



The Hellenic Society Prometheas

Τη γλώσσα μου έδωσαν Ελληνική

Το σπίτι φτωχικό στις αμμουδιές του Ομήρου.

Μονάχη έγνοια η γλώσσα μου στις αμμουδιές του Ομήρου.

www.Prometheas.org

Οδυσσέας Ελύτης

Newsletter

October 2011

Prometheas Events

- **October 7, 2011, 8:00 pm:** “Stella”, Greek Film in memory of Michael Cacoyannis, who recently passed away. Movie to be shown at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Bethesda, MD (see flyer for more information)
- **October 21, 2011, 7:30 pm: Elections of Prometheas Board** at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Bethesda, MD (see flyer for more information).

Events of Other Organizations

- **Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at 6:30 pm: Lecture on "Zeus on an Arcadian Mountaintop and the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos"** by Prof. David Gilman Romano of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. The event will take place at The Embassy of Greece (2217 Massachusetts Avenue, NW; Washington, DC). RSVP: classic.heritage@verizon.net
- Mark your calendars for the upcoming pioneering European programs with the participation of all the 27 EU countries: **EURO KIDS FESTIVAL (October 14th to November 10th) and the 24th AFI-EU Film Showcase (November 3 – 22, 2011).**
- **November 25, 2011, 8:00 pm: Laconian Society Annual Dance**, Hilton Hotel, McLean, VA
- **April 1st around 4.30 pm:** Hellenes of Diaspora Museum, Baltimore, MD

Websites of the month

- *Stamatios Krimigis on Exploring the Heliosphere:*
<http://sciencewatch.com/ana/st/planet/11sepPlanetKrim/>
- Odyssey's New Website: www.odyssey.gr
- Greek America Foundation: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fa6CHXm1Vw>
- Opa...: <http://www.youtube.com/v/CL9VcdZjig?version=3>
- Β' Μέρος Στέλιος Ράμφορ: <http://www.ert.gr/webtv/index.php/2011-06-03-13-11-34/item/460-26/09/2011-%C3%A2-%C3%AC%C3%9D%C3%B1%C3%AF%C3%B2-%C3%B3%C3%B4%C3%9D%C3%AB%C3%A9%C3%AF%C3%B2-%C3%B1%C3%9C%C3%AC%C3%B6%C3%AF%C3%B2.html>

Books

- *«Ευτυχισμένος που έκανε το ταξίδι του Οδυσσέα» της Μαριάννας Κορομηλά.*
Περιγράφει τη ζωή του Γιάγκου Δανιηλοπούλου, ο οποίος γεννήθηκε στο Βασιλικό της βορειοανατολικής Θράκης το 1899 και έζησε σε διάφορα μέρη του Ευξείνου Πόντου (Κωνσταντινούπολη, Βάρνα, Γαλάτσι, Κωσταντζα, Οδησσό, Ροστόβ και Νοβόροσισκ) πριν έλθει στο Ρουμανο-προσφυγικό καταυλισμό του Λαυρίου και στο Κορωπί της Αττικής όπου πέρασε τα τελευταία χρόνια της ζωής του (1950-1987). Η ιστορία του Γιάγκου είναι τόσο επίκαιρη όσο ποτέ άλλοτε και αξίζει να την διαβάσει ο κάθε σύγχρονος Έλληνας, ειδικά στις δύσκολες περιστάσεις που περνά η χώρα μας.

News Articles

ΔΙΕΘΝΗΣ ΔΙΑΓΩΝΙΣΜΟΣ ΜΕ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΧΡΩΜΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ HARVARD

Το πανεπιστήμιο Harvard και η Έδρα Σεφέρη δημιούργησε την εκδοτική σειρά Harvard Early Modern and Modern Greek Library (HEMMGL) και θεσμοθετεί Διεθνές Βραβείο Ελληνικού Πολιτισμού που θα απονέμεται κάθε χρόνο σε ποιητικά και πεζογραφικά έργα και σε δοκίμια-μελέτες.

Το βραβείο απευθύνεται σε συγγραφείς από όλο τον κόσμο. Προϋπόθεση για τις δύο πρώτες κατηγορίες είναι το έργο να έχει γραφεί στην ελληνική. Για το Δοκίμιο το έργο θα πρέπει να αφορά τον ελληνικό πολιτισμό και να είναι γραμμένο στα ελληνικά, αγγλικά, γερμανικά, γαλλικά, ισπανικά ή ιταλικά. Οι ενδιαφερόμενοι για το εφετινό βραβείο μπορούν να αποστείλουν τις υποψηφιότητές τους για έργα της τελευταίας διετίας ως τις 30 Σεπτεμβρίου 2011 στον πρόεδρο της κριτικής επιτροπής Δημήτριο Γιατρομανωλάκη (Department of the Classics, 204 Boylston Hall, Harvard Yard, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA). Η απονομή θα γίνει την πρώτη εβδομάδα του Δεκεμβρίου.

Ο θεσμός προβλέπει βραβεία κατόπιν διαγωνισμού με έμφαση στους νέους λογοτέχνες και

βραβεία που θα απονέμονται τιμής ένεκεν σε καθιερωμένους λογοτέχνες.

Την κριτική επιτροπή του βραβείου απαρτίζουν μέλη του Πανεπιστημίου Χάρβαρντ και μέλη της συμβουλευτικής επιτροπής της σειράς HEMMGL.

Στις προθέσεις της επιτροπής είναι, από το 2012, πρόσκληση των εννέα επικρατέστερων υποψηφίων του έτους να παρουσιάσουν το έργο τους στο κοινό σε εκδήλωση στο Χάρβαρντ όπως και η δημοσίευση επιλογής από το έργο των βραβευμένων στη σειρά HEMMGL.

Από το 2012, σε συνεργασία με το Μέγαρο Μουσικής Αθηνών, το πανεπιστήμιο θα θεσπίσει και βραβείο μουσικής-μουσικολογίας ενώ αργότερα προγραμματίζονται βραβεία για έλληνες δημιουργούς και σε άλλους τομείς της τέχνης και της επιστήμης.

Εαν σας ενδιαφέρει δείτε το FULL LINK HARVARD UNUNIVERSITY, BOSTON MASS, USA... ΚΑΛΗ ΕΠΙΤΥΧΙΑ!!

<http://parathyrostaoneira.blogspot.com/2011/09/harvard.html?sref=fb>

Zorba's Cafe in the Washingtonian Magazine once again

The Washingtonian includes Zorba's Café (1612 20th Str. NW, Washington DC; www.zorbascave.com) in its annual publication of restaurants of the Washington DC Metropolitan area. The Washingtonian website adds the following:

Is there anywhere to eat in Dupont Circle that won't break the bank? Where would you go to get an entree under \$20? I can only think of Heritage India, or Luna Cafe, and neither of those is quite what I'm looking for.

Todd Kliman: Clearly you didn't pick up a copy of the Cheap Eats issue, out last June.

Because one of my favorite places in the city is in there, and fits all your needs: Zorba's, just off the northernmost exit of the Dupont Circle Metro.

I've been going there ever since I was a young, hungry intern making squadoosh and then even after when I had stepped up to making a pittance.

I love the gyro platters, the tabbouleh (lots of parsley!), the chickpea and lemon salad, the hummus, the taramosalata, the spanakopitta, even the steak subs and pizzas.

Zorba's is a gem. In the warmer months, you can even sit outside. I challenge anybody to find me another place in the city where you can eat so well, so cheaply, and have the privilege of dining al fresco, to boot.

Kliman Online

Ο ποιητής στραμμένος στη ζωή

Ο Οδυσσέας Ελύτης αυτοσυστήνεται μέσα από έναν τόμο που σχεδίασε ο ίδιος και συγκεντρώνει 37 από τις συνεντεύξεις του

Της Ολγας Σελλα

Πόσα μπορούν ν' αποκαλύψουν ήδη γνωστά και δημοσιευμένα κείμενα; Πάρα πολλά, όπως αποδεικνύει ένα βιβλίο που δεν περιέχει τίποτα αδημοσίευτο, και όμως αποκαλύπτει πολλά. Ο ποιητής Οδυσσέας Ελύτης, στις αρχές της δεκαετίας του '90, έκανε μια επιλογή από τις όχι πολλές συνεντεύξεις που είχε δώσει στη ζωή του, με σκοπό κάποια στιγμή να εκδοθούν. «Σκέφτηκε ότι είναι σωστό να υπάρχουν κι αυτά τα κείμενα» δίπλα στα ποιήματα και τα δοκίμιά του, λέει σήμερα στην «Κ» η Ιουλίτα Ηλιοπούλου, που συνεργάστηκε μαζί του σ' εκείνη την επιλογή.

Ο τόμος «*Συν τοις άλλοις*» (η δοτική πτώση συμβαδίζει με τη δοτική διάθεση του περιεχομένου) περιέχει 37 συνεντεύξεις του Οδυσσέα Ελύτη από το 1942 ως το 1992. Κυρίως σε Ελληνες δημοσιογράφους, κυρίως σε ελληνικά έντυπα. Και, δεκαπέντε χρόνια μετά τον θάνατό του, ο Οδυσσέας Ελύτης μάς ξανασυστήνεται, ανατρέποντας πολλές από τις εικόνες του: θυμώνει, επικρίνει, αγωνιά, ελπίζει, στοχάζεται. Ένα βιβλίο που «έχει τον Ελύτη στην αμεσότητά του, στο κέντρο των γεγονότων κάθε φορά, στον παλμό της εποχής και της ζωής, με τον λόγο της προφορικής ανάσας και της αμεσότητας που είχε όταν αυθορμήτως απαντούσε σε ερωτήσεις που του έθεταν». Γιατί, μας εξηγεί η Ιουλίτα Ηλιοπούλου, ο Ελύτης δεν δεχόταν ποτέ να δει εκ των προτέρων τα ερωτήματα. «Είχε εμπιστοσύνη και σ' αυτόν που δεχόταν και στη δική του αυθορμησία και σκέψη».

Τριάντα επτά συνεντεύξεις, το ηχητικό ντοκουμέντο από τη συνέντευξη Τύπου που δόθηκε στις 19 Οκτωβρίου 1979 στο ξενοδοχείο «Μεγάλη Βρετανία», όταν ανακοινώθηκε ότι του απονέμεται το βραβείο Νομπέλ και πλούσιο φωτογραφικό υλικό -σε μεγάλο μέρος ανέκδοτο- συνθέτουν αυτό το διαφορετικό βιβλίο που κυκλοφορεί αύριο από τις εκδόσεις Ψυλόν. Η εικόνα του απόμακρου ποιητή της γενιάς του '30 που συνομίλησε με τον υπερρεαλισμό ανατρέπεται. Μέσα από τα δικά του λόγια, τα προφορικά, τα πτερόεντα, αποδεικνύεται ότι «ήταν ένας άνθρωπος στραμμένος στην ίδια τη ζωή, όπως είναι η ποίησή του».



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September 25, 2011

Germany's Mediterranean Envy

By TODD G. BUCHHOLZ

Solana Beach, Calif.

GREECE is broke and broken. Its budget deficit bulges near 10 percent of gross domestic product, while the Germans choke theirs down to just 1.5 percent.

Ask a typical German why and he'll say: "They drink and dance during the day. We wait for sunset." That's the image. The hard-working, disciplined, punch-the-clock-on-time German stays solvent and sober. In contrast, the Mediterranean neighbor lolls around in fertile fields of lemons and olives.

And yet most Germans go along, if grudgingly, with bailouts. Recent elections show the Social Democrats and Greens picking up votes, even though they are even more euro-friendly than Angela Merkel's government. Why are Germans willing to reach deep into their pockets for many billions of euros to bail out Zorba the Greek and his lackadaisical neighbors?

The standard answer: to safeguard the German economy. But this is flabby reasoning. Despite the Great Recession, the German economy has been bouncing along at a decent pace with a 7 percent unemployment rate, and it even racks up a trade *surplus* with China. Sure, adopting the euro in 1999 sliced border-crossing costs for German companies, but European monetary union was never chiefly about money. If money was the biggest concern, Germany would never have surrendered the gilded Deutsche mark, controlled by the austere, trusted Bundesbank, for a euro that might someday be twisted by a rabble of politicians baying for votes from Slovenians.

No, Germany's real motivation to help Greece is not cash; it's culture. Germans struggle with a national envy. For over 200 years, they have been searching for a missing part of their soul: passion. They find it in the south and covet the loosey-goosey, sun-filled days of their free-wheeling Mediterranean neighbors.

In the early 1800s, Goethe reported that his travels to Italy charged him up with new creative energy. Later, Heinrich Heine made the pilgrimage, writing to his uncle: "Here, nature is beautiful and man lovable. In the high mountain air that you breathe in here, you forget instantly your troubles and the soul expands."

Nietzsche claimed that the staid German psyche was stunted and needed more than a beer stein of passion. He was fascinated by ancient Greece and famously juxtaposed sober Apollo with that reckless, wine-drinking southerner, Dionysus. A dose of Dionysus might not be so bad, he figured.

Today, Germany still looks too Apollonian. Companies like BMW and Siemens conquer industrial markets by manufacturing flawless, perfectly timed motors. But when do Germans experience the fun of Dionysus? Only when vacationing in Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal.

Even then, they struggle to find the right balance. In Thomas Mann's novella "Death in Venice," the humorless, authoritarian protagonist Gustav von Aschenbach loses his regal bearing and becomes infatuated while in Italy, letting go of his strait-laced ways. Aschenbach lurches from overly repressed to overly sensualized, dyeing his hair, rouging his cheeks and stuffing his mouth with overripe strawberries.

And then there's Sigmund Freud, an Austrian whose Germanic surname translates as "joy." If only. Freud, too, thought that Italy and the south offered a tantalizing "softness and beauty" that could save the Teutonic psyche. Instead of Nietzsche's Apollo and Dionysus, Freud poses superego and id. The id hosts a wild imagination and ecstasy. The superego is that German librarian-frau with her hair tied up in the bun telling you to "shush!"

On the map of Germany you can find quite a few towns with my family name of Buchholz. My wife once scolded me for acting too uptight, saying "You take all the fun out of everything." Wow, I felt both powerful and bad. I could take *all* of the fun out of *everything*. Forget Apollo — even Zeus didn't have that much power! But a starchier-than-thou power sickens the soul.

So today Germany has the power and the discipline and yet still feels bad for its neighbors. Germans are simply unwilling to sever the emotional bond they feel with their unhurried but passionate brothers and sisters to the south.

During Oktoberfest, Germans in *biergartens* will lift a glass and sway arm in arm to a popular, schmaltzy German tune called "[Griechischer Wein](#)" ("Greek Wine"). Haunting and rousing, the lyrics compare Greek wine to the "earth's blood." The German narrator spies a group of Greek men drinking together and longs to be with them. He doesn't even have to ask, for the dark-eyed men stand up and invite him to join them.

Despite a history of proclaiming their superiority, deep down Germans are not sure they've got it right, after all.

Todd G. Buchholz is the author of "Rush: Why You Need and Love the Rat Race."

New York Times

Ο Πλάτωνας και τα “δίκια των εργαζόμενων”

Κατά τον Πλάτωνα, στην “Πολιτεία”, μια πόλη-κράτος (ένα κράτος δηλαδή), είναι δίκαιο επειδή το αποτελούν δίκαιοι πολίτες. Ένας πολίτης είναι δίκαιος όταν το κράτος είναι δίκαιο και του παρέχει τις δυνατότητες των επαγγελματικών επιδιώξεων που τον εκφράζουν, γιατί εργαζόμενος ευχάριστα μπορεί να αποδόσει περισσότερο βοηθώντας τον εαυτό του και το κράτος, αφού παράγει τα μέγιστα και για τα δύο. Δηλαδή, δίκαιο κράτος και δίκαιοι πολίτες είναι ταυτόσημα. Δεν είναι μόνο “της αρπαχτής και για πάρτη του καθενός κι ας πνιγούν οι άλλοι”. Όταν δεν υπάρχει ταυτοσημία υπάρχει απόκλιση και απόσχιση. Δηλαδή οι πολίτες νομίζουν ότι αδικούνται από το κράτος και το κράτος από τους πολίτες. Τουτέστιν, η σχιζοφρένεια που συμβαίνει σήμερα στην πατρίδα.

Αυτά μου θυμίζουν τόσο οι κυβερνώντες όσο και διάφοροι τύποι στην τηλεόραση που μιλάνε με κλισέ-φρασεολογίες για τα θιγόμενα συμφέροντά τους από τα διάφορα νομοθετήματα της κυβέρνησης. Και αγνοούν, ασφαλώς, ότι κυβερνώντες και κυβερνόμενοι αποτελούν το κράτος, αφού και οι κυβερνώντες προέρχονται από πρώην κυβερνόμενους. Ό,τι συμβαίνει, λοιπόν, αφορά άμεσα όλους αφού είναι όλοι υπεύθυνοι για ότι είναι το κράτος, μαζί και οι υποτιθέμενοι υπερασπιστές των “δίκιων των εργαζόμενων”, sic.

Ψιλά γράμματα θα μου πουν: τι Πλάτωνας κι τι πράσινα άλογα μας τσαμπουνάει αυτός. Όμως ο Πλάτωνας έχει δικιο. Τώρα πόσοι από αυτούς τον έχουν διαβάσει ή ακόμα και ακουστά, είναι μια άλλη ιστορία.

P. K.

They came, they saw, they dug, they danced

by Kathy Tzilivakis 📅 14 Aug 2011



They gave up malls, movie theatres and MTV this summer to learn how to mix cement, dance the sirtaki and roll vine leaves in a small northern Greek village near Halkidiki.

“It was incredible,” said Nat Bettey, a secondary school student from Laguna Hills in California. “I am so glad we were able to do that! I loved seeing the way the locals live their lives compared to ours.”

Bettey was one of 25 American and Canadian high school students who participated in the Greek Summer - a cultural immersion programme organised by the American Farm School (AFS) in Thessaloniki.

The students lived with local Greek families in the small farming village of Nea Gonia. They learned to speak Greek while helping locals build a recreation and seating area around a historic stone springhouse. They also planted trees around the site and built a park bench out of rocks from the area.

“My Greek family was interesting, inviting, confusing, happy ... [living with them] was a challenge,” said Logan Helmers, from Greenville, South Carolina. “But well worth it.”

She and the other students also learned how to make organic dolmadakia (stuffed vine leaves) at Marianna’s Vineleaves, one of the village’s most successful local businesses. The family of Pangalos Kazakis, a Farm School graduate, set up the company.

According to Greek Summer organisers, the students gained agricultural skills, learning about livestock care, feta cheese production, beekeeping and tractor driving, while they also sampled Greek wines and cooked traditional Greek dishes.

In keeping with the programme's decades-old tradition, participants had the opportunity to visit some of the country's major historical sites, including Meteora, Delphi, Ancient Nemea, Mycenae, Epidaurus and Nafplio, as well as Athens' Acropolis. Their five-week tour concluded with a trek on Mt Olympus - the country's highest mountain.

They are now back in the United States and Canada preparing for the start of the new school year in September.

Cooking lessons and wine tasting

Robb Morgan, head counselor at AFS

We've enjoyed an incalculable amount of laughs, ice cream and mosquito bites, as well as some sunburn for good measure. Yes, even sunburn is enjoyable in Greece!

We spent our first few days at a campsite right on the Aegean Sea in Halkidiki. Here we played icebreakers and began forming a tightly knit group. Paddleball quickly became a mainstay, and we also took on a 25th member for the orientation - a puppy that the kids named Skittles/Theodore/Reggie. To the disappointment of many, the puppy was a little too big to fit into my change purse so we had to leave her at the campsite.

We left the campsite and travelled to Metamorfoosi on the Halkidiki peninsula, where Tad Lansdale, who cofounded Greek Summer with her husband Bruce, continues the 41-year-old tradition of welcoming our participants to Greece with reflective stories and tales of folk character Hodja.

Our busy days were far from over. At the AFS, we kicked off activities with a tractor tour and a basic Greek lesson to help students communicate with their host families. This was followed by cheese making, where we learned about and helped in the process of making feta cheese.

That's when we also discovered how hot a sterile plastic suit can be! After some lunch and a siesta (my favourite Greek pastime), we were back at it with Greek cooking lessons and wine tasting.

The participants learned how to make pizza, tzatziki (yoghurt, cucumber and garlic dip), and eggplant salad - all of which were served at dinner and proved delicious! In wine tasting, we learned the process of making wines, as well as the art of tasting wine. We were taught how to develop our senses to determine the quality and age of the wine.

On the farm, we truly got "elbow deep" into our work, learning how to artificially inseminate a cow. When asked who wanted to try it, participants' hands shot up without hesitation. We finished our livestock activities by giving the cow some spa treatment. She was washed and scrubbed for all her efforts, and we thank her for her generosity! Since Greeks love dancing, we ended the day with a Greek dancing lesson.

We also dressed up in beekeeping protection gear and were off to the beehives. Here, surrounded by busy worker bees, we learned all about the lives of bees - from reproduction to how honey is made.

At Nea Gonia village, our participants discovered the difficulties of communicating in another language. They felt the Greek midday sun bear down on them as they poured one last wheelbarrow of cement; they bore witness to the never ending barrage of dancing that often caps village dinners. Some even high-fived a yiayia (grandmother)! Throughout their experiences, they saw how easily a friendly smile or wave can bond people from different cultures and say much more than words ever could.

The students spent the last night eating with their host families. Leaving such wonderful and generous people is one of the most difficult points of Greek Summer, and the tears shed by both our participants and host families prove this above all else.

The AFS

The American Farm School is a private, non-profit educational institution founded in 1904 to serve the rural population of Greece and the Balkans. It now includes a secondary school, the Dimitris Perrotis College of Agricultural Studies and the department of Lifelong Learning.

The school's founder, Dr John Henry House, was a practical idealist who believed in educating the whole individual: the head, the hands and the heart. Inspired by the examples of the Hampton and Tuskegee Institutes and the Penn School they had observed in the United States, Dr House and his wife taught the rural youth of Greece and the Balkans the modern agricultural methods and vocational skills necessary to achieve mastery in farming and assume leadership roles in their communities.

In the 1950s, in a country devastated by the Second World War and the Civil War following it, the American Farm School launched an adult training programme, expanding its agricultural and management offerings. In the 1960s, the school set up a community development programme in cooperation with the local prefecture.

Bruce Lansdale, assisted by his wife Tad, was the longest-serving director of the school, from 1955 to his retirement in 1990. He passed away in 2009, aged 84.

Athens News 15/Aug/2011 page 36-37

For more information, email rkaryp@afs.edu.gr or visit www.afs.edu.gr/greeksummer