

PROGRAMME FOR THE 44TH DEMETRIA FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER

6 / VISUAL ARTS / Tellogleio Foundation / Exhibition of paintings: *Miró of Mallorca* / Until 5/2/2010 / Organized under the aegis of the Presidency of the Greek Democracy and the Spanish Embassy in Athens, in association with the AUTH and the Thessaloniki International Fair SA **The exhibition *Miró of Mallorca*, organized in association with the Tellogleio Foundation and the Pilar i Joan Miró Foundation of Mallorca, will present one of the largest collections of works by the artist ever seen in Greece – more than four hundred works of art and other items covering every facet of his career, including paintings, sculptures, engravings, drawings, sketches for sculptures or public works of art, for “sobreteixisms”, ballet designs, music, material for Jarry’s *Ubu Roi*, etc.**

6 / THEATRE / Forest Theatre / *The Persians*, by Aeschylus, a National Theatre production directed by Dimiter Gotscheff, with Amalia Moutousi, Minas Hatzisavvas, Nikos Kouris, Nikos Karathanos, Stefania Goulioti, etc.

***The Persians* is one of the greatest works in the tragic canon, presented here by the National Theatre in a production directed by the internationally renowned Dimiter Gotscheff. It is a tragedy that confronts us with real events and one of the most important denunciations of war in all of world literature.**

6 / DANCE / Garden Theatre / Traditional dances and songs of the Indians of North America, presented by the Native Nations Dance Theatre / In association with the US Embassy in Athens and the US Consulate General in Thessaloniki

One of America’s top dance companies will be appearing at this year’s festival to share with us the mysteries of the Indian tribes, the indigenous people of the North American continent. The show is a breathtaking spectacle, choreographed by professional dancers of Indian descent.

7 / MUSIC / José Carreras in Concert – with the State Orchestra of Thessaloniki, conducted by David Jimenez

José Carreras, one of the greatest singers of our time, who has stirred millions of music-lovers across the world with his performances, is now to visit Thessaloniki for one unique concert, at the invitation of the Panhellenic Women's Sports Association 'Kallipateira'.

8 / VISUAL ARTS / Casa Bianca / Exhibition of sculpture by Efthymios Kalevras / Until 22-9-2009

Kalevras is one of the artists whose work is most likely to be recognized by the people of Thessaloniki, for the simple reason that he is the creator of some of the best-known statues and busts which the city's people pass on their business every day. He is responsible for the statue of Theodoros Kolokotronis at the YMCA Square, and the Monument to the Pontian Priest and Teacher on Aghias Sofias Square, where every year a wreath is laid on the day commemorating the genocide of the Greeks of the Pontus region.

9 / MULTI-MEDIA SPECTACLE / Nea Paralia Park – White Tower Square / Street Bands – Opening Ceremony / Street comedy featuring dreams, deceptions and misunderstandings (acrobatics, juggling, fireworks, parades, commedia dell'arte) by Helix Street Theatre, music bands, street events, street art, graffiti etc.

For the first time this year the Demetria will be reaching out to embrace the whole city and all its people – in a magnificent festival lasting two whole months! With festival events happening among us and all around us: performers on stilts, live statues, concerts, graffiti, street events, a unique performance in Aristotelous Square by the HELIX street theatre, and with fireworks all along the seafront, from the White Tower to the Concert Hall. All heralding the commencement of the 44th Demetria!

9 / VISUAL ARTS / Municipal Gallery / Exhibition of paintings by Sarantis Karavouzis / Until 30-9-2009

Karavouzis was born in Athens in 1938 and studied at the School of Fine Arts. In his work he deploys symbols and allegories to open up a dialogue between past and present, the universality of the human presence and the desire to escape, what remains of a man's passage through life, the changes brought by time – all based on the questions he poses and on which his works cast their light.

10 / MUSIC / Concert Hall / Inaugural concert *200 years since the birth of Mendelssohn*, with the City of Thessaloniki Symphony Orchestra

conducted by Haris Iliadis and featuring soloists Dimitris Sgouros and Giorgos Lazaridis.

Conducted by Haris Iliadis and accompanied by soloists Dimitris Sgouros and Giorgos Lazaridis, the City of Thessaloniki Symphony Orchestra will perform works by the German composer F.

Mendelssohn-Bartholdy in a concert marking the two hundredth anniversary of his birth. The second part of the concert will feature works by the great Austrian composer W. A. Mozart (1756-1791).

10 / MULTI-MEDIA SPECTACLE / “City Itineraries”, in association with several of the city’s cultural groups and societies, featuring celebratory events in open spaces around the city / Organized by Society of Friends of the Demetria

On the 10th of September, the Friends of the Demetria will spread out across the city to create five cultural itineraries – at the new waterfront, the historic centre, the forum, the port and in museums and galleries. Musical groups, artistic actions and happenings will all contribute to a spectacular cultural celebration. A map will be provided to guide spectators to the various events, and the combinations they choose to visit will be their own choice entirely. Come dressed for a good walk and in good humour, ready to enjoy a tour of the city that will last all evening.

11 / DANCE / Forest Theatre / Carmen, with the Aida Gomez dance company

The amazing Flamenco production of Carmen staged by the famous Spanish director Carlos Saura, featuring the Aida Gomez company directed by Emilio Sagi. The production was first seen at the 10th International Festival, Jerez, Spain, and then made a highly successful tour of Japan, Taiwan, Spain, Europe, Mexico and America.

11 / VISUAL ARTS / Warehouse B1, Port of Thessaloniki / *Personal – Political*: an exhibition of work by contemporary Greek artists, part of the programme of the 2nd Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art, ‘Praxis’ / Until 23 October / In association with the State Museum of Contemporary Art and the Contemporary Art Centre

The exhibition focuses on the way in which works of art bring out the political dimensions and consequences of all our personal choices.

The way in which the micro-historical perspective encounters and coincides with the macro-historical.

12 / DANCE / Garden Theatre / Dance performance from India, with the famous dancer Uma Sharma and her seven-member troupe / In association with the Indian Honorary Consulate in Thessaloniki and HELEXPO

A performance of classical Indian dance featuring four dancers, three musicians and the leading figure in classical Indian dance, Uma Sharma, participating as ‘guru’ choreographer. The dances featured are from the Kathak school, one of the seven styles of classical dance in India, a kind of theatrical dance without words.

13 / VISUAL ARTS / Yeni Tzami / Exhibition of paintings by Maria Kyprianou / Until 21-9-2009 / In association with the Consulate General of the Republic of Cyprus in Thessaloniki

Maria Kyprianou is of Cypriot descent and a graduate of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Athens School of Fine Arts. She has represented Greece with paintings and sculptures at important international events and her work has been awarded enviable distinctions. She approaches everyday life through archetypal references, explorations of the subconscious, associations and allegories.

14 / MUSIC / Forest Theatre / *Un ano de amor*: The great Spanish diva Luz Casal, inspiration to Pedro Almodóvar, performs songs of love, life and death.

The muse of Pedro Almodóvar steps into her high heels and sings of love and life in a musical journey through the world of the emotions! A voice that can have audiences weeping and couples embracing at one moment, when she sings one of her ballads, or dancing in the aisles to one of her rock performances.

15 / VISUAL ARTS / Vafopouleio Cultural Centre / *Prosopodramata*: exhibition of paintings by Christos Alaveras / Until 15-10-2009

The exhibition title [Personal dramas] hints at the artist’s preference for large compositions, with multiple figures, drawn in charcoal, in which an amalgam of expressive forms is used to depict the psychological characters and states that are concealed behind the gaze of the figures represented.

18-19 / MUSIC / Vilka / Reworks Festival of music and contemporary art
Celebrating its fifth anniversary this year, northern Greece's first comprehensive audiovisual festival of music and contemporary art promises a programme combining the best of music and contemporary art. Highlighting the close links between the two remains the main objective of the festival. More than 60 artists and musical groups will be featured this year, in events staged at five different venues over a period of 48 hours.

18 / MULTIMEDIA SPECTACLE / White Tower / Special screening on the White Tower of images from the photographic archives of the Dalí and Miró Foundations / In association with the Tellogleio Arts Foundation of the Aristotle University, the Federico Garcia Lorca Helleno-Hispanic Cultural Centre, the Dalí and Miró Foundations
Two artists. One encounter. The city night illuminated – and the White Tower transformed into a symbol, a screen on which the city will see projected black-and-white photographs of Dali engrossed in his books, and the famous multi-colored works of Miró. For just one evening, the White Tower will be transformed to allow the encounter of two great artists, two of Spain's most valuable contributions to world culture.

20 / MUSIC / Vasiliko Theatre / Julia Migenes sings Schubert
One of the world's leading opera singers, who has also had a successful career in musicals, Julia Migenes, will introduce her audience to the world of one of the greatest classical composers, Franz Schubert. Grammy-winning Migenes gave a historic performance in Francesco Rossi's Carmen, has performed with Placido Domingo and Ruggero Raimondi and was an inspiration to Leonard Bernstein.

21 / VISUAL ARTS / Thessaloniki Cultural Centre (Toumba) / Modern Greek sculpture: from the 19th to the 20th century / In association with the National Gallery
The exhibition, organized for the Demetria Festival in association with the National Gallery of Sculpture, will feature the movements, their representatives and the individual artists who have changed the course of modern Greek sculpture. There will be works by the great Greek sculptors from the reign of Othon and the Bavarian period to the present day.

23-27 / THEATRE / Radio City Cinema / *Eight women*, by Robert Thomas, directed by Nikos Karathanos, with Aimilios Heilakis, Christos Loulis, Argyris Xafis, Christos Sterioglou, etc.

A bitter comedy, with elements of the thriller, police procedural and musical, adapted for the screen in 2002 by François Ozon, in a movie featuring eight impressive leading characters including Catherine Deneuve, Fanny Ardant, Isabelle Huppert and Emmanuelle Beart. In this production, Nikos Karathanos returns the work to the stage, with an unexpected innovation – enlisting the services of eight well-known and respected actresses to play the parts of the *Eight Women*.

24 / MUSIC / Goethe Institute / A concert honoring the life and work of Mikis Theodorakis, with music by the Trio Quijote from Kemnitz and readings from the biography of the Greek composer by the author Hans-Georg Herman / In association with the Goethe Institute

The German arts journalist and author Hans-Georg Herman reads extracts from the German biography of the composer Mikis Theodorakis titled *The rhythm of freedom*, published in June 2008. Accompanied by music from the Quijote Trio from Kemnitz in the former East Germany, known as Karl-Marx-Stadt before the reunification. The Trio has specialized in performing songs and oratorios by Theodorakis.

25 / ETHNO-JAZZ FESTIVAL / Aigli / Villu Veski and Tiit Kalluste on saxophone and accordion perform ethno-jazz compositions and improvisations / In association with the Estonian Embassy in Athens
Is there folk music in northern Europe? Are there island songs in the North Sea? The answer is definitely yes – and the evidence is supplied on the saxophone and accordion by two musicians who remind us that all the peoples of the world have their own traditions, combining local sounds with the music of global jazz. Veski and Kalluste invite us on a musical journey to discover the sounds of the folk traditions of Estonia.

26, 27-09 – 3,4-10 / CINEMA / Alexandros Cinema / Thessort Film Festival

The enormous significance of short films is now being recognized as never before. And this significance does not lie only in the fact that all the great directors have started their careers making short films – the fact is that many leading figures in the film world now accept that some of the most creative work being done in the cinema is to be found in these shorts. And the new technologies of the digital camera

and even the mobile phone are now allowing any talented young filmmaker to create important work.

26 / VISUAL ARTS / History Centre / *The paintings of Yannis Ritsos* – from the collection of the Benaki Museum / Until 23-10-2009

A tribute to the artist Yannis Ritsos (1909-1990) to mark the hundredth anniversary of his birth. Better known as a poet, author of innumerable collections of poems, prose works, plays and translations, Ritsos was also an enthusiastic painter. He saw painting as an alternative form of poetry, and in his artistic creation we see reflected all the preoccupations characteristic of his literary work.

27 / MUSIC / Concert Hall / *Romaiki Agora*, with the City of Thessaloniki Symphony Orchestra conducted by Miltos Loyiadis, with Savvina Yiannatou and Vasilis Yisdakis

The Director of the Orchestra of Colours, the Orchestra of Manos Hatzidakis, Miltos Loyiadis, is collaborating with the City of Thessaloniki Symphony Orchestra to present one of the most popular works by the great Greek composer: *Romaiki Agora*. Thirty-five songs composed by Hatzidakis between 1947 and 1985, first performed together during a unique concert held at the Roman Forum in Athens.

28 / MUSIC / Vellideio Conference Centre / A concert celebrating the 20th anniversary of the founding of the City of Thessaloniki Traditional Music Ensemble (1989-2009), with Glykeria, D. Basis, A. Ketime, Petros-Loukas Halkias, Stathis Koukoularis, Karyofillis Doitsidis with his daughters Theopoula and Andriana, Savvas Siatras and Thanasis Serkos, with the Goumenissa Brass Ensemble.

The City of Thessaloniki Traditional Music Ensemble celebrates its twentieth anniversary this year and the date will be marked by this concert featuring Glykeria, Dimitris Basis, Areti Ketime, Petros-Loukas Halkias, Stathis Koukoularis, Karyofillis Doitsidis with his daughters Theopoula and Andriana, Savvas Siatras and Thanasis Serkos, with the Goumenissa Brass Ensemble, and most of the 45 former members of the Ensemble, conducted by Paris Gounas.

29-20/ DANCE / Concert Hall / Elisa Monte Dance – a contemporary dance troupe from the USA / With the support of the US Consulate General in Thessaloniki

The Elisa Monte Dance troupe offers its audience an evening of dance in which bold innovation, powerful emotions and sensuality are combined with the athletic skills of the classical ballet. Founded

more than 25 years ago, the troupe will be visiting Thessaloniki for one performance only, in which dancers from all over the United States will offer an impressive display of skills and talent.

30 / VISUAL ARTS / Yeni Tzami / Exhibition of photographs by Georgios Strangas / Until 20-10-2009

A graduate of the State Conservatoire and retired military musician, Strangas is also a professor of music and self-taught painter with many years of experience. His works are created by placing natural materials on a canvas surface worked with oil and spatula.

30 / VISUAL ARTS / Casa Bianca / *Dalibros*: an exhibition of photographs and printed material from the Dalí Foundation and the Cervantes Institute, featuring the first exhibition of material from the Spiteris Archive by the Tellogleio Foundation / Until 18-10-2009 / In association with the Spanish Embassy in Athens, the Tellogleio Arts Foundation of the Aristotle University, the Federico García Lorca Helleno-Hispanic Cultural Centre of Thessaloniki, the Cervantes Institute and the Dalí and Miró Foundations and the Protography Museum of Thessaloniki

The idea for this exhibition was first raised in 2004, the centenary of the birth of Salvador Dali. The organizers aim to show a less well-known side of the artist's work, as a writer, and to highlight his relationship with the written word as source of inspiration and knowledge, as reference point, and as object.

OCTOBER

1-3 / DANCE / Theatre of the Society for Macedonian Studies / Berioshka Folk Ballet of Moscow

Over the fifty-seven years since the company was founded, they have been performing to rapturous applause, appearing in more than eighty countries on all five continents and delighting millions of spectators. This will not be their first appearance in Greece, but their performance is sure to be as thrilling as on every other occasion they perform.

2-4 / SPOKEN WORD / Central Municipal Library / A series of lectures on the Herschel/SPIRE programme / In association with the Astrophysics Department of Imperial College, London and the Friends of Astronomy Society

Following on last year's successful event titled From the Antikythera Mechanism to Herschel and Planck, the Astrophysics Department of

Imperial College is organizing three day's of events to mark the successful launch of the Herschel telescope and its first results. The events will be organized in collaboration with the Herschel Equipment Control Centre, NASA, the British Council, Thessaloniki City Council, the Aristotle University and the Friends of Astronomy Society.

2 / MUSIC / Concert Hall / Concert by the Thessaloniki State Orchestra, conducted by Myron Mihailidis, featuring the internationally renowned pianist Ivo Pogorelich.

The State Orchestra of Thessaloniki, one of Greece's two top orchestras, will be accompanying the celebrated pianist Ivo Pogorelich in Piano Concerto No. 2 in D minor, opus 19, and Symphony No. 3 in A minor, opus 44, by Rachmaninov. The orchestra will be conducted by Myron Mihailidis.

3/ CHORAL MUSIC / Rotonda / The Optyna Pustyn male choir from St. Petersburg / In association with the St. Petersburg Committee for Foreign Relations

The Optyna Pustyn male choir was founded in 1996 by Alexander Semionov, its mission to revive the lost traditions of monastic chanting.

3 / VISUAL ARTS / Photography Museum / Retrospective exhibition of photographs by Philip Tsiaras / Until 13 November

This first retrospective of the work of Philip Tsiaras will feature more than 100 selected photographs from series created between 1977 and the present day – *Flat Iron, Motion, Body Works, Family Album* and *Architecture* – and which offer a representative sample of his full creative range.

4 / VISUAL ARTS / City Gallery / Exhibition of paintings by Haris Lambert / Until 31-10-2009 / In association with the department of the Municipal Gallery

Haris Lambert, one of the main exponents of pop art, will be presenting some of his work at this year's Demetria. In his 'new pop art' work the artist conveys the cheerful affluence and unfailing predictability of modern daily life. In the 'spiritual pop' series he enriches that daily life with more spiritual objectives, while in his 'new renaissance' work he seeks to enlarge our horizons, re-establishing life values on the basis of a new humanism.

4 / CHAMBER MUSIC / University of Macedonia / The Aimilios Riadis Quartet and soloist Alain Meunier perform works by Beethoven and Schubert.

The Aimilios Riadis Quartet was formed in 2005 by four young musicians from Thessaloniki. They have performed in many parts of Greece and collaborated with a number of eminent Greek and foreign musicians. Their repertoire embraces works from the pre-classical period up to the 20th century. At this Demetria concert they, and soloist Alain Meunier, will be performing works by Beethoven and Schubert.

5 / CHAMBER MUSIC / Foyer of the Concert Hall / Simos Papanas (violin), Angelos Liakakis (cello) and Nikos Athinaios (piano)

Three well-established musicians, each from a different generation, come together to perform works by the French composer Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921) and by Franz Schubert (1797-1828).

6 / ETHNO-JAZZ FESTIVAL / Concert Hall / Internationally renowned saxophonist Charles Lloyd and his trio

‘If I could tell you what I would like to be / it would be the tail of a cloud in the sky / Or a pure rain falling / washing away all your grief and tears’. The father of global music, saxophonist Charles Lloyd from Memphis, USA, returns for a second visit to Greece, following his appearance at the Lykavittos Theatre in 2002, to share more of his music with Greek audiences.

7 / MULTIMEDIA SPECTACLE / Tellogleio Foundation and Aristotelous Square / Daimonia: an autumn tradition brought to Thessaloniki from Majorca, featuring goblins, torch-lit street processions and other traditional customs / In association with the Tellogleio Foundation, the Municipality of Palma di Mallorca, the CBE, the Europe Direct Mallorca, the Federico García Lorca Helleno-Hispanic Cultural Centre of Thessaloniki and the IDI

An autumn custom from Mallorca – in which imps and goblins roam the streets by torchlight, performing all sorts of rituals. A folk tradition with its roots in ancient times, revived in Aristotelous Square and bringing exotic excitement to the city’s nightlife!

7 / CHORAL MUSIC / Ceremonial Hall, Aristotle University / The Ioannis Damaskinos Orthodox Byzantine Choir

A performance of choral music featuring leading voices from the main churches of the city and its three Metropolitan Cathedrals:

Thessaloniki, Neapolis and Stavroupolis, and Nea Krini and Kalamaria.

The choir will be led by the Principal Coach of the Choir of the Great Church of Christ and leading voice in the choir of the Church of the Nativity and Transfiguration of the Saviour, Paschalis Manos.

7-8 / DANCE / Theatre of the Society of Macedonian Studies / Performance of the theatre and dance production Medea, with dances choreographed by Lydia Papalexioiu of Greece to music by Ole-Henrik Moe of Norway. With the support of the Norwegian Foreign Ministry, the Fond for Lyd og Bilde, the Norwegian Cultural Council, and organized under the aegis of the Norwegian Embassy in Athens.

A Greek choreographer and Norwegian composer collaborate in this revival of the legend of Medea, as it has come down to us from the great tragedian Euripides. Olga Papalexioiu and Ole-Henrik Moe follow the traces of Medea from the Black Sea in the North to Corinth in the South. Visual and musical elements of ancient Greece are blended with the contemporary language of music and dance.

O08 / VISUAL ARTS / Central Municipal Library / Exhibition: Markos Kambanis: Mt. Athos (paintings, drawings, engravings) / In association with the Athonite Centre / Until 20 November

An exhibition of works by the religious artist Markos Kambanis, whose activities include frescoes in Athonite monasteries, the editing of publications, the production of paintings, drawings and engravings of landscapes of Mt. Athos, models and illustrations for books, photographic reproductions of frescoes, religious paintings and other projects for the Athonite Centre.

8 / CHORAL MUSIC / Ceremonial Hall, Aristotle University / Magisters of Macedonia Academic Music Society of the Thessaloniki Ecclesiastical School

The choir was formed in 1990 to safeguard and promote the musical heritage of the Orthodox Church. It has given more than 170 concerts, delighting both audiences and critics.

9-10 / THEATRE / Vasiliko Theatre / Edward III, a production by the National Theatre of Bucharest, directed by Alexandru Tocilescu / In association with the State Theatre of Northern Greece

One of the oldest cultural institutions in Romania, the National Theatre of Bucharest, home to some of the best-known actors in Romania, will be visiting Thessaloniki and the Demetria Festival to

present a Shakespearean production, *Edward III*, a reminder of the significance and value of the sworn oath.

10-11 / MUSIC / Concert Hall / Rendez-vous with Nino Rota, with the 'ultimate performer of Rota' Mauro Gioia and two great singers, the divas Catherine Ringer and Martirio

A musical tribute to the Oscar-winning film composer. Eminent performers, an amazing orchestra, a distinguished actor and vocalist, the 'ultimate performer of Rota', Mauro Gioia, and two great singers, the divas Catherine Ringer and Martirio, introduce us to the unrivalled musical genius of Nino Rota and the tunes and melodies we have all come to love.

11 / CHAMBER MUSIC / Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art / Recital marking the 100th anniversary of the death of Isaac Albeniz, with guitarist Ricardo Gallen Garcia / In association with the Federico García Lorca Helleno-Hispanic Cultural Centre of Thessaloniki

The famous Spanish guitarist Ricardo Jesus Gallen Garcia gives a recital of music by Isaac Manuel Francisco Albeniz. The concert marks the centenary of the death of a true artist, a musician who composed classical pieces inspired by the great traditions of Spanish folk music.

12 / CHAMBER MUSIC / University of Macedonia / Cello and harpsichord recital with Yiannis Tsitselikis and Katerina Ktona

One of the great figures of the baroque period, Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) enjoyed his heyday in 18th century Venice. His best-known work the *Four Seasons* was as popular in his lifetime as it is with audiences today, but he also composed many other works in almost all the musical genres (operas, sonatas, concerti).

13 / VISUAL ARTS / Foyer of the Concert Hall / Group exhibition of work by painters, sculptors and photographers showing at 12 art galleries in the city, on the general theme 'Art in a Leap for Life – pARTicipate' / Until 20-10-2009 / In association with the School of Fine Arts, Aristotle University

This exhibition brings together the city's main art galleries in a spirit of social responsibility. By reducing the sale price of works of art and handing over part of the proceeds to support the activities of the Leap for Life organization, the galleries are making an important contribution to vital community issues.

14 / MUSIC / Ceremonial Hall, Aristotle University / Concert by Maria Del Mar Bonet of Majorca, featuring songs of the Mediterranean / In association with the Tellogleio Foundation, the Ramon Llull Institute, the Municipality of Palma Mallorca, the Federico García Lorca Helleno-Hispanic Cultural Centre of Thessaloniki and the IDI

A musical production titled «Amic, Amat» featuring Maria del Mar Bonet. Performing with the Jaume Compte Nafas Ensemble, she will delight her audience with the erotic mysticism of the poetry and music of the Arab world, particularly the sensual sounds of the Syrian *moaxajas*, which have proved an inspiration to the singer from the Balearic Isles.

14 / CHAMBER MUSIC / University of Macedonia / Concert by the six-member Cadence Ensemble from Armenia / In association with the Armenian Cultural Society Hamaskain and the support of the Armenian Community of Thessaloniki

The Cadence Ensemble was founded in February 2004 by five well-established Armenian musicians under the direction of the internationally renowned pianist Armen Babakhanian. Originally the group focused on performances of works by the Argentine composer Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992). The programme to be presented as part of the 44th Demetria will feature works by Piazzolla, Komitas, Sayat Nova, Aram Khachaturian, Gershwin and Gardel.

15-10 to 11-1 / THEATRE / Melina Mercouri Municipal Theatre of Kalamaria / *Miss Margarita*, with Olia Lazaridou

***Miss Margarita*, by Roberto Athayde, directed by Angela Brouskou and starring Olia Lazaridou, is a production by Antonis Antypas' Aplo Theatro group which was staged to great critical and popular acclaim in Athens. The work is an allegory depicting the nature of power and the relationship between the wielders and victims of authority.**

15 / SPOKEN WORD / Central Municipal Library / Tribute to Kostis Palamas on the 150th anniversary of his birth / In association with the National Book Centre

Speakers will include Venetia Apostolidou, Asst. Professor in the Pedagogical Dept. of the Aristotle University, and H. D. Gounelas, Asst. Professor in the Philology Dept. of the same university. The evening will also feature a performance by the music and theatre ensemble Sourliboom. There will be screenings of audiovisual material from the ET 1 archives and an exhibition on the life and

work of the poet organized by the Greek Book Centre. Admission free.

16-18 / THEATRE / Aneton Theatre / *The gospel according to Cassandra*, with Chrysa Kapsouli

The renowned actress Chrysa Kapsouli directs her own performance in this profoundly human and psychological monologue, written by Dimitris Dimitriadis. Through the lessons learned from her life and the choices she has made, Cassandra, a woman of Asia Minor, proclaims the importance of passion – both given and received – in all our lives.

16 / MUSIC / Ceremonial Hall, Aristotle University / A musical tribute to Yannis Ritsos to mark the 100th anniversary of his birth, With Christos Leontis conducting a seven-member orchestra and the Thessaloniki Mixed Choir, coached by Mary Konstantinidou. Songs performed by Miltos Paschalidis, Pantelis Theoharidis and Sofia Papazoglou. Readings by the actress Urania Basli.

To mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Yannis Ritsos, Christos Leontis has created a production featuring well-known and much-loved settings of poems, as well as six new songs from the poet's *Morning Star*. Songs will be performed by Miltos Paschalidis, Pantelis Theoharidis and Sofia Papazoglou and the narrative interludes spoken by the actress Urania Basli.

16-18 / SPOKEN WORD / Central amphitheatre at the Thessaloniki Ecclesiastical Academy / Academic symposium *Christian Macedonia* on the topic: 'Thessaloniki – Ancient Sardiki, modern Sofia' / In association with the Karipeion Foundation for National and Religious Issues

The regular annual symposium *Christian Macedonia* will this year feature 20 lectures at the central amphitheatre of the Thessaloniki Ecclesiastical Academy, and exhibitions at the Karipeion Foundation premises. The following areas will be covered: A) History – International Relations; B) Ecclesiastical History – Inter-Orthodox Relations; C) Spiritual Life – Monasticism – Publishing Activity; D) Issues of education and society. The symposium will be followed by a four-day visit to Sofia and the Black Sea region of Bulgaria.

16-17 / SPOKEN WORD / History Centre / Educational Conference on the subject: 'Portraits of educators and benefactors of schools in Thessaloniki' / Under the aegis of the Philosophy and Pedagogy Department (Pedagogy Section) of the Aristotle University.

Eminent researchers from the academic community and the educational community more generally will present their studies of educators who have made a significant contribution to the work of schools in Thessaloniki, and benefactors who have donated money to improve the conditions in which teaching takes place, especially during the difficult and crucial years of the 19th and 20th century.

19 / CHAMBER MUSIC / Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art / Saitis - Sousamoglou - Bent Frequency: contemporary music ensemble performs works by Arnold Schoenberg / In association with the State Conservatory of Thessaloniki

In a once-only appearance in Thessaloniki, under the title *A Night in Vienna*, the Bent Frequency ensemble, with the distinguished Greek musicians Antonis Sousamoglou (violin) and Vasilis Saitis (cello) will perform two of the most important works by Arnold Schoenberg, *Kammersymphonie Op. 9* and *Pierrot Lunaire Op. 21*. The two compositions are ranked among the most important pieces of chamber music written in the 20th century.

19 / CHORAL MUSIC / Rotonda / The Brancoveanu male choir of Bucharest

Named after an important benefactor of the Orthodox Church in the Wallachia region of the Ottoman Empire, the Romanian choir has an extensive repertory. The choir perform regularly in concerts across Romania, often collaborating with the City of Bucharest Choir and with various state theatres, recording broadcasts for the national TV channel (TVR) and private channels, and issuing CDs of traditional Romanian carols. This will be their first performance in the Demetria, and their first appearance in Thessaloniki.

19 / SPOKEN WORD / Central Municipal Library / Literary evening devoted to Yannis Ritsos, marking the 100th anniversary of his birth, with the participation of the poet's daughter, Eri Ritsou

The evening will feature presentations by Antonis Fostieris, publisher of the literary journal *I Lexi*, and Dimitris Kosmopoulos, poet and essayist. There will also be a talk with readings of poems by the poet's daughter Eleftheria (Eri) Ritsou. Poems will also be recited by the State Theatre of Northern Greece actors Kostas Santas and Ifigeneia Deliyannidi. The production has been designed by Nikos Naoumidis, actor and director, and the audiovisual material provided by the National Book Centre. Admission free.

20 / VISUAL ARTS / Casa Bianca / Exhibition of paintings by Christos Karas / Until 22-11-2009

Christos Karas was born in Trikala, Thessaly, in 1930, and studied painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts (1951-55) and as a scholarship student in Paris (1955-58). Through a covert geometry of precarious balances and contrasts brought into harmony, using elements of figurative expressionism and abstraction, symbolic surrealism and pop art, Karas offers an oblique commentary on social issues while preserving the light-hearted, elegiac quality of his work.

20 / VISUAL ARTS / Vafopouleio Cultural Centre / Exhibition of works by Giorgos Tsakiris and other distinguished artists on the theme *Family Affair 2*

Giorgos Tsakiris was born in Yannitsa in 1955. He first studied advanced electronics, and then went on to the School of Fine Arts in Florence to study painting under Farulli and engraving under Vizzano. He is currently an assistant professor in the School of Fine Arts at the Aristotle University and has taken part in a large number of group exhibitions here and abroad, as well as staging his own one-man shows.

21 / VISUAL ARTS / Paradeisos Baths / *In the steps of St. Paul*, an exhibition of maps showing the journeys of St. Paul / Until 29-11-2009 / In association with the European Centre for Communication, Information and Culture – National Centre for Maps and the Cartographic Heritage – National Map Archive, and the 9th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities
An exhibition of maps from the collections of Alexandros Garyfallos and Savvas Demertzis. The exhibition is organized by the European Centre for Communication, Information and Culture – National Centre for Maps and the Cartographic Heritage – National Map Archive, in collaboration with the 9th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities, the Department of the Deputy Mayor for Culture and Youth of the City of Thessaloniki and the City Art Gallery.

21 / CHORAL MUSIC / Ceremonial Hall, Aristotle University / The Aghios Ioannis Koukouzelis Byzantine Church Choir celebrates its fiftieth concert to be given outside Greece

With concerts given in places as far away as the Havana of Fidel Castro and the European Parliament, a feat rivaled by no other Byzantine choir, the Aghios Ioannis Koukouzelis Byzantine Church Choir gave its fiftieth foreign concert at the Holy Monastery of Rilla in Bulgaria on 14th June 2009. It is worth noting that the choir

completed its total of fifty foreign concerts within twenty years of commencing its activities abroad (1989-2009).

21 / DANCE / Theatre of the Society for Macedonian Studies / *Without fairy tales*, a production by the YMCA dance-theatre company

Once upon a time ... there was a handsome prince on a white horse, the sleeping beauty awaited her kiss, a kiss turned the frog back into the prince, the wicked, ugly witch made a gift of an apple, the good fairy will come to our aid... Will we find out who the slipper fits? Oh wolf, oh wolf, are you here? Mirror, mirror on the wall, who is the fairest of them all? The YMCA art dance-theatre troupe reveals another side to these favorite fairy tales, looking at these traditional stories with a new eye.

22 / CHAMBER MUSIC / University of Macedonia / Concert by the Transcription Ensemble quarter, with N. Zafranas (piano), Giorgos Kandylidis (violin), Christos Gribas (cello) and Zacharias Tarpagos (flute)

N. Zafranas (piano), Giorgos Kandylidis (violin), Christos Gribas (cello) and Zacharias Tarpagos (flute) have joined forces to present three classical symphonic works. After appearances in major venues in Greece and Europe (Tate Modern) they now perform at the Demetria, playing the Prague Symphony of Mozart and Dvorak's Slavic Dances and Dumky Trio.

23 / ETHNO-JAZZ FESTIVAL / Vellideio Conference Centre / *Kind of Blue – Miles Davis*: a concert to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the historic album, with seven top players from the contemporary international jazz scene.

2009 is the fiftieth anniversary of the release of Miles Davis' *Kind of Blue*. The album first came out in August 1959 and marked the creation of a new musical language. *Kind of Blue* is universally regarded as one of the best albums of all time, and fifty years from its release still enjoys higher sales than any other jazz album!

23, 24 / SPOKEN WORD / History Centre / Academic symposium on the topic "*History and Literature about Saint Demetrius and his city: 8th – 20th century*" / In association with the Department of Pastoral and Social Theology of the Aristotle University Theological School

For the fifth year in succession the Worship, Archaeology and Art section of the Department of Pastoral and Social Theology and KEEP (Network for Textual and Interpretive Tradition) are organizing a conference where papers will be presented on the literature, theology

and art relating to the figure of Saint Demetrius, as well as the history of his city from the onset of the Iconoclastic Controversy in the 8th century to the end of the 12th century, just before the occupation of the city by the Franks.

23 / VISUAL ARTS / Foyer of Society for Macedonian Studies / Exhibition of engravings: *Thessaloniki in travelers' engravings*, with works from the collection of G. Patieridis and K. Stamatis / Until 23-11-2009

Approximately two hundred and fifty engravings depicting the city and its outlying regions form the material of this exhibition. They include some of the most important engravings of Thessaloniki which have ever been printed. The exhibits include all engravings known to have been published in European books, newspapers and other publications. Almost half of the works on display are being shown for the first time!

24 / CHAMBER MUSIC / University of Macedonia / Woodwind quintet – players from the Athens State Orchestra

The quintet was formed in the spring of 2004 by the five top players of these instruments in the Athens State Orchestra: Frank Georg Giarke (flute), Dimitris Vamvas (oboe), Spyros Mourikis (clarinet), Konstantinos Siskos (horn) and Alexandros Oikonomou (recorder). They will be performing popular works by Ravel, Bizet, Ibert and others, arranged for performance by woodwind quintet.

24 / CHORAL MUSIC / Rotonda / Idimelon Byzantine Choir and Stretensky Choir from Moscow

These two renowned exponents of Orthodox devotional music – the world-renowned Russian choir of the Stretensky Monastery in Moscow and the Idimelon Byzantine Choir - come together to perform hymns from the ancient and modern musical traditions of their churches, showcasing the devotional music of Greece and Russia, highlighting their shared cultural traditions and their evolution over the centuries.

24 / MUSIC / Concert Hall / Tribute to Joseph Haydn, marking the 200th anniversary of his death. Featuring the City of Thessaloniki Symphony Orchestra conducted by Nikos Athinaios / Under the auspices of the Consulate Corpus of Greece

The City of Thessaloniki Symphony Orchestra conducted by Nikos Athinaios, with soloist the trumpet-player Sokratis Anthis, will be performing works by Joseph Haydn, teacher of Beethoven, the

composer of the imperial hymn *God Save the King* which became the German national anthem in 1922. The second part of the concert will feature works by Beethoven, the composer whose works are performed more frequently than those of any other.

25 / CHORAL MUSIC / Rotonda / The Psaltery Choir of the Ionian University / In association with the Music Department of the Ionian University and the General Secretary of the Region of Ionian Islands **In a combination of works from the oral and written patriarchal traditions, dating from the 14th to the 19th century, and linking Thessaloniki, Corfu and Constantinople, the Choir will offer a blend of lessons and hymns referring to the patron saints Demetrios and Spyridon, with clear references to the liberation of Thessaloniki in 1912. One of the highlights will be the reference to the “Demetria” feast of the Byzantine era and its celebration of the feast of Aghios Demetrios, as well as the contests in the Hippodrome of Constantinople in the 5th century.**

25 / MUSIC / Ceremonial Hall, Aristotle University / The leading performer of popular light vocal music, Eliza Marelli, sings hits by Hairopoulos, Yannidis, Souyoul, Gounaris and Attik **The leading performer of Greek light vocal music, Eliza Marelli, presents *Songs of the war and the 1940's*, marking the national ‘Ochi Day’ holiday, as well as other popular songs from the 40’s, 50’s and 60’s. The performance will be preceded by a brief presentation of the life and work of Eliza Marelli by journalist Kostas D. Bliatkas, as well as the screening of a five-minute film showing rare photographs and other documents.**

26 / VISUAL ARTS / Pavilion 6, HELEXPO / Retrospective of paintings by Yannis Lasithiotakis / In association with the HELEXPO / Until 15-11-2009

Yannis Lasithiotakis was born in Crete in 1956 and studied painting at the Florence School of Fine Arts. He lives in Athens. The exhibition features portraits; the artist takes subjects from his immediate environment, magnifying them into figures which express intense emotions and a preoccupation with man and his future.

27 / VISUAL ARTS / History Centre / The Campaign of 1940: an exhibition of photographs by Lazaros Akkermanidis (1903-1947) / In association with the Panayia Soumela Association **Images full of vivid spontaneity, generated by both photographer and the soldiers he photographs, rare images which convey so much more**

than can be communicated in words about the heroism and the struggles of the Greek army's campaign in the Pindos mountains in 1940. The archive of photographs by Lazaros Akkermanidis was found, thanks to the efforts of the photographic historian Alkis Xanthakis, after 46 years during which it had been believed to be destroyed.

27 / DANCE / Aneton Theatre / *Joy Ride*, a dance performance by the Idan Cohen Dance Group, a contemporary dance company from Israel / In association with the Thessaloniki Jewish Community

What should the relationship be between our desires and reality? In the realm of sex, what should be allowed and what forbidden? What must it be like to feel like a refugee within one's own self? A stranger within one's own body? The company perform three pieces by choreographer Idan Cohen, delighting audiences with unique moments of modern dance.

28 / DANCE / Aristoteleion Cinema / Sudarushka Folk Dance Company from St. Petersburg / In association with the St. Petersburg Foreign Relations Committee

The company was formed in 1986 and has developed a broad range of activities over the last 23 years. Despite many difficulties it has managed to sustain the very best traditions and is now a live and growing company attempting to offer audiences all aspects of traditional Russian culture.

29 / ETHNO-JAZZ FESTIVAL / Aristoteleion Cinema / Squeeze Band – Chico Freeman from Jazz to Hip-Hop and back – Support Group: Vangelis Kontopoulos

Drummer and percussionist Reto Weber from Switzerland had the idea which led to a musical encounter with elite musicians. Weber brought together musicians from all over the world to create Squeezeband. The group have now issued two successful CDs and performed in Europe, Africa and South America. This year they will be presenting a unique programme, reflecting a new world of music, a journey from Jazz to Hip-Hop and back.

29-31 / SPOKEN WORD / Vlatadon Monastery / *Christian Thessaloniki* International Academic Conference on the topic 'The Apostle Paul, the Church of Thessaloniki and the two Epistles to the Thessalonians' / In association with the Patriarchal and Stavropigian Vlatadon Monastery of Thessaloniki

For the 23rd year in succession the Thessaloniki City Council and the Vlatadon Monastery will be cooperating to organize the *Christian Thessaloniki* international academic conference. The topic will be ‘The Apostle Paul, the Church of Thessaloniki and the two Epistles to the Thessalonians’ and it will cover three areas: 1. History, 2. Interpretation of the Letters, 3. Art. Papers will be presented on these various areas by scholars from Greece and abroad.

30 / ETHNO-JAZZ FESTIVAL / Aristoteleion Cinema / Katerina Papadopoulou – Yurdal Tokcan – Göksel Baktağır

The Greek and Turkish musical legacies are two branches of the same musical tree, that of the eastern Mediterranean, and both have exerted a parallel influence on the psychology of the two peoples, allowing them an expressive medium for conveying feelings and experiences. United by this shared heritage, Yurdal Tokcan, Göksel Baktağır and Katerina Papadopoulou have come together once again to present their music in a joint production.

30-31/10 and 1/11 / THEATRE / Kolossaion Cinema / *Misery*, by Stephen King, directed by Petros Zoulias, with Nikos Psarras and Anneza Papadopoulou

Nikos Psarras and Anneza Papadopoulou star in Stephen King’s masterpiece, the first production of the work in Greece, now in its second year. The production is directed by Petros Zoulias. *Misery* and *The Shining* are regarded as the finest and most autobiographical of the 45 novels by the internationally recognized master of terror and fantasy.

31 / ETHNO-JAZZ FESTIVAL / Aristoteleion Cinema / Club de Belugas – The apotheosis of Nu-Jazz, swing, funky music in a retro version with a dance spin – Support group: Ku Klux Sax

Retro, young, famous, fresh, contemporary, timely and yet ahead of their time – a DJ-composer from Germany named Maxim Illion, regarded as the biggest nu-jazz producer in Germany, and eight of his friends, appearing at the 21st Ethno-Jazz Festival for a great deal of Hip Hip-Chin Chin and the question ‘What is jazz?’

31 / DANCE / Theatre of the Society for Macedonian Studies / *The marriage of Koutroulis*, with the City of Thessaloniki Traditional Greek Dance Company

A journey through Greek folk dancing traditions, combining song, melody and the poetry of motion. Dancers, musicians and spectators become accomplices in time, sharing in an experience that transcends

the concerns of everyday life and reduces the distance between audience and performers. The production, staged in collaboration with the Unga Klara Artists Group and other dance companies from cultural societies across the Prefecture of Thessaloniki, features 20 musicians and singers, and more than 200 dancers.

NOVEMBER

1 / THEATRE / Amalia Theatre / *The clever bird*, by Georges Feydeau, presented by the Techne Experimental Theatre (30-31/10 and 1/11)

The Techne Experimental Theatre has accustomed its audiences to a very broad repertory, ranging from the classics to unknown gems of the Greek and European theatre. This year its contribution to the Demetria will be a work by one of the great masters of the French – and European – bourgeois comedy, Georges Feydeau. A host of dramatists have followed, and continue to follow, the invariably successful comic formulas devised by Feydeau – his recipe for the successful comedy.

2 / VISUAL ARTS / City Gallery / Retrospective of paintings and constructions by Zacharias Koumblis / Until 29-11-2009

Mathematician and painter, Thessaloniki-born Zacharias Koumblis has created over the last twenty years a remarkable combination of the Apollonian and the Dionysian, producing works distinguished for their internal discipline, the density of their expression and their classical spirit. This year's Demetria will feature a retrospective show allowing visitors to explore more fully the work of an artist renowned for the robust integrity of his painting style.

6-8 / CHORAL MUSIC / Ceremonial Hall, Aristotle University / 25th International Choral Festival of Thessaloniki / In association with the Thessaloniki Telephone Company Employees Cultural Society

The International Choral Festival of Thessaloniki will be organized, for the 25th year in succession, by the Thessaloniki Telephone Company Employees Cultural Society. The purpose of the Festival is to help foster cultural ideals, to forge powerful bonds of friendship between individuals, organizations and peoples, and to advance their cooperation through music – the most direct of all the arts. The programme will feature male, female, mixed, adolescent and children's choirs from Greece and elsewhere.

6-8 / SPOKEN WORD / Ceremonial Hall, Old Philosophical School, Aristotle University / Conference: *Aghios Nicodemus the Athonite and his times – 200 years from his death* / In association with the Athonite Centre

This year is the two hundredth anniversary of the death of Aghios Nicodemus the Athonite (1749-1809), one of the most important ascetic figures in the modern history of Mt. Athos, and of the Orthodox Church more generally. The Athonite Centre is marking the anniversary with a conference to be held under the aegis of the Ecumenical Patriarch Vartholomaios.

13, 14, 16, 18 / MUSIC / Concert Hall / Comic opera *Orpheus in Hades* by Jacques Offenbach, with the City of Thessaloniki Symphony Orchestra / In association with the Thessaloniki Concert Hall Organization / Municipality of Thessaloniki – Department of Culture and Youth

Two-act opera bouffa with music by Offenbach and libretto by Ludovic Halevy and Hector-Jonathan Crémieux. Greek sub-titles will be provided. This is perhaps the most emblematic French operetta of the Second Empire period. Its premiere in October 1858 at the Théâtre des Bouffes Parisiens, and the 228 performances which followed, were a triumphant success, while provoking severe displeasure on the part of academics and official musical circles, as well as at the imperial court.