



DET  
DANSKE  
INSTITUT  
I ATHEN

ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΤΗΣ ΔΑΝΙΑΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΑΘΗΝΑ  
THE DANISH INSTITUTE AT ATHENS



## NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2011

### DIA's autumn programme

This season we present a series of lectures on the topic *Europe and the Ottoman Empire*:



**\* Tuesday 18 October at 7 p.m.**

*The Staging of the Turk in European Theatre, illustrated by examples from the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.* Lecture in English by theatre historian *Bent Holm*, Associate Professor, Department of Arts and Cultural Studies, University of Copenhagen.

**\*Thursday 20 October at 7 p.m.**

*The Ottoman World and post-Imperial Networks in the Eastern Mediterranean reflected through the life of Bodosakis-Athanasiadis.* Lecture in English by Dr. *Mogens Pelt*, Associate Professor, Saxo Institute, University of Copenhagen.



**\* Wednesday 26 October at 7 p.m.**

*Coping with Smyrna through Generations.* Lecture in English by *Libby Tata Arcel*, clinical psychologist and Associate Professor Emerita, University of Copenhagen.

Nearly 1.5 million Greek refugees arrived in mainland Greece in 1922, expelled or ethnically exchanged under dramatic conditions from Ottoman Turkey, during a period which in Greek historiography is called the “Asia Minor Catastrophe”, forcefully symbolised through the image of the burning Smyrna. This historical catastrophe has left deep traces in the Greek collective memory, not only in the first generation of refugees but also in their descendants of second, third and fourth generation. The refugees created the identity of “Mikrasiates”, i.e. Greeks from Asia minor, an identity which is still represented in the autobiographical memory of descendants, comprising now approx. 3.5 million Greeks. Libby Tata Arcel, a Greek born psychologist and Associate Professor Emerita from the University of Copenhagen, presents through narratives from in-depth interviews of a family of three generations how elements of the “Mikrasiatiki ” identity is still constructed and kept alive in the third generation. (A Greek summary of the lecture will be available on location).

**\* Wednesday 2 November at 7 p.m.**

*Crusade and Public Communication in Europe from 1650 to 1700.* Lecture in English by historian, Ph.D. *Lars Bjørneboe*.

We are also happy to announce the following book launch:

**\*Wednesday 16 November at 7 p.m.**

Presentation of the book "LM IB pottery – relative chronology and regional differences", Monographs of the Danish Institute at Athens, Vol.11 1-2, edited by *Thomas M. Brogan* and *Erik Hallager*, Athens 2011. Introduction by the editors, followed by a lecture in English by Dr. *Salvatore Vitale*, Postdoctoral Researcher - Università della Calabria: *Minoanization and Local Traditions on Kos during the Late Bronze Age I Period: The Evidence from the "Serraglio" and Its Significance*.

New events are being planned, please check our website [www.diathens.com](http://www.diathens.com) for current updates.

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### **Kalydon, Aitolia, 2011**

In the summer of 2011 the Greek-Danish excavations at Kalydon entered a new phase, this time centered around the ancient theatre. The project is sponsored by the Carlsberg Foundation in Denmark and lead by the director of the Danish Institute, Rune Frederiksen, and the efor of the 36<sup>th</sup> eforia of Classical Antiquities in Mesolonghi, Olympia Vikatou. The Danish-Greek collaboration at Kalydon goes back to the 1920s, and was at that time concentrated on major sanctuaries of

the city. In the years 2001-7 it was a major project concentrated on the city itself with its various elements. The results of the work of this period have just issued as a rich two-volume book this October, and will be presented at a book-launch in the Danish National Museum in Copenhagen on 31 October. A book-launch at the Danish Institute is also in planning and will be announced separately. In the new project, the city and its monuments are still in focus, and during the next four years the theatre will be excavated and documented, and all the observations generated hereby published. The theatre of Kalydon has been known since 1963 when constructions for the highway between Nafpaktos and Agrinio exposed a series of steps on the south side of the hill of the sanctuary for Artemis Laphria, situated south of the city of Kalydon. Some soundings were made and it was decided to construct the road some 100 metres further south. A corner of seat-rows were left exposed, and the monument forgotten about until 2001, when the second period of Greek-Danish excavations mentioned above were initiated. The campaign in 2011 concentrated its excavation in four areas of the theatre, eighteen 5x5 m trenches were opened equivalent to 450 square metres. The campaign lasted for five weeks and the workforce comprised employees of the Greek Eforia, the Danish Institute, local workmen and students from five European universities.

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### **Elytis year 2011**

2011 has been declared 'Elytis Year' by the Greek Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Greek Nobel prize winner, poet Odysseus Elytis (2 November 1911 – 18 March 1996), and in this connections, several cultural institutions in Greece celebrates the poet with various events.

*The B & M Theocharakis Foundation* (Vas. Sophias 9 & Merlin. Tel: 2103611206. [www.thf.gr](http://www.thf.gr)) hosts the exhibition *Odysseus Elytis: Poetry and Paintings*.

This is the first time that Elytis' entire art collection is shown. It comprises imaginative collages, temperas and watercolours. The exhibition also contains works both by artists he admired, and artists for whose work he wrote texts, e.g. Picasso, Theofilos, Tsarouchis, Matisse and Fassianos. The exhibition is also accompanied by manuscripts and editions belonging to the poet's private collection, along with published and unpublished photographs. The exhibition opened on 22 September and will be on display until 27 November. Opening hours: Mon-Wed, Sun.: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Thurs- Fri: 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., Sat: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*The Athens Concert Hall* (Megaron Mousikis, Vas. Sophias & Kokkali Str., tel: 210 7282333) organises an international conference and two nights of poetry and music as a tribute to the poet. The conference *Odysseas Elytis: The 20<sup>th</sup> century in the poetry of Elytis. The poetry of Elytis in the 21<sup>st</sup> century* will be held on 31 October and 1 November, exploring new approaches in the interpretation of his work. On the anniversary of the poet's birth on 2 November, and on 3 November, there will be nights of poetry reading set to music composed by Georgios Kouroupos. For more information, please visit the website [www.megaron.gr](http://www.megaron.gr).

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## Karen Blixen tribute: *The open garden*



The Danish artist, Annette Holdensen, pays tribute to Karen Blixen and the idea of her as “a travelling bird” with the exhibition *The open garden*. Annette Holdensen has placed bird tables on four international and significant destinations visited by Karen Blixen.

With the feeding gesture incorporated in the idea of democracy, one of the exhibition’s bird tables (photo) has been placed in the lowered square of the Agia Aikaterini church in Athens, the past and the cradle of democracy, which Blixen visited in 1951. In its stylistic simplicity, most of all an icon, the idea of this bird table is rooted in the many chapels along the roads in Greece, where oil, honey and wax candles are placed in memory of those, who died in traffic.

To feed as a collective sacrifice and remembrance becomes - in Annette

Holdensen's version - a story about meditation and mental life. It is also the stand of these Greek chapels that are used as common take off for the rest of the exhibition's bird tables.

The bird tables are placed at the Karen Blixen Museum in Denmark, the Karen Blixen Museum in Kenya, La Plaza Cultural in New York and in the square of the Agia Aikaterini Church in Athens, outside the Danish Institute. The exhibition lasts from October 2011 to March 2012 and is curated by Danish Art historian Johan Zimsen. More information on:

[http://blixen.dk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=66&Itemid=75&lang=da](http://blixen.dk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=66&Itemid=75&lang=da).

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## Cultural calendar and announcements



*The Benaki Museum* (Pireos 138, tel: 210 3453111, [www.benaki.gr](http://www.benaki.gr)) hosts several exhibitions this autumn. One of them is the first Greek solo exhibition of British artist Damien Hirst entitled *New Religion*. The exhibition presents silkscreen prints, sculptures, installations and paintings and constitutes a characteristic example of the artistic practice of the most famous exponent of the Young British Artist movement, that dominated the art scene - British and global - in the 1990s. Open from 21 September

to 27 November. Opening hours: Wed., Thurs., Sun.: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Fri-Sat.: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Works by Damien Hirst can also be seen in Denmark, where the Danish museum of contemporary art, ARKEN since 21 September through a donation has housed eight of his paintings, making it one of Europe's most important collections of the world famous Briton. The collection includes the world's largest 'Spot Painting', which is 14 metres long. This and the seven other paintings can be seen in the *Damien Hirst Hall* at ARKEN ([www.arken.dk](http://www.arken.dk)).



*The National Museum of Contemporary Art* participates in a series of artistic events organised by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Tourism in collaboration with the Municipality of Athens. Important works from its collections, ephemeral actions and new productions in public spaces in Athens, such as parks and streets, are presented from 8 September until 15 November 2011. Installations, audiovisual and sound works by contemporary artists from Greece and abroad will consecutively be presented. For events, programme and further details, please visit: [www.emst.gr](http://www.emst.gr) or call: 210 9242111.



*ReMap* is an international contemporary art platform open and free to the public, which is held bi-annually in the area of Kerameikos-Metaxourgeio in Athens, in tandem with the Athens Biennale. It is organized by ReMapKM, a not-for-profit organization, with the goal of creating an alternative platform for the production and experiencing of contemporary art within the urban context, to present an interactive environment within

a cultural framework and to enhance Athens’s positioning in the international contemporary art scene. ReMap3 hosts over 250 artists, art historians and curators both from Greece and around the world, who will be presented at more than 50 exhibitions and projects within the 30 independent and the 25 gallery. ReMap3 exhibitions and projects are temporarily housed in unutilized spaces throughout the area. Danish artist, *Augusta Alta*, participates in the exhibition *Placements – Replacements – Misplacements – towards a new remapping* at AD Gallery, Thermopylon 27. Check for programme

and further information on exhibitions and projects at the ReMap3 website: [www.remapkm.org](http://www.remapkm.org). The project runs from 12 September through 30 October 2011.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Athens Biennale takes place on 22 October to 11 December.

Partly supported by the Danish Institute, two Danish artists are scheduled to participate in this year's Biennale; Jens Haaning (b.1965) and Jakob Kolding (b.1971).

The work of Jens Haaning focuses on the analysis of the structure of today's modern society and how the dynamics of the various forms of power manifest and express themselves within that same structure. Some of the key themes of his artistic pursuit are immigration, categorisation, racism, intercultural dialogue and the exchange between global capitalism and local economy.

One of the central themes in Jakob Kolding's work is space, and more specifically urban space. His technique of mixing collage, drawing and typography is used to address questions in today's (youth) culture in architecture, urban planning, and the sociopolitical frames underneath them. His work has been compared to both early 20<sup>th</sup>-century vanguard artists like the Russian constructivists and hip-hop street culture, and it touches on both. Further information on the Biennale: [www.athensbiennial.org](http://www.athensbiennial.org)



The Byzantine and Christian Museum (Vas. Sofias 22, tel: 2107211027, [www.byzantinemuseum.gr](http://www.byzantinemuseum.gr)) hosts the exhibition *Within/Beyond Borders. The Collection of the European Bank of Investment*, among others featuring Danish artist *Per Kirkeby*.

The exhibition theme treats the evolution of European art during the past fifty years, through the presentation of selected artworks from the collection that reflects the diversity of the European artistic production.

The works are presented for the first time outside the Bank's headquarters in Luxemburg. 37 widely recognised artists or emblematic figures of contemporary art participate, such as Callum Innes, Pedro Cabrita Reis, Francois Morellet, Anish Kapoor, Jan Fabre, Louise Bourgeois, and Per Kirkeby. The exhibition runs until 30 October. Opening hours; Mon. 1.30-8 p.m., Tues – Sat: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., Sun: 8.30 a.m.- 3 p.m.



*The Met: Live in HD in Greece.*

The Metropolitan Opera (NY), now in its 128<sup>th</sup> season, hosts the most creative and talented artists, including singers, conductors, composers, orchestra musicians, stage directors, designers, visual artists, choreographers, and dancers from around the world. Known as the venue for the world's greatest voices, the Met has been under the musical direction of James Levine since 1976. Maestro Levine is credited with having created one of opera's finest orchestras and choruses.

A collaboration between The Met and the Greek broadcasting service, Antenna, means that the performances will be transmitted in Greece this autumn at seven different venues throughout the country. The series of performance transmissions shown live in high definition at venues around the

world was launched in 2006, and has now reached Greece. The 2011–12 season reaches more than 1,600 venues in 53 countries. Further information on venues, tickets, etc.: [www.metingreece.com](http://www.metingreece.com)



On 9 November at 8.30 p.m., the *Athens Concert Hall* (Megaron Mousikis) hosts a concert with the Greek singer *Maria Farandouri*, and American saxophonist, *Charles Lloyd*. The concert offers a remarkable and original combination of Greek traditional music and jazz. They will be accompanied by three distinguished American musicians from the younger generation (Jason Moran, Reuben R. Rogers and Eric Harland), complementing the famous Charles Lloyd New Quartet, as well as two Greeks – pianist and composer Takis Farazis and Socrates Sinopoulos (byzantine lyra), and will perform works by Charles Lloyd, Mikis Theodorakis, Eleni Karaindrou, Nikos Kypourgos, and others.

Tickets at: [www.megaron.gr](http://www.megaron.gr), Vas. Sofias & Kokkali Str., tel: 210 7282333.