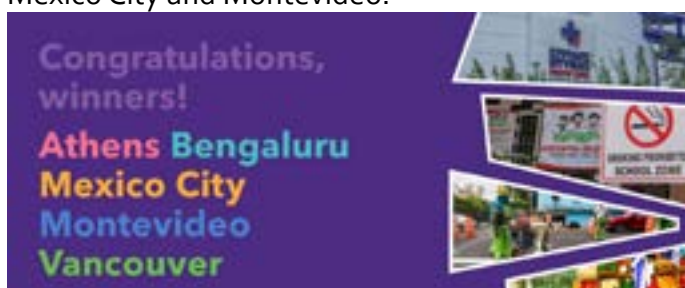
Athens awarded for its public health policies



Athens received an international award for the city's public health policies and, in particular, for its innovative "Overdose Prevention Project" during an event at the inaugural Partnership for Healthy Cities Summit. The event took place on Wednesday 15 March 2023 in London, in the presence of Greek Ambassador in the UK, Mr Ioannis Tsaousis. The ceremony was co-hosted by Bloomberg Philanthropies, World Health Organization, Vital Strategies and the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan.

The mayor of Athens Kostas Bakoyannis highlighting Athens' commitment to saving lives by preventing noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and injuries, noted that this important distinction for Greece's capital was the result of collective work that "gives us the strength to continue our efforts". Handing over the award to K. Bakoyannis, Michael Bloomberg, founder of Bloomberg LP, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and WHO Global Ambassador for Noncommunicable Diseases and Injuries, praised Athens for leading the way on how to respond to the opioid overdose crisis.

Athens was among the five cities who won an award for their public health initiatives from the 70 cities that participate in The Partnership for Healthy Cities - a prestigious global network of cities committed to saving lives by preventing noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and injuries. The inaugural award winners included also Vancouver, Bangalore, Mexico City and Montevideo.



IFE23: A taste of Greece in London



From the world famous Greek olive oil and wine to the highly praised dairy products, groceries, honey and from the exclusively grown on the island of Chios mastiha and mastic products to dietary supplements, herbs, vegan and superfoods, quality food and drink products from several Regions of Greece were present at this year's International Food and Drink Event (IFE) which took place on March 20-22 at ExCeL London.

For three days, and in what proved to be yet another successful trade show for the Greek food and beverage industry, over 20 companies who took part in IFE either as part of the 3 collective stands of the Region of Central Greece, Region of Eastern Macedonia-Thrace and the Region of the North Aegean or as individual exhibitors, showcased their products attracting many visitors and offering guests the opportunity to discover the new trends, innovative offerings and latest entries in Greece's vibrant agri-food sector.

Described as the go-to destination for UK and international food and drink discovery, the International Food and Drink Event offers professionals and visitors the opportunity to find in one place exciting product innovation, attend dedicated seminar sessions, and to meet with current or potential suppliers or partners.



21st Annual Hellenic Lecture - Philanthropia, Paideia and Gaia

A wonderful event for the 21st Annual Hellenic Lecture was held in memory of Constantine Leventis on 30 March at Royal Holloway University of London. An inspiring, moving, and profound talk entitled "Philanthropia, Paideia and Gaia: Philanthropy, education and the environment in the modern world", was given by Mrs Edmée Leventis OBE.

Mrs Leventis, spouse of late Constantine Leventis, touched on the issues of humanity, sustainability and protection of the environment, while talking about harmonizing the relationship between people and the environment through education. Paideia, as she said, can bring humanity away from chaos!

The Leventis family has contributed in the advance of education by the establishment and support of schools, scholarships, academic posts and activities in many Colleges and Universities in Britain and abroad. The A.G. Leventis Foundation supported the British Museum, the Louvre, the Denmark National Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the National Archaeological Museum in Athens, and the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. The A.G. Leventis Foundation has been a major supporter of Royal Holloway, and especially of The Hellenic Institute, of which Mrs Edmée Leventis has been a Steering Group member since 2006.

The event was attended, amongst others, by Dr Charalambos Dendrinou, Director of the Hellenic Institute, Dr Christos Kremmydas, Head of the Department of Classics and Member of Hellenic Institute Steering Group, Dr Achilleas Hadjikyriacou, Director of the Centre for Greek Diaspora Studies, Andreas Kakouris, The High Commissioner of Cyprus, Ifigeneia Kanara, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Greece in London, The Very Revd Archimandrite Grigorios Laurenzano, representing the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain.



Greece awards honorary citizenship to Kevin Featherstone and Roderick Beaton



Two of the world and the UK's leading authorities on contemporary and modern Greece, prominent scholars and true Philhellenes, Kevin Featherstone and Roderick Beaton, were granted honorary Greek citizenship for their lifelong work and significant contributions to the promotion of research and debate on Greece.

Kevin Featherstone, Eleftherios Venizelos Professor of Contemporary Greek Studies and Director of the Hellenic Observatory in the European Institute at London School of Economics (LSE), took the oath to become a Greek citizen before Prime Minister K. Mitsotakis at a special ceremony held at Maximos Mansion, on 21 February.

"I was born English - surely some mistake - but today I became Greek, and it is a great honour for me to be Greek now; it means a lot to me, and I am very proud. Thanks to everyone who helped me on my journey. Greece is a country, a people, an idea that I have learned to love very much. It has given me so much. Thank you very much." said K. Featherstone in Greek at the event.

Meanwhile, Professor Roderick Beaton - Emeritus Koraes Professor of Modern Greek and Byzantine History, Language and Literature at King's College London, where he directed the Centre for Hellenic Studies, and Chair Council of the British School at Athens was sworn in as a Greek citizen at an event that took place on 28 March at the Bank of Greece in the attendance of BoG Governor, Y. Stournaras.

Professor Beaton stated that "It's a fantastic honour to be granted honorary Greek citizenship! Greece is noted for being sparing with such distinctions, which makes me all the more proud to be welcomed officially into a 'family' that I've felt close to throughout my adult life".

Interview with Dr Anastasia Christophilopoulou, Senior Curator Ancient Mediterranean of the Fitzwilliam Museum, on the "Islanders" exhibition



1. *To begin with, would you tell us a few things about how this exhibition came into being? What are its aims and objectives?*

This major new exhibition at the Fitzwilliam examines the unique identity of islanders, transporting visitors to 5,000 years of island life and history from the ancient Mediterranean to today. This exhibition- the result of a longstanding research project (Being an Islander | A research and exhibition website for Being an Islander. (cam.ac.uk))- argues that the sea can be a linking rather than a dividing body, motivating and maintaining informal and formal connections.

Islanders: The Making of the Mediterranean (24 February – 4 June) brings an unprecedented group of antiquities -over 200 unique objects- from three of the largest Mediterranean islands - Cyprus, Crete and Sardinia - to the UK, most for the first time, to show how insular identity shaped the Mediterranean world. Raw materials, everyday objects, objects revealing rituals, religious devotion and symbolism, trading empires, languages, and scripts, spanning over 4,000 years of the islands' history, narrate how islanders have adapted to environmental and cultural changes, assimilations and invasions of their land and cultural horizons. Together they explore how being of an island affected and shaped everyday life, art and creativity, community building, migrations, and movement of people. They also reveal how creative, adaptable, and inventive islanders are. The 200 unique objects and their places of origin speak of the sudden, gradual, intense, or subtle processes that contributed to creating and maintaining a sense of place and identity for island people. Through this journey, we invite you to reflect on your own sense of identity beyond the ancient Mediterranean.

2. *Many of the exhibition's objects were never seen before in the UK. What was the process involved in selecting and bringing them to the UK?*

This exhibition is very different from other large-scale exhibitions in the United Kingdom and Europe.

The process of selecting, deciding and bringing these unique objects in Cambridge was the result of a long collaboration with the researchers, curators and museum directors of Crete, Cyprus and Sardinia, a process that started in 2020. It was the expertise of our colleagues in the local museums of these three islands that supported us in forming the narratives of the exhibition. Many of these artefacts cannot be seen in international museum databases, and our collaborative teams spend a lot of time in the local museums and their storerooms, selecting the best objects for the exhibition's main storyline.

3. *Is there after all such a thing as a shared insular identity in the Mediterranean? What would its key traits be?*

Yes, we believe there is, even if not all aspects of insular identity are manifested in the same way in each island, throughout a long period. A sense of place, geography, natural environment, and the deep connection of the islanders with the sea, make them who they are; these are important traits of shared identity. Other important aspects of shared island identity are the enhanced creativity of the islanders, and their ability to adapt to rapidly changing conditions, the fact that they often create hybrid cultural identities with those arriving, colonising or appropriating their island and their important contribution as migrants or as receiving migrant groups.

4. *Common perception frequently associates island life and history with notions of "otherness" and "isolation". The phrase "No man is an island" is a case in point. However, your exhibition and the research project underpinning it suggest otherwise. Would you care to expand on that a bit?*

Yes, ultimately, the research project members and exhibition narrative, see identity as a form of social expression, one's sense of belonging to a group based on similarities and differences. Objects presented in this show reveal that 'being an islander' is a highly fluid state of being, whether consciously or not, both in the past and the present. Islanders regard all aspects of life as inseparable parts of who they are. Their identities are always in a state of becoming, a journey in which we never arrive. Cultural identity is a process, not product. This exhibition brought together 3,5 years of research, community engagement and active archaeological and anthropological practice in the Mediterranean islands. One must picture themselves in one of these islands, to better understand how these unique objects reveal self-perceptions, community identity and the islands' long histories.

Menelaos Karamaghiolis' films @ Serpentine Cinemas



The work of Greek pioneering and award-winning filmmaker Menelaos Karamaghiolis was presented at Serpentine Cinema, in collaboration with the French Institute in UK and Close-Up Film Centre. Life Cinematic, J.A.C.E, ROM & Shorts are the 4 films that the British – and not only – audience had the pleasure to enjoy on a 4 - day event (27 – 30/3).

Menelaos Karamaghiolis is producing feature films, documentaries, artist films, installations and radio-movies. His films have been screened worldwide and have won many awards internationally: Karamaghiolis' feature documentary ROM (1989) was called "a turning point for Greek documentary films" and "a masterpiece that must become a classic of the history of cinema." His fiction film BLACK OUT (1998) was hailed as "the first post-modern Greek film" while J.A.C.E. – Just Another Confused Elephant (2012)- was included in 52 international festivals and has received 11 awards.

<https://www.serpentinegalleries.org/whats-on-serpentine-cinema-menelaos-karamaghiolis/>

Stefanos Dimoulas: The first Greek artist to be included in a Forbes list

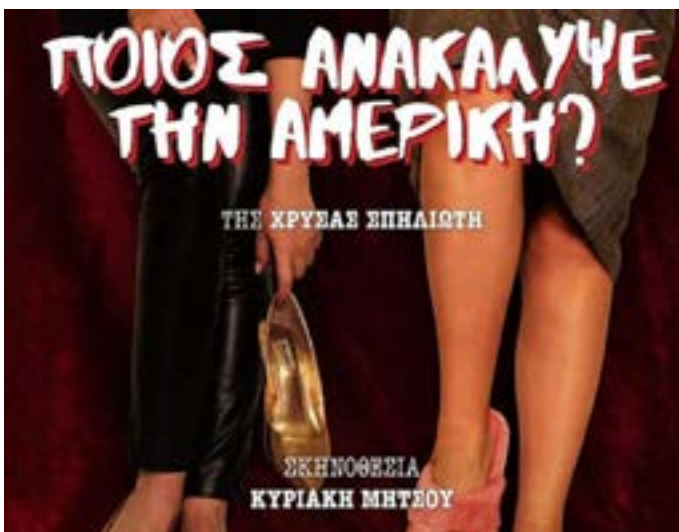


The international Greek ballet dancer and choreographer, Stefanos Dimoulas makes history by becoming the first and unique Greek artist worldwide to be included in a Forbes list, in the '30 Under 30 - Arts and Culture' category across Europe! Stefanos has graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland on a full scholarship with a bachelor's degree in Modern Ballet.

As a multidisciplinary dance creative, Stefanos Dimoulas, in his early years, has played the role of the composer Manos Hatzidakis in the documentary film "reflection in the Mirror" winning national prizes, such as the 'Best Quality' by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture & Sports. Stefanos has performed all around the world in renowned theatres such as the Royal Opera House, the Venetian Theatre Macao/Hong Kong and the Mastercard Theatres Singapore.

<https://www.forbes.com/profile/stefanos-dimoulas/?list=30under30-europe-art-culture/&sh=71f28a533a86>

Greek play 'Who discovered America' in London by 'Culture in Action'



Featuring powerful and captivating acting by Kyriaki Mitsou and Dimitra Bakalgianni in the two leading roles and supported by Annie Mumford's live atmospheric percussions, the show 'Who discovered America' was performed for 6 nights in London (on 16th-18th and 23st-25th of March). 'Who discovered America' is an immersive play by Chrysa Spiliotis which balances drama with comedy and narrates the intersecting lives and relationship of two women from the age of 8 years old to 88.

The show was directed by Kyriaki Mitsou, produced by Culture in Action, and held under the auspices of the Embassy of Greece in London.

Agenda

A constellation of conduits was channelled between us, and our distance became water, Robert Cervera and Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos

When: 25/03/2023 - 29/04/2023

Where: Danielle Arnaud Gallery

<http://www.daniellearnaud.com/exhibitions/exhibition-constellation-of-conduits.html>

Joshua Barley, "Greek Folk Songs: from oral tradition to literary translation" – British School at Athens

When: 06/04/2023, 6pm

Where: British School at Athens, Upper House (Director's Residence)

<https://www.bsa.ac.uk/events/joshua-barleygreek-folk-songs-from-oral-tradition-to-literary-translation/>

Christos Marantos: Tradition and Vision

When: 20/04/2023, 7pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/christos-marantos-tradition-and-vision/>

Supported by the Austrian Cultural Forum London and the Embassy of Greece in London.

Papyrus Fragments – Rediscovering the Lost Stories of Ancient Greece

When: 22/04/2023, 3pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/papyrus-fragments-rediscovering-the-lost-stories-of-ancient-greece/>

The Cypriot Peasant under British Rule

When: 27/04/2023, 7pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/the-cypriot-peasant-under-british-rule/>

Leeds International Film Festival & 5th edition of In Short Film Festival Europe

When: 21 - 22 April 2023

Where: Everyman Cinemas Leeds

Greece is participating in this year's Festival with the film «The Penguin's Flight» by Stella Serefoglou

<https://www.leedsfilm.com/whats-on/in-short-europe-grow/>

Prespa, a Crossroads Place: On the natural and human communities of the transboundary lakes region

When: 03/05/2023, 7pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://www.anglohellenicleague.org/cultural-events/>

The Monochords: Artists and Poets in Dialogue on Yannis Ritsos

When: 04/05/2023, 7pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/the-monochords-artists-and-poets-in-dialogue-on-yannis-ritsos/>

Chiara Ambrosio: Monochords

When: 05/05/2023- 28/07/2023

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/chiara-ambrosio-monochords/>

The Annual Niki Marangou Translation Prize- Call for Submissions

The award will be announced on 21 September 2023, at the fifth Niki Marangou Annual Memorial Lecture, co-organised with King's Centre for Hellenic Studies

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/centre-for-hellenic-studies>

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