



## **CENTER FOR HELLENIC STUDIES**

#### **Friends of Hellenic Studies:**

I am delighted to share the Center's 2022 Newsletter with you. While the challenges associated with the COVID pandemic have persisted, and our return to in-person events has been slow, we were delighted to see so many friends, old and new, in April of 2022 when Professor Dimitra Mylona joined us from Crete to share her combined archaeological and ethnographic work on Aegean fishing and foodways. It was a moving reminder of how much you all have been missed.

As you will see, we have dedicated the summer to preparation for a rich calendar of in-person events in the fall. Together with our partners at the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry at Emory University, we have prepared a rich and expansive program for the "Europe and Beyond" seminar series. I am especially delighted to note that fully one half of this year's presenters are from Georgia State University, including our own Research Fellow, Aikaterini Grigoriadou. These seminars will convene monthly, beginning in October 2022 and ending in April 2023.

I am even more excited to report that, after three cancellations due to the COVID pandemic (in April 2020, November 2020, and February 2022), the legendary singer-songwriter, Alkinoos loannidis, will finally join us for a free concert at the Rialto Theater on October 21, 2022. Doors open at 6:00pm, the concert begins at 7:00pm, and there will be a reception in the Theater's lobby after the show.

In my first conversation with Alkinoos, he generously offered to give a lecture, since this concert is being hosted by a university. This lecture, entitled "The Word and the Note," will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 4:00pm in the Centennial Welcome Center at Georgia State University. This will provide our university hosts and local friends with an opportunity to meet Alkinoos in a more intimate setting and to engage him in dialogue about his creative and insightful theories regarding music as an essential, and essentially human, cultural gift.

In support of our friends at the Atlanta Greek Film Expo, the Center is delighted to be the Diamond Sponsor of that landmark annual cultural event. The Expo will take place this fall on October 28, 29 and 30. This year's line-up is most impressive, and we encourage you to reserve tickets now.



Louis A. Ruprecht Jr. Director

As many of you will already know, the Center has become involved in its own film productions in the past year, with stunning results. Our first feature film was assembled in honor of the Greek Bicentennial (March 25, 2021). More recent films include a panel discussion in celebration of the Center's good friend, Kathryn A. Kozaitis, and her remarkable book, Indebted: An Ethnography of Despair and Resilience in Greece's Second City (October 9, 2021), and another panel discussion in celebration of International Greek Language Day (February 9, 2022). These films may all be viewed at the Center's YouTube site:

### https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbX 5mvyorrJz1vVbX0QuSjA

Finally, we are honored to share news from the Greek Consul to Atlanta, the Honorable Theodoros Dimopoulos, from our Research Fellow, Aikaterini Grigoriadou, and from this year's George S. Kleris Memorial Scholar, Kenya Shaw. I am honored by their close involvement with the Center and deeply grateful for their friendship.

We wish you and yours a restful end to the summer, and look forward to being together again this fall.



# Inaugural Research Fellow Aikaterini Grigoriadou

#### Friends of Hellenic Studies:

This year, I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on my ten year involvement with the GSU Center for Hellenic Studies. Since the fall of 2012, I have had the honor to work closely with the Center: first as an undergraduate student volunteer; then as a graduate administrative assistant; then as an administrative coordinator; and now as the Center's Inaugural Research Fellow, in which I am conducting international ethnographic research based in Thessaloniki, Greece, together with scholarly research here in Atlanta. In these various positions, I have had the privilege to follow and to participate in the Center's growth and the promotion of intercultural dialogue through an ambitious series of academic and cultural events in Atlanta and beyond.

The variety and creativity of these events is the product of the Center's affiliations and collaborations with local and international academic institutions, including Emory University, Kennesaw State University, the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, the American Academy in Rome, the Ionian University of Corfu, the Cyprus University of Technology, and Anatolia College in Thessaloniki. The Center has also profited from partnerships with other local and international organizations such as the the Greek Consulate of Atlanta, the Atlanta Greek Film Expo, Lykeion ton Ellinidon, the Goethe Zentrum and Alliance Française, the Hellenic Academic Society and AHEPA's founding Atlanta chapter. In 2019, the Center established its own Local Advisory Board, "The Oplites," a group of local Greek diplomats, organizers, and entrepreneurs, most notably including the Honorable Theodoros Dimopoulos, Consul of Greece to Atlanta, and the Honorary Consul of Cyprus, the Honorable Polyxeni Potter.





The Center's dynamic collaboration with these institutions led to the production of significant events, which invited the participation of a vast range of international scholars, students, politicians, diplomats, and entrepreneurs. I myself have had the honor to attend, to participate in, and to contribute to many of these events including: "Celebrating the Poetry of Constantine Cavafy"; "A Concert Honoring Greek Independence"; "the Modern Greek Studies Association Biennial Symposium of 2015"; "The Europe and Beyond Seminar Series"; "Reflections on the Greek Bicentennial in Atlanta"; "The Year of Greece"; "The Galan Trio musical performance"; a Panel Discussion of "Indebted: an Ethnography of Despair and Resilience in Greece's Second City," by Professor Kathryn Kozaitis; and the "Celebration of the International Greek Language Day."

Today, I am thrilled to find myself in this unique position that allows me to further advance the Center's cosmopolitan mission through my own ethnographic research with the musical ensemble that re-imagines ancient Greek music, Orphean Harmony (photo on the left), an English translation of my poetic cycle "The Songs of Eternal Grace" (which was set into music by Dimitris Delfinopoulos, and enjoyed a World Premiere performed at the State Conservatory of Thessaloniki in May 2022 (photo on the right)), and my recent appointment as a member of the Atlanta Greek Film Festival.



# Greek Consul to Atlanta The Honorable Theodoros Demopoulos



#### **Dear Friends of Hellenic Studies,**

For a second consecutive year it has been my privilege to collaborate closely with the Center for Hellenic Studies. As a diplomat, promoting the interests and influence of my country lies at the epicenter of my duties. To this aim we have developed a broad network of collaborations with universities as well as with cultural associations and organizations among which the Center for Hellenic Studies has been a steady and valuable ally and advocate in the promotion of Cosmopolitan Hellenism, on a multilateral, multi-confessional, allencompassing basis.

With its meticulous and targeted programming, as well as under the inspired leadership of its Director, Dr. Louis A. Ruprecht Jr., the Center has managed to become a unique node where Greek culture, literature, music, archaeology, humanities, cultural programing and academic exchange are finely interwoven, continuously increasing its influence and imprint in the academic and cultural events of the State of Georgia and beyond.



The Honorable
Theodoros Dimopoulos
Greek Consul to Atlanta

We are looking forward to seeing many of you in the wonderful academic and cultural events that have been creatively planned for this year, as well as welcoming you in your long journey of acquaintance with the Greek culture and spirit.





## **Aristeia-Kudos**



## Milestone Recognition: 25 Years

The Center for Hellenic Studies is delighted to announce that one of the Center's Executive Committee members, Dr. Kathryn A. Kozaitis, has recently been given the Milestone Recognition Award by the College of Arts and Sciences, in recognition of her twenty-five years of work of extraordinary service to Georgia State University. During her career at GSU, Dr. Kozaitis has been an exemplary professor, a groundbreaking researcher, an inspiring mentor, and an invaluable colleague. Sher also served for nine years as Chair of the Department of Anthropology, during which time the Department became an independent unit and grew to more than twice its original size. The Center for Hellenic Studies applauds Professor Kozaitis's remarkable record of institutional achievements, her commitment to higher education, as well as to the pursuit of knowledge through sophisticated and morally engaged ethnographic research.



Kathryn A. Kozaitis Professor of Cultural Anthropology GSU



Louis A. Ruprecht Jr.
Director
Center for Hellenic Studies
GSU

#### Golden Cross of the Order of the Phoenix

In the March of 2021, the Director of the Center for Hellenic Studies, Professor Louis A. Ruprecht Jr., was awarded the Golden Cross of the Order of the Phoenix by the President of the Hellenic Republic, Katerina Sakellaropoulou, in recognition of his artistic, cultural and scholarly engagements in the promotion of Hellenism. This award is offered primarily to Greek citizens and, very occasionally, to extraordinary foreign nationals in acknowledgement of their contributions to the promotion of Greek culture beyond the borders of the Greek state. The medal ceremony has been postponed due to the COVID pandemic.

# Sheth Distinguished Faculty Award for International Achievement

Louis A. Ruprecht Jr., Director of the Center for Hellenic Studies, has received the prestigious Sheth Distinguished Faculty Award for International Achievement from Georgia State University. This award is given annually to a GSU faculty member who has an exemplary record of long-standing achievements in teaching, research and/or public service in the international arena. We are delighted to announce this recognition of the Center's work under Lou's leadership.

## The George S. Kleris Memorial Scholarship



**George S. Kleris** 

Through the generous support of the Carlos family and the local Greek community, the Center for Hellenic Studies offers the annual George S. Kleris Memorial Scholarship, to a promising undergraduate or graduate student at GSU who has a demonstrated interest in Greek-related subjects, whether ancient, Byzantine or modern.

The George S. Kleris Memorial Scholarship provides \$1000.00 to the successful GSU applicant in support of one of the following scholarly endeavors:

\*study abroad opportunities in Greece, whether for language study, academic pursuits, archaeological excavation or creative pursuits;

\*support of Hellenic-focused scholarly and artistic work at GSU; such projects may be coursespecific or take the form of independent research and internships;

\*research travel to relevant Greek archives or museum collections in the US and internationally.

This year's recipient is Kenya Shaw:

## **Congratulations Kenya!**

"I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the honor of having been selected as the recipient of the 2022 George S. Kleris Memorial Scholarship! My name is Kenya Shaw and I have been working as the film editor for the Center for Hellenic Studies for the past year.

The Center has not only provided an opportunity for me to utilize the knowledge, skills, and abilities that I've gained through my academic journey at Georgia State University, but has also provided a stress-free environment where I can understand the obstacles that Video Editors experience on the job. The biggest obstacle I've come across is not having a computer that is compatible with standard industry editing software. The PC I have been working on is not compatible with Adobe products, which has, in turn, crashed my computer and resulted in horrific rendering times. Therefore, the scholarship funds are being put toward an Apple computer that can handle large processing requirements.

My advice to all aspiring editors is to make the change from a PC to an Apple computer as it will cut your rendering time in half! Again, I am grateful for this scholarship and the opportunity to collaborate with members of the Center. Being introduced to Greek culture has been a valuable and enjoyable experience and has enhanced my interest in exploring other cultures around the world. Lou Ruprecht and Katerina Grigoriadou, your mentorship has had a tremendous impact on my cultural journey.



**Kenya Shaw** 

# Alkinoos Ioannidis Lecture and Concert in Atlanta Save the Dates!

Alkinoos loannides stands alone in the world of contemporary Greek music, and he often sings alone on stage. Without his musical partners in crime, sometimes without a microphone, he lets the songs take the lead. His live performances celebrate joy and spontaneity, embracing the countless possibilities of letting the artistic moment, and the energy of the audience, guide him and inspire him.

He plays and sings his songs in their simplest form, leading us back to the moment of their first creation. Following in a centuries-old tradition, that of the troubadours, Alkinoos travels from city to city taking along the sensations, the feelings, the thoughts, the experiences, the dreams and realities that concern us all.

His creative combination of Cypriot and Greek influences—together with Byzantine, classical and rock music elements—and his utterly unique vocal delivery, have made him popular not only in the Greek community, but with people from all backgrounds around the world.



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Alkinoos will also give a a lecture, entitled "The Word and the Note," on October 20, 2022, at 4:00pm in the Centennial Welcome Center at Georgia State University.

We are delighted that this will be Alkinoos's first visit to the US in over a decade. The Center for Hellenic Studies at Georgia State University is delighted to make this performance available to the Atlanta community and the broader southeast.



## **SAVE THE DATES!**

## Fall 2022 "Europe and Beyond" Interdisciplinary Research Seminars

#### October 3:

Everet Smith, Emory University: "Gloria Anzaldua, Chicana Feminism, and the Author as Producer"

Melissa Gayan, Emory University: "Joseph Stalin and the Re-Centralization of Soviet Postwar Control"

#### November 7:

Lynée Lewis Gaillet, Georgia State University: "The Enduring Legacy of Nineteenth-Century Choctaw Nation and Irish Solidarity"

Alexander Cors, Emory University: "The Indians who possess land shall not be disturbed': Conflict Over Land and Law in Colonial Louisiana. 1750-1820"

#### **December 5:**

Melissa McLeod, Georgia State University: "Our Bleak House: Narrative, Space, Contagion"

Andrew Walker-Cornetta, Georgia State University: "Assisi in Hanover, Lourdes in Jefferson: Cognitive Disability and the Catholic Imagination"



### Alanta Greek Film EXPO







The Center for Hellenic Studies is the Sole Diamond Sponsor of the Atlanta Greek Film EXPO

## **GIFTS & DONATIONS**



The GSU Center for Hellenic Studies offers a wide variety of programs that celebrate Greek archaeology, culture, history, and influence. A commitment to Georgia State and The Center for Hellenic Studies is a commitment to institutions with a record of success. Your support helps us continue to make a difference in the lives of our students, to recruit and retain renowned faculty, and to contribute to the cultural life of the city of Atlanta. Please support the Center for its impact and continued cosmopolitan commitment to celebrate Hellenism as an essential part of World Heritage.

To make a gift online, go to <a href="https://netcommunity.gsu.edu/make-a-gift">https://netcommunity.gsu.edu/make-a-gift</a> and follow these steps:

- 1) Choose the amount of your donation;
- 2) In the Designation Box scroll down to Other;
- 3) Type Center for Hellenic Studies Fund (020266)
- 4) then click Add Donation to complete the transaction.

Checks made to the GSU Foundation should mention the Center for Hellenic Studies Fund (020266) on the memo line and may be mailed to:

The GSU Foundation PO Box 2668 Atlanta, GA 30301

