

Centre for Hellenic Studies

KING'S
College
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Newsletter 30

December 2019

Director's Report

The year 2019 started off strong with a fascinating, well-attended Runciman Lecture, given by Professor Richard P. Martin (Stanford University). Over the summer, the Arts & Humanities Research Institute (AHRI) and CHS collaborated closely to overhaul the Centre's webpages and to upload another rich events list for the new academic year. Our autumn semester started with a celebration. On 30 September colleagues and CHS friends and donors came out in strong numbers to congratulate Emeritus Koraes Professor Roderick Beaton on the special distinction he received a couple of weeks earlier (on 9 September): in a special award ceremony held at the presidential mansion, Mr Prokopis Pavlopoulos, President of the Hellenic Republic, bestowed on him the Medal of the Commander of the Order of Honour (Παράσημο του Ταξιάρχη του Τάγματος της Τιμής). This honour could not be more well-deserved, after Professor Beaton's decades-long dedication to scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and service. It brings special distinction to the Koraes Chair as well. The President singled out Professor Beaton's exceptional contributions to the study of the formation of Greek national consciousness and of Byzantium's role in the creation of the characteristic legacies of the Renaissance. He also praised Professor Beaton's pioneering biography of the poet George Seferis and his seminal book on Byron and the Greek Revolutionary War, which, along with his latest book, *Greece:*

Biography of a Modern Nation, will help shape the many ways in which Greece and the Greek diaspora will be celebrating the bicentenary of the Greek Revolution in 2021.

A student group visited Athens and Rhodes during the last week of October 2019. Their trip was generously sponsored by the Jamie Rumble Memorial Fund. Pictures from their trip and their many adventures grace this newsletter. One of the highlights of the tour was a guided visit of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center. Also exciting was their meeting, in a classroom setting, with students and peers from the University of the Aegean Rhodes campus. The trip was an intrinsic part of our newly designed BA and MA module, 'Engaging Greece: Experiencing the Past and Responding to the Present'.

Meanwhile, plans are under way to celebrate the bicentenary of 2021 with a range of events. Our collaborative initiative is called '21 in 21: Celebrating 2021 in 21 Encounters', and it draws in partners across Greece and the United Kingdom. The activities on offer will be designed to engage broad audiences of non-specialists as well as specialists. Also, these collaborative, interactive events must leave legacies of critical debate, published work, filmed events, archival advances and research capacities. Stay tuned!

Gonda Van Steen, December 2019



Emeritus Koraes Professor Roderick Beaton receiving his special award medal from Prokopis Pavlopoulos, President of the Hellenic Republic



Students on the October 2019 Rumble Fund trip

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

The Board held its annual meeting on 7 February 2019, the day of the Runciman Lecture. Its external members are **Professor Dame Averil Cameron** (Oxford), **Dr Dionysios Kapsalis** (Director, Cultural Foundation of the National Bank, Athens), **Professor Paschalis M. Kitromilides** (Emeritus Professor of the University of Athens), **Dr Tassos Leventis** FKC (Director of the A.G. Leventis Foundation), **Professor Sir Michael Llewellyn-Smith** (former HM Ambassador to Greece and a CHS Visiting Professor), and **Professor Richard P. Martin** (Stanford University).

DONATIONS IN KIND

Christopher, Lord Terrington (Guy's 1970), son and literary executor of **C.M. Woodhouse**, for many years a Visiting Professor at King's, generously donated a collection of books written by his father, including the Greek translations of his most important works. We thank him wholeheartedly.

NEW ANNUAL LECTURE SERIES

On 23 May 2019, the inaugural **Niki Marangou Annual Memorial Lecture** took place at King's College London, sponsored by **Mr Constantis Candounas**. **Professor Vayos Liapis** (Open University of Cyprus) gave a fascinating and beautifully illustrated lecture on the topic of *Blowing up the Parthenon: Greek Antiquity as a Burden and as a Rival on the Modern Greek Stage*. With humour and acumen, Professor Liapis challenged our thinking about the classical legacy and its impact on the Modern Greek theatre stage, framing his argument by the notions of colonization and self-colonization (see also tinyurl.com/nmarangou2019).

An enthusiastic audience of approximately 90 attendees engaged the speaker with questions over a wine reception afterwards. Hosted by CHS, Professor Liapis's presentation was placed under the auspices of the High Commission of Cyprus. His Excellency **Mr Euripides Evriviades** introduced the event and paid tribute to the gifted and influential **Niki Marangou**, to whose memory the lecture series has been dedicated. She was an inspirational Cypriot poet, novelist, painter and bookshop-owner, who died tragically in 2013. As Professor Liapis testified, she drew circles of young student readers to her bookshop at a time when exposure to international literature and learning was hard to come by.

The second **Niki Marangou Annual Memorial Lecture** will be held in Athens on 7 February 2020 (at 19:00), and the featured speaker will be **Dr John Kittmer**, Chair of the Anglo-Hellenic League and former HM Ambassador to Greece. In June, Kittmer was awarded a PhD for his thesis *Ritsos as Reader: The Poetics of Eclecticism in the Mature Work of Yannis Ritsos*. This was a part-time project undertaken across several years and supervised by **Professor David Ricks**, with support from **Professor Roderick Beaton**. Kittmer is now working on a number of follow-up publication projects. The title of Kittmer's Marangou lecture (in Greek) is: *Anglo-Hellenism: Adventures in Cultural Exchange*. He explains: 'British involvement in Greece was strong throughout the nineteenth century. "Anglo-Hellenism" became an institutionalised concept in the aftermath of the Balkan Wars. The decline of British power and the Cyprus crisis of the 1950s ended its political role. This lecture examines the extent to which culture has become a substitute means of exchange between the two countries, through an illustrated exploration of emblematic figures and ideas. And it speculates about the role of culture in the post-Brexit future.' Please join us on 7 February in the Cotsen Hall, adjacent to the Gennadius Library (entry from 9 Anapiron Polemou Street, Kolonaki, Athens). (See also: tinyurl.com/nmarangou2020)

STUDENTSHIPS & PRIZES

♦ The **Niki Marangou Translation Prize**, also sponsored by **Mr Candounas** and awarded this year to King's MA student **Petros Nicolaou**, again commemorates Niki Marangou, with a focus on her written work. From 2019 onwards, the prize will be awarded annually for a literary translation from Modern Greek into English of one poem and one prose extract from Marangou's many publications. Beginning in January 2020 (with a submission deadline of 15 January), the competition will be open to all BA, MA and PhD students currently enrolled in any faculty of a London-based university. The next award of £500 will be announced in the evening of 7 February 2020, on the occasion of the second Niki Marangou Lecture. Please save the date and help us spread the news about this student prize. For more information, see www.kcl.ac.uk/chs

♦ The 2019 annual **Katie Lentakis Memorial Fund Award**, offered by the Anglo-Hellenic League to a final-year undergraduate studying in the Faculty of Arts & Humanities at King's College London, in memory of the late **Mrs Katie Lentakis**, was presented on 17 June 2019 by the League's Chair, **Dr John Kittmer**. The winner of the 2019 award, in the amount of £500, was **Gina Prat Lilly**, for an essay entitled *Between Dictatorship and Exile: Two Antigones of Postwar Spain. Salvador Espriu's Antigona and Maria Zambrano's La tumba de Antigona*, supervised by **Dr Rosa Andujar**. Specially commended were **Mark Coomber**, for an essay entitled *The Importance of Christianity to the Imperial Ideology of the Empire of Trebizond (1204-1448)*, supervised by **Dr Vassiliki Manolopoulou**, and **Medea Manaz**, for an essay entitled *Is Acting Madness? A Metatheatrical Reading of Euripides' Bacchae*, supervised by **Korae Professor Gonda Van Steen**. At a well-attended ceremony in the Council Room of King's College London, the League's Chair congratulated the winner and shortlisted students on the very high standard of their submissions. The award ceremony was followed by an illustrated and spirited presentation given by **Dr Anastasia Bakogianni**, Lecturer in Classical Studies at Massey University, New Zealand.



Students on the October 2019 Rumble Fund trip

♦ As in previous years, the **Schilizzi Foundation** once again awarded scholarships to students of Greek nationality to pursue studies in any field at King's. On behalf of **Mr Stephen Schilizzi FKC**, the most recent awards were presented to the Schilizzi Scholarship Winners 2019-20: **Charilaos Otimos** (International Relations BA), **Layana Tahboub** (Nutrition and Dietetics BSc), and **Eleni Xanthopoulou** (Psychology BSc).

♦ The penultimate fully funded visit to Greece for students of the Classics Department, made possible by the generosity of the **Jamie Rumble Memorial Fund**, took place in December 2018. **Professor Michael Squire**, who led the visit, writes: 'Twenty-four BA and MA students from the King's Department of Classics visited around twenty museums and sites in Athens, Attica and Delphi. The December 2018 trip formed part of a module on the *Classical Art of the Body: Greek Sculpture and its Legacy*, taught by Professor Michael Squire. Participants were particularly excited to receive a special guided tour inside the Parthenon, which is usually closed to the public (thanks to assistance from the Greek Archaeological Service); they also benefited from the opportunity to meet students from the University of Athens, following a special reception at the British School at Athens. As always, the Department of Classics is very grateful to our various partners in Greece, not least to Professor Dimitris Plantzos, for his wonderful lecture on *Mind the Gap: Revisiting Greece's National 'Sites of Trauma'*. Students themselves provide the best testimony of what these trips mean to them. Students' testimonies (and videos) can be found at: www.kcl.ac.uk/classics/about/rumble-fund-trip-201819

In late October 2019, the Rumble Fund trip returned to Athens and included a visit to the island of Rhodes as well. On the itinerary were: visits to the Acropolis and the Acropolis Museum, a guided visit of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, a walking tour of the Ilissus river bank and discussions about urban planning, a walking tour of the old town of Rhodes (including the island's Templar history and the Jewish Synagogue of Rhodes), a visit of the island's archaeological sites, a class visit and meeting with Greek students studying on Rhodes, learning about the waves of foreign migration to and from Greece, and watching the 28th October parade. The sponsored trip was an intrinsic part of the new BA and MA module entitled *Engaging Greece: Experiencing the Past and Responding to the Present*, taught by Korae Professor Gonda Van Steen, who led the visit. Again, the students' testimonies and pictures speak more eloquently to the success of the autumn trip, which also enjoyed splendid late summer weather.

Plans are now in the works for a 2020 late October fieldtrip to Athens and Corfu.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

WEDNESDAY 23 JANUARY 2019
K2.29 COUNCIL ROOM, 18.00 – 20.00

Modern Greek Literature through a Translator's Lens (tinyurl.com/mgltrans)

Speakers discussed and queried issues of translating Modern Greek literature and read from their recent translations. The participants were: **Professor Patricia Barbeito** (Rhode Island School of Design), **Victoria Hislop** (bestselling author), **Panos Karnezis** (author), **Professor David Ricks** (King's College London). The event was chaired by **Emeritus Koraes Professor Roderick Beaton** (King's College London). It was co-organised by the British School at Athens in collaboration with Aiora Press, and kindly supported by the Creative Europe programme. Martha Papaspiliou, PhD student and CHS administrative assistant, published a full review of the workshop in the *Journal of Greek Media and Culture* (vol. 5, issue 1, 2019; available upon request).

THURSDAY 9 MAY 2019,
K2.29 COUNCIL ROOM, 10.00–18.00

International workshop: 'It Sounds Greek to Me': Greek Art Music since the Nineteenth Century. (tinyurl.com/gk2me)

Dr Katerina Levidou led the workshop 'It Sounds Greek to Me', which brought together leading experts on the expression of national identity in Greek art music, theatre studies, and literature. She explains: 'The pun in the workshop's title functions on two levels: taken literally, it indicates a moment of recognition and affirmation; it poses the question of whether and how 'Greekness' (a perceived Greek character or quality) may be articulated through music, Greek art music in this case. Are there specific technical means involved or is it merely a matter of intention, perception, and reception? And if music may indeed express 'Greekness', then what is this Greek character like, what does it mean and to whom? On a second level, the pun implies the existence of confusion or a lack of understanding, and eventually rejection. It points to foreignness. Greek art music has provoked all of those responses as a peripheral exponent of the tradition of Western art music with limited appeal beyond (if not also within) the national borders'.

Dr Levidou is the holder of a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship (January 2018-January 2020) affiliated with CHS. She has been conducting research in the area of Greek art music under the auspices of the EU-funded project *GRIDAMUS: Greek Identity in Art Music since the Early Nineteenth Century: Towards an Interdisciplinary Methodology*. The GRIDAMUS project helps us comprehend the strategies by which national narratives are constructed and the part played in that process by culture, and music in particular, focusing on the case of Greece and Western art (or 'classical') music since the early 19th century. Dr Levidou's approach is cross-disciplinary, bringing historical and cultural

contextualisation into dialogue with a) critical discourses advanced during the last decades, to understand and contextualise the concept of 'Greekness' within Modern Greek Studies, and b) ethnomusicological approaches to the study of music and identity. Dr Levidou's project thus offers a revisionist study of Greek art music – a repertory that remains to be investigated in depth – while, at the same time, developing an interdisciplinary methodological framework that may serve a paradigmatic role for the study of other national repertoires.

Eager to disseminate the results of her research, Dr Levidou has recently given five public lectures in Greece (in Athens [tinyurl.com/levidoulectures], Thessaloniki, and Kardamyli), and she is preparing a book publication for Routledge. Her book is tentatively entitled *Composing the Nation, Performing 'Greekness': Art Music in Greece since the Nineteenth Century*. Prior to her current fellowship term, Dr Levidou held a Visiting Research Fellowship through the Department of Classics in collaboration with the Department of Music (January 2014-January 2018).

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, 17-18 MAY 2019
UPPER HOUSE, BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS,
SOUIDIAS 52, ATHENS

'Popular Music of the Greek World', a conference jointly organised by the British School at Athens (BSA) and CHS, King's College London (tinyurl.com/bsapopmusic)

Emeritus Koraes Professor Roderick Beaton, who spoke at the conference, reports: 'This conference complemented a previous joint venture between the BSA and CHS on the topic of Greek art music and held in Athens four years ago. This time the focus was on the 'popular', understood in the widest possible sense. The 21 contributors represented institutions in Australia, Finland, France,

Germany, Israel, Sweden, the UK, and the USA, with strong representation from Greece. Topics covered ranged very widely both chronologically and geographically, going back to traditions older than the 18th century and coming right up to date, in an ethnography of today's urban nightclubs known as *pistes* and a study of hip-hop remakes of much-loved rebetiko songs of the 1930s. The geographical spread took in much of the Mediterranean, with comparisons from as far afield as Scotland and Ireland, Finland, Israel, and Hawaii, as well as the Balkans and former Ottoman lands. In a lively keynote speech, Professor Michael Herzfeld (Harvard) compared the role of music by Giuseppe Verdi and Mikis Theodorakis in the formation of national consciousness, respectively in Italy in the 19th century and in 20th-century Greece.

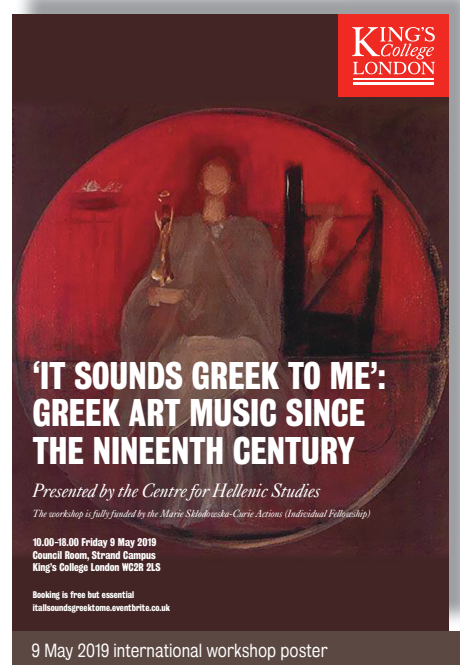
The conference emphasised the crossing of other boundaries as well. Academic disciplines represented included anthropology, ethnography, ethnomusicology, cultural history, and studies of nationalism, gender, and orality in relation to literacy. Some contributions focused on the interplay between music and language, whether written or sung; others on visual representation, including presentations of recent work by artist Chris O'Leary and the acclaimed Greek photographer Tassos Vrettos. As well as revealing the huge range and inclusiveness of 'popular music' in a Greek context, the conference also highlighted many ways in which our understanding of the 'Greek world', too, can be expanded through interdisciplinary dialogues of the kind in evidence at the British School on these two days.'

Lead organiser was Dr Chris Williams (King's and BSA), supported by an academic committee consisting of Roderick Beaton (King's, Emeritus Koraes Professor), Professor John Bennet (Director, BSA), Dr Eleni Kallimopoulou (University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki) and Dr Panagiotis Poulos (National & Kapodistrian University of Athens). Additional sponsors were the A.G. Leventis Foundation, Dr Chris Williams, and Mr Nicholas Petmezias.

The conference was rounded off on Saturday, 18 May 2019, with a buffet dinner with live music for all participants in the delightful surroundings of the Upper House garden.

FRIDAY 24 MAY 2019
LECTURE THEATRE 2, BUSH HOUSE

CHS hosted this year's **Graduate Research Colloquium for Modern Greek Studies**, on behalf of the UK Society for Modern Greek Studies. The colloquium was splendidly organised by doctoral students **Lefteris Kefalas** and **Vicky Kaisidou**. It featured ten presentations on a wide range of literary, historical, and broadly cultural topics.



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019

WEDNESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2019: BOOK LAUNCH

Professor Paschalis M. Kitromilides, Emeritus Professor of the University of Athens and member of the CHS International Advisory Board, saw the October 2018 publication of his most recent book, *Religion and Politics in the Orthodox World: The Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Challenges of Modernity* (Routledge). The speaker and the event were introduced by **Bruce Clark**, the well-known journalist on *The Economist* and author of *Twice A Stranger: How Mass Expulsion Forged Modern Greece and Turkey*. Despite a busy lecture tour across China and many other scholarly engagements, Professor Kitromilides is making steady progress on the much-anticipated *Critical Dictionary of the Greek Revolution* (Harvard UP, 2021).

THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2019: THE 28TH ANNUAL RUNCIMAN LECTURE

This year's Runciman Lecture was given by **Professor Richard P. Martin** (Stanford University), on the topic of *'Poor the house on Homer's shores': Ancient Epic and Modern Greek Song* (tinyurl.com/runciman28). Professor Martin explains: 'Contexts for the composition of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* have been debated vigorously, at times acrimoniously, since antiquity. The oral-traditional nature of Homeric verse, as explored by Milman Parry, Albert Lord, and others over the last century, has answered some long-standing questions while giving rise to many others. I look to song traditions of modern Greece, especially Crete, for insights regarding the crafting, transmission, and reception of heroic epics in a changing world. In the footsteps of James Notopoulos, traveling to rural locations where practitioners of the art of crafting song still perform extensive songs for audiences and also for the camera, and where homeric poetry meets the oral tradition of Erotokritos, the Cretan mantinades and the rizitika'.

Professor Martin has long interpreted Greek poetry in the light of performance traditions and social practices. He makes use of comparative materials ranging from fieldwork on oral traditions in contemporary Crete to studies in medieval Irish literature. His Runciman lecture was most informative, beautifully illustrated, and delivered as a performance itself, with humorous touches in addition to deep knowledge. It was enjoyed by an audience of some 400 people. The Provost, **Professor Evelyn Welch**, introduced the evening by paying tribute to the memory of the inspirer and founder of these lectures, **Nicholas Egon**, who died in 2017. She also warmly thanked Nicholas's widow, **Mrs Matti Egon**, who could regrettably not be present, for her continued support and friendship. The speaker was introduced by CHS Director **Gonda Van Steen**, and the vote of thanks was given by **Professor Ahuvia Kahane** (Royal Holloway, University of London, now Trinity College, Dublin). The lecture

was preceded by Orthodox Vespers in King's Chapel. The Runciman lectures and the splendid hospitality surrounding them have been generously sponsored by the Egon family.

THURSDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2019: CYPRUS LECTURE SERIES

Dr Avra Sidiropoulou (Open University of Cyprus and artistic director of the Athens-based Persona Theatre Company) gave a fascinating lecture, titled *Staging the Greeks in the 21st Century: Adaptation, Re-contextualisation, and the Ethics of Directing*, in King's Nash Lecture Theatre, as part of the Cyprus Lecture Series, which is co-organised by the Cultural Section of the Cyprus High Commission in the UK (www.culturalchc.co.uk) and CHS. His Excellency **Euripides L. Evriviades**, High Commissioner for the Republic of Cyprus to the United Kingdom, welcomed the audience and introduced the lecture. He also thanked **Professor Gonda Van Steen** and **Dr Marios Psaras**, Cultural Counsellor at the High Commission, for continuing a long tradition of collaboration between King's and the High Commission, highlighting the importance of such events for the promotion of cultural exchange and dialogue between Cyprus and the UK.

Dr Avra Sidiropoulou's lecture explored the means by which adaptations of Greek tragedy, as intellectual and artistic operations, have been nourishing a chain of arguments on the limits of directorial interpretation and the rights and wrongs of artistic autonomy. It shed light on the fidelity versus freedom binary and examined the relationship between canonical dramatic texts and their revisionist stagings, whereby notions of faithfulness and betrayal are constantly negotiated and redefined. The tenacious issue of directorial ethics and the tensions that permeate the source-adaptation symbiosis can only serve to remind us that to some extent performances of the classics remain bound to the hierarchies of meaning inherent in any act of reading and rewriting. Can a director's insistence on a relentlessly 'credible' staging sometimes compromise the originality and creativity of the 21st-century performance, and, ultimately, the significance and viability of the source text across time and space?

More issues were raised in the very lively question session that followed, such as spatiotemporal re-contextualisation and the use of technology in contemporary theatre. The audience expressed special appreciation for Dr Sidiropoulou's many examples of how different approaches have been applied on stage with references to specific productions that have been presented in Cyprus, Greece, the USA, and the UK.

Dr Sidiropoulou is the author of *Directions for Directing: Theatre and Method* (Routledge 2018). Her lecture was followed by a week of

performances of her production of *Phaedra I*, performed at the Tristan Bates Theatre. Her talk and production inspired King's BA student **Eleonora Colli**, who is now reading for a master's degree at Oxford, to write an essay on *Phaedra I*, which she submitted for her module requirement in Classical Reception and which has since been published online in *Didaskalia: The Journal for Ancient Performance*. You can read Eleonora's incisive essay online at www.didaskalia.net/issues/15/11/

WEDNESDAY 13 MARCH 2019: THE JAMIE RUMBLE MEMORIAL FUND LECTURE IN CLASSICAL ART

The 2019 Rumble Fund Lecture was delivered by **Jaś Elsner**, Professor of Late Antique Art, University of Oxford, and Visiting Professor of Art and Religion, University of Chicago. Professor Elsner's topic was *Looking East: Early Christian Art outside the World of Christian Hegemony*. Details may be found at tinyurl.com/rumblelect2019.

TUESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2019: GREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMMITTEE UK (GACUK) LECTURE

Lydia Palaiokrassa-Kopitsa, Professor Emerita of Classical Archaeology at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and Director of the Excavation at Palaiopolis, Andros, delivered this year's lecture of the Greek Archaeological Committee UK, organised by **Dr Zetta Theodoropoulou-Polychroniadis**, Chair of GACUK, in collaboration with CHS. Her topic, *Ancient Andros: A History of Fourteen Centuries*, drew an audience of some 400 attendees. Dr Zetta Theodoropoulou-Polychroniadis opened the evening, explained the committee's work, and introduced the many young scholars currently funded by GACUK to pursue doctoral studies in archaeology at leading British universities, including King's.

In her lecture, Professor Palaiokrassa-Kopitsa demonstrated how Andros, the homonymous ancient capital of the island for almost fourteen centuries, spread over a large area and survived from the final Neolithic period through early Christian times. The city's abandonment in the 7th century was brought on by Arab raids, which caused the inhabitants to seek refuge in the island's hinterland. See here for more information: tinyurl.com/gacukkl19

The vote of thanks was given by **Professor Catherine Morgan**. The evening ended with a reception and dinner generously sponsored by **Mrs Matti Egon**.

THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2019: BOOK LAUNCH

David Braund, **Edith Hall**, and **Rosie Wyles**, editors, presented the volume *Ancient Theatre and Performance Culture around the Black Sea* (Cambridge UP). The book launch was attended by some 50 people. *Kalotaxido!*

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019 CONTINUED



Students, officers, and members of GACUK gathered for the lecture by Professor Palaiokrassa-Kopitsa.

RUMBLE FUND LECTURE IN CLASSICAL ART

The Rumble Fund also sponsors the annual **Rumble Fund Lecture in Classical Art**. The 2019 Rumble Fund Lecture was delivered on 13 March 2019 by **Professor Jaś Elsner**.

Please join us for the next Rumble Fund Lecture, which will be given by **Professor Salvatore Settis** (Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa) on 25 March 2020, in the Great Hall on the Strand campus (at 18:30). Professor Settis's topic is *A Greek Lady from Persepolis: A Statue of Penelope and her Roman Sisters*.

For more information about the Rumble Fund and the many activities it supports in the fields of Art and Archaeology, please contact Professor Michael Squire (michael.squire@kcl.ac.uk).

PUBLICATIONS

The year 2019 has been especially rich in publications by members of CHS. See also the list of ongoing CHS research projects at www.kcl.ac.uk/chs (*under the tab 'Projects'*). Meanwhile, the Routledge series *Publications of the Centre for Hellenic Studies, King's College London* (founded in 1993 with Ashgate) has accepted new projects. **Professor Michael Trapp** continues to serve as the general editor of the CHS Routledge series, assisted by the members of the Publications Subcommittee. The Routledge series saw the mid-October 2019 (nominally 2020) publication of the following collective volume, a product of CHS collaborations in the field of Greek music: *Music, Language and Identity in Greece: Defining a National Art Music in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, co-edited by **Polina Tambakaki, Panos Vlagopoulos, Katerina Levidou, and Roderick Beaton**. (Routledge information online at tinyurl.com/musiclangi)

OTHER BOOKS BY CHS MEMBERS

♦ **Professor Roderick Beaton's** new book, *Greece: Biography of a Modern Nation*, was published by Penguin Random House in March 2019 and has since received excellent reviews. The publisher's introduction to the volume reads: 'We think we know ancient Greece, the civilisation that shares the same name and gave us just about everything that defines 'western' culture today, in the arts, sciences, social sciences and politics. Yet, as Greece has been brought under repeated scrutiny during the financial crises that have convulsed the country since 2010, worldwide coverage has revealed just how poorly we grasp the modern nation. This book sets out to understand the modern Greeks on their own terms. How did the Greeks come to be so powerfully attached to the legacy of the ancients in the first place, and then define an identity for themselves that is at once Greek and modern? This book reveals the remarkable achievement, during the last 300 years, of building a modern nation on,

sometimes literally, the ruins of a vanished civilisation. This is the story of the Greek nation-state but also, and perhaps more fundamentally, of the collective identity that goes with it. It is not only a history of events and high politics, it is also a history of culture, of the arts, of people and of ideas.'

The *Financial Times* of 22 November 2019 listed Professor Beaton's book among the best books of 2019 in the broad category of history. Read the article at www.ft.com/content/db8e7a86-0b25-11ea-bb52-34c8d9dc6d84 (*subscription required*).

For more information see:

- Penguin Books: tinyurl.com/beatonpenguin
The paperback version will be published by Penguin in March 2020.
- University of Chicago Press: tinyurl.com/ucpbeaton

See also tinyurl.com/kclnewsbeaton

♦ **Dr Bouras-Vallianatos** has recently co-edited *Brill's Companion to the Reception of Galen* (with Barbara Zipser; Brill, 2019; tinyurl.com/brillgalen). He is the author of a forthcoming OUP monograph as well: *Innovation in Byzantine Medicine: The Writings of John Zacharias Aktouarios (c.1275-c.1330)*. More information can be found online at: tinyurl.com/oupinnov These publications originate in a Wellcome Trust-funded project, entitled *Experiment and Exchange: Byzantine Pharmacology between East and West (ca. 1150-ca. 1450)* and carried out by Dr Bouras-Vallianatos under the mentorship of **Dr Dionysios Stathakopoulos** and **Professor Peregrine Horden**.

♦ **Dr James Corke-Webster** introduces his recent monograph, *Eusebius and Empire: Constructing Church and Rome in the Ecclesiastical History* (Cambridge UP, 2019) as follows: 'Eusebius' *Ecclesiastical History*, written in the early 4th century, continues to serve as our primary gateway to a crucial 300-year period: the rise of early Christianity under the Roman Empire.

Eusebius and Empire is the first systematic study considering the *History* in the light of its 4th-century circumstances as well as its author's personal history, intellectual commitments, and literary abilities. I argue that the *Ecclesiastical History* is not simply an attempt to record Christianity's past history but a sophisticated mission statement that uses events and individuals from that past to mould a new vision of Christianity tailored to Eusebius' time. Eusebius presents elite Graeco-Roman Christians with a picture of their faith that smooths off its rough edges and misrepresents its size, extent, nature, and relationship to Rome. Ultimately, he suggests that Christianity was – and always had been – the Empire's natural heir.'

The book was jointly awarded the prestigious Conington Prize of the University of Oxford.

Dr Corke-Webster also announces the forthcoming collective volume, *The Hagiographical Experiment: Developing Discourses of Sainthood* (Brill), which he has co-edited with **Christa Gray** and which stems from the BA/Leverhulme-funded project entitled *Constructed Sainthood: The Genesis of Hagiography*. The volume sheds fresh light on narratives about Christian holy men and women from Late Antiquity to Byzantium. Rather than focusing on the relationship between story and reality, it asks what literary choices authors made in depicting their heroes and heroines: how they positioned the narrator, how they responded to existing texts, how they utilised or transcended genre conventions for their own purposes, and how they sought to relate to their audiences. The literary focus of the chapters assembled here showcases the diversity of hagiographical texts written in Greek, Latin, Coptic, and Syriac, as well as pointing out the ongoing conversations that connect them. By asking these questions of this diverse group of texts, the book illuminates the literary development of hagiography in the late antique, Byzantine, and medieval periods.

PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

♦ In her 2019 book, *Cassandra and the Poetics of Prophecy in Greek and Latin Literature*, **Dr Emily Pillinger** explores the miscommunications of the prophet Cassandra – cursed to prophesy the truth but never to be understood until too late – in Greek and Latin poetry. Using insights from the field of translation studies, the book focuses on the dialogic interactions that take place between the articulation and the realization of Cassandra’s prophecies in five canonical ancient texts, stretching from Aeschylus’ to Seneca’s *Agamemnon*. These interactions are

dogged by confusion and misunderstanding, but they also show a range of interested parties engaged in creatively ‘translating’ meaning for themselves from Cassandra’s ostensibly nonsensical voice. Moreover, as the figure of Cassandra is translated from one literary work into another, including into the Sibyl of Virgil’s *Aeneid*, her story of tragic communicative disability develops into an optimistic metaphor for literary canon-formation. Cassandra invites us to reconsider the status and value of even the most riddling of female prophets in ancient poetry. For more information see: tinyurl.com/corecass

♦ **Dr Polina Tambakaki** brought to fruition a two-year postdoctoral research project on the literary work of the Cypriot writer and artist Niki Marangou (1948-2013), which was generously sponsored by the A.G. Leventis Foundation. The volume edited by Dr Tambakaki, *Cyprus: Female Voice and Memory in the Work of Niki Marangou* (in Greek), was published by To Rodakio, Athens, in September 2019. The contributions to the volume are based on papers delivered at the similarly titled one-day conference co-organised by CHS

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

Both **Dr Fiona Antonelaki** and **Dr Vicky Manolopoulou** received one-year Postdoctoral Research Fellowships from the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies at Princeton University. The title of Dr Antonelaki’s research project is *The BBC Greek Section, 1939-1957: Radio Propaganda and Literary Culture*, whereas Dr Manolopoulou is working on a project entitled *Byzantine Ecocriticism and Sacred Landscapes: Monastic and Lay Experiences of Ritual in Late Antique and Byzantine Villages c.600 to c.1000*. Comes January 2020, they will be joined by **Dr Tassos Papacostas** who, during his one-semester visiting research fellowship at Princeton, will be conducting research on the topic of *Architecture and Patronage in Venetian Cyprus (late 15th-16th c.)*.

CHS congratulates both **Dr James Corke-Webster** and **Dr Ioannis Papadogiannakis** on their promotion to Senior Lecturer as of 1 September 2019.

Professor David Ricks spoke at the CHS workshop, *Modern Greek Literature through a Translator’s Lens* (January 2019), at the ninetieth birthday celebration for the eminent Greek poet **Titos Patrikios** (Hellenic Centre, February 2019), and on *J.W. Mackail, Arthur Waley, and the Formation of Modern English Poetics* at Hong Kong University (February 2019). The second of a pair of contributions on Tellos Agras appeared in the Greek volume honouring **Peter Mackridge** (University of Oxford, and before that King’s), and he contributed the Cavafy chapter to *Brill’s Companion to the Reception of Plutarch*. He has joined the Advisory Board of the Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama (University of Oxford).

During 2019 **Professor Emerita Charlotte Roueché** has been increasingly involved with the growing demand for digital approaches to Classical and Byzantine Studies. She is now serving on international advisory boards for the Centre of Excellence in Digital and Public Humanities, University of Ca’Foscari, Venice and the Excellence Cluster Understanding Written Artefacts

at the University of Hamburg. She spoke on related topics at the Universities of Münster (January), Vienna (February), Vanderbilt (April), Rome (November), and Bordeaux (December). As Chair of the Committee for Byzantine Prosopography, she co-organised a workshop on *Linked Data and Prosopography* at the Institute of Classical Studies (May). She has been elected President of the British Epigraphic Society, and she serves on the scientific committee for the next international congress of Greek and Latin epigraphy (2022). In the year that marked the centenary of the Paris Peace Conference she gave the Barron lecture (May) at the Institute of Classical Studies on the role played by scholars and archaeologists, and she also gave a keynote lecture at the centenary meeting (November) of the Union Académique Internationale, one of the unexpected outcomes of the Conference. She has been asked to act as Honorary Archivist for the Society for Libyan Studies, because of her efforts to put the Society’s library holdings online (the catalogue of the Society’s archives is now also online, both enabled by King’s Digital Lab). She and others continue to enrich the work on the inscriptions of Roman Cyrenaica and the Heritage Gazetteer of Libya.

In June 2019 **Professor Michael Squire** was awarded a King’s Education Prize for Sustained Excellence in Teaching. This was one of four prizes awarded by the Principal across the College, and the only one in that category within the Faculty of Arts & Humanities. Michael received the prize for his teaching in ancient Greek art and archaeology in particular, and on the basis of nominations by students in the Department of Classics and elsewhere: the award sought to recognise ‘the contribution of an individual (or team) over time which has led to a sustained impact that has significant benefits to the learning and teaching community at King’s.’

Dr Dionysios Stathakopoulos continued work on his monograph on private wealth in the late Byzantine world. He is also working on the second edition of his successful *Short History of*

the Byzantine Empire (I.B. Tauris, 2014) ahead of its translation in Russian and Chinese. He gave the keynote lecture at the Annual Meeting of the Belgian Society for Byzantine Studies and a seminar paper at the EPHE in Paris, both in May 2019, as well as a conference paper in Istanbul (August) on his current research. Furthermore, he gave papers at the University of Athens (December) and the Princeton Athens Center (March) on aspects of his past research on the history of medicine, the plague, and climatic phenomena of the early Byzantine period.

Following the recent publication of *Adoption, Memory, and Cold War Greece*, **Koraes Professor Gonda Van Steen** has been researching the personal narratives stemming from the frequent occurrences of adoptions of Greek-born children by American parents through the early 1960s. Through the voices of the adoptees themselves and of the parties intimately involved, her newest research project delves into the biopolitics of this mass adoption movement to the United States and also to the Netherlands. In mid-June 2019, Van Steen gave a talk in Greek entitled *The International Adoptions of Greek Children during the Early Cold War: A Historical Perspective* at a roundtable discussion on Foster Care and Adoption from the Perspective of Psychopathology, at the 11th Panhellenic Child Psychiatry Conference, organised by the Child Psychiatry Society of Greece and the Medical School of the University of Athens. In early November, she spoke on related themes at the 2019-2020 research seminar series of the Academy of Athens, whose Centre for Greek and Latin Literature focuses this year on forms of freedom and unfreedom. She also presented at the British School and at the National Hellenic Research Foundation in Athens, the FIEC/CA and the Hellenic Centre in London, at the University of Birmingham, and at the Cambridge Centre for Greek Studies. This year, too, Van Steen became a member of the Executive Committee of the Society for Modern Greek Studies and of the Council of the Anglo-Hellenic League.

PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

and the British School at Athens and held in Athens on 23 September 2017. The conference was sponsored by **Mr Constantis Gandounas**.

♦ The 2019 book by **Koraes Professor Gonda Van Steen**, *Adoption, Memory, and Cold War Greece: Kid pro quo?*, presents a committed quest to unravel and document the postwar adoption networks that placed more than 3,000 Greek children in the United States, in a movement accelerated by the aftermath of the Greek Civil War and by the new conditions of the global Cold War. Greek-to-American adoptions and, regrettably, also their transactions and transgressions, provided the blueprint for the first large-scale international adoptions, well before these became a mass phenomenon typically associated with Asian children. The story

of these Greek postwar and Cold War adoptions, whose procedures ranged from legal to highly irregular, has never been told or analysed before. *Adoption, Memory, and Cold War Greece* answers the important questions: How did these adoptions from Greece happen? Was there any money involved? Humanitarian rescue or kid pro quo? For more information see: tinyurl.com/umichadopt

The topic of the Greek adoptions overseas has now also received extensive media attention, as in the Greek newspaper *I Kathimerini* of 2 September 2019, based on an interview with Margarita Pournara (tinyurl.com/ikathadopt), and in an 18 April 2019 episode of the documentary series *360 Degrees*, with Sofia Papaioannou (tinyurl.com/ytubeadopt – with English subtitles).



Dr John Kittmer, who will give the 2nd Niki Marangou Lecture in Athens, February 2020



Athens Scooters

PEOPLE

APPOINTMENTS

CHS and the Department of Classics welcome two new lecturers whose appointment commenced on 1 September 2019. **Dr Katharine O'Reilly**, who has recently finished an incisive PhD dissertation on ancient pleasure and pain, is our new Lecturer in Ancient Philosophy. **Dr Daniel Jolowicz**, formerly a Lecturer at Cambridge, is King's new Lecturer in Ancient Greek and Latin Language and Literature. His research explores the impact of Roman culture on the Greek novel. Meanwhile, **Dr David Bullen** is serving as writer and professional director of King's Greek Play, now in its 67th year! The play, *Dionysus in the Underworld: A New Play by Euripides and Aristophanes*, is based on Euripides' *Bacchae* and Aristophanes' *Frogs* and will be presented in a combination of ancient Greek and newly translated English. The show will open at the Greenwood Theatre, London Bridge, and will run from 26 to 28 February 2020. For more information, see tinyurl.com/greekplaynews2020

ACADEMIC VISITORS

The Centre for Hellenic Studies has a distinguished record in attracting academic visitors, from postdoctoral researchers to professors emeriti, who benefit from its distinctive character and resources and contribute, on a voluntary basis, to making our research environment at once unique and truly international. Visitors normally contribute by giving seminars or public lectures, by a reading, performance, or exhibition of creative work, by helping to organise a public event or conference, by advising doctoral students, and by assisting with planning and publicity.

VISITING STAFF IN 2019 WERE:

♦ **Professors Emeriti Michalis Chryssanthopoulos** and **Georgia Farinou-Malamatari**, who are engaged in self-funded research projects on aspects of Modern Greek literature;

- ♦ **Dr Achilles Hadjikyriacou** and **Dr Marios Psaras**, respectively the former and current Cultural Counsellor at the High Commission of Cyprus, who have been assisting with co-hosting events, publicity, and with sharing their deep knowledge about Greek and Cypriot cinema;
- ♦ **Professor Emerita Judith Herrin**, who holds a three-year visiting senior research fellowship (2019-2022) in King's Department of Classics with close ties to CHS (*see the mid-June 2020 conference over*);
- ♦ Alumni **Dr Loizos Kapsalis**, **Dr Maria Rizou**, and **Dr Polina Tambakaki**, who continue to engage very actively in research projects that will lead to online and in-print publications;
- ♦ **Dr Giampaolo Salice**, funded by the Italian government, researching influential Greek families with British connections (*see the 27 January 2020 panel discussion over*).

IN MEMORIAM

Dr Ruth Macrides (1 October 1949 – 27 April 2019)

Roderick Beaton, Emeritus Koraes Professor, shares: 'We report with deep sadness the death, aged 69, of our alumna Ruth Macrides, after a short illness. Ruth completed her PhD under the supervision of Professor Donald Nicol in the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies in 1978. She later published a much revised and expanded version of her dissertation as an authoritative monograph, *George Akropolites: The History* (introduction, translation and commentary; Oxford UP, 2007).

Born in Boston, Massachusetts, to parents of Pontian Greek extraction, Ruth studied at Columbia University, New York, before coming to King's. Her subsequent professional career took her to the University of Frankfurt-am-Main, the Queen's University of Belfast, and the Universities of St Andrews and Birmingham. From 2013 she was Reader in Byzantine Studies in the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies at the latter institution. From 2005, she served as co-editor of the journal *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies*, one of whose founding editors had been her former supervisor at King's, Donald Nicol.

Ruth Macrides was a versatile scholar with a wide range of interests in both the history and literature of the Byzantine Empire. She was particularly interested in legal and social history, and she had a special fondness for the Palaeologan period (13th-15th centuries). A Byzantinist by training and by profession, Ruth was always proud of her Hellenic heritage and was often an enthusiastic contributor to Modern Greek Studies – not least in her recent work on 'The Scottish Connection in Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies', which can be found online at tinyurl.com/macridesscotcon. She will be sadly missed.'

Both of our regular evening events series, the **Late Antique and Byzantine Seminars Series** (biweekly on Tuesdays) and the **Modern Greek Studies Events Series** (biweekly on Mondays), continue to attract visitors and audiences from London and its surroundings and offer lively forums of discussion. Speakers come from a range of countries and disciplines, and topics range from Late Antique and Byzantine architecture to Modern Greek sociolinguistics. All our public events are announced online in September and cover the academic year through June. You can find them online at tinyurl.com/chsevents1920. You can click on the title of each event to find a special page dedicated to it, with precise data on speakers, topics, times, locations, etc. Reminders are also regularly sent out via email to all who have registered their email address at chs@kcl.ac.uk. Please pre-register via Eventbrite once the link on the event's page becomes active, since it facilitates our planning and also your access to the King's venues. CHS's online archive of events is at tinyurl.com/chseventarchive

SAVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS OF 2020

Monday 13 January 2020, 18.00 to 20.00, River Room: Greek Poets in Translation: Ganas and Ritsos co-organised with the Society for Modern Greek Studies (speakers Joshua Barley and Dr John Kittmer).

Monday 27 January 2020, 17.00 to 21.00, Council Room: Panel discussion Migration and Diaspora co-organised with the British School at Athens. Moderator: Dr Dionysios Stathakopoulos; speakers: Dr Giampaolo Salice, Professor Gonda Van Steen, Dr Maria Rizou, Dr Effie Pedaliu, and Dr Emmanouil Pratsinakis.

Thursday 6 February 2020, 18.00, Great Hall: The 29th annual Runciman Lecture: 'To Hell and Back': The Politics of the Greek Crisis, 2009-2019 by Professor Stathis Kalyvas (University of Oxford). Vote of thanks by Vicky Pryce. The lecture will be preceded by Orthodox Vespers in King's Chapel starting at 17.15. The Runciman lectures are generously sponsored by Mrs Matti Egon and the late Nicholas Egon.



Friday 7 February 2020, 19.00 to 20.30, Cotsen Hall (adjacent to the Gennadius Library), entry from 9, Anapiron Polemou Street, Kolonaki, Athens: The 2nd annual Niki Marangou Memorial Lecture: Anglo-Hellenism: Adventures in Cultural Exchange by Dr John Kittmer (Chair of the Anglo-Hellenic League, former British Ambassador to Greece, and recent King's PhD). The presentation will be in Greek. The Niki Marangou lectures are sponsored by Mr Constantis Candounas and are preceded by the award announcement of the annual Niki Marangou Translation Prize, also sponsored by Mr Candounas.

Wednesday 25 March 2020, 18.30-20.00, Great Hall: The 7th annual Jamie Rumble Memorial Fund Lecture in Classical Art: A Greek Lady from Persepolis: A Statue of Penelope and her Roman Sisters by Professor Salvatore Settis (Pisa). The 2020 Rumble Fund Lecture, organised by CHS in collaboration with the Courtauld Institute of Art, the Institute of Classical Studies, and King's Department of Classics, will again be owed to the generosity of the Jamie Rumble Memorial Fund.

Monday 15 June 2020, 17.30 to 19.00, Council Room: The annual Katie Lentakis Award ceremony, co-organised with the Anglo-Hellenic League (Chair: Dr John Kittmer). *Speaker and topic TBA.*

Monday-Wednesday 15-17 June 2020, King's building (Safra Lecture Theatre TBC) International conference: Power and Images: Ravenna in a Comparative Perspective Organiser: Professor Emerita Judith Herrin, who has been studying the role of Ravenna in mediating the interactions between Byzantine and Western medieval culture. The conference will coincide with the publication of Professor Herrin's latest book, *Ravenna: Capital of Late Antiquity* (Penguin, 2020). Professor Herrin's current work and also the conference are supported by the Ahmanson Foundation.



PEOPLE AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE CENTRE FOR HELLENIC STUDIES IN 2019-20

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- ♦ **Centre for Hellenic Studies website:** www.kcl.ac.uk/chs
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