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CELEBRATING THE GREEKS

EXHIBITIONS, EVENTS, ACTIVITIES

October 2015 – May 2016



Museum Newsletter

September 2015

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS



TRANSCENDING BOUNDARIES: THE ART OF ANTHONY QUINN

The National Hellenic Museum opens the first major exhibition in Chicago of the art of legendary actor, painter, and sculptor, Anthony Quinn since 1948. The indomitable life force that he brought to his portrayal of Zorba the Greek can also be found in his paintings and sculptures, many of which are on display at the museum.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



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UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS



{pg 10} Rich Cultural Programs and Exhibitions to Celebrate Greek History and Culture in Partnership With:

- Humanities Festival
- Eminent Scholars And Cultural Institutions
- Open House Chicago
- Chicago Architecture Biennial



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A Letter from the Museum Chairman



Autumn is always a time of enrichment and learning, and this year the experiences for the Greek community and its supporters are unprecedented. The National Hellenic Museum's partnership with The Field Museum comes to fruition this November, with the opening of a once-in-a-generation exhibition, The Greeks—Agamemnon to Alexander the Great. The National Hellenic Museum is proud to co-present this exhibition, which includes hundreds of precious items from Greek's finest museums.

As part of The Greeks, there will also be companion programs, lectures and exhibitions at the National Hellenic Museum. We encourage each of you to visit both museums to enjoy a broad range of experiences illustrating the value of the Greek legacy historically, as well as in the modern day.

This November, the National Hellenic Museum also continues its Kouzina tradition: a lively and enticing festival of Greek food. This is a valuable fundraiser for the NHM and more details will be found in the coming weeks on our website.

While The Greeks and Kouzina are two of the largest events this fall, there are many more activities, classes for children and adults, as well as exhibitions we would like to share with you. We look forward to seeing you at your Museum.

Best regards,

John P. Calamos, Sr.
Museum Chairman

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SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Join some of Chicago's most celebrated chefs, including Jimmy Bannos from Heaven on Seven, at Kouzina, the Museum's most anticipated annual food and wine feast. Eat, drink, mingle, and make a difference. Proceeds support our cultural and educational programs and exhibitions that enrich the communities we serve. Invitations will be arriving in your mail box soon.

To support Kouzina at a deeper level, consider a sponsorship, advertisement, or in-kind donation. Doing so will ensure your name, or your company's name, will be placed prominently before over 400 discerning and enthusiastic guests the evening of the event, and to thousands of others on our website and in our print publications.

For more information, please contact:
Marianne Vallas Kountoures, Director of Development
(312) 655-1234, ext. 30



Thank You for a Successful Gala

On May 9, the Museum's annual gala raised approximately \$950,000 in support of the museum's mission of sharing the legacy of Hellenism, preserving the stories and honoring the contributions to our nation by Greek immigrants and Americans of Greek heritage.

"Our thread in the American flag is one to look at with admiration," poet and author Paul J. Kachoris, M.D., said to guests in a video about the Museum's mission. "We weave our culture, our traditions and ourselves into it. It is our duty to preserve these artifacts, our culture and the stories."

The museum is grateful for the tireless efforts of Gala Co-Chairs, John S. Koudounis, President and CEO of Mizuho Securities USA Inc., and Aristotle Halikias, Chairman of Republic Bank and President of InterContinental Real Estate & Development, making this year's most successful Gala in the Museum's history.

It was a magical night at The Field Museum, with close to 800 guests from Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, Washington DC, Boston and other cities around the country and abroad, including Athens, Greece. Thanos Petrelis, one of Greece's most popular singers, brought down the house with an epic performance that continued late into the night and brought together fans of all ages.

"The incredible success that was experienced at the National Hellenic Museum Gala was an extraordinary expression of the passion we as Hellenes have for our culture and our heritage and our National Hellenic Museum," said Halikias.

Koudounis said he's honored and humbled by the overwhelming national support the museum received for this year's event. "I am glad that people share my passion to make the National Hellenic Museum an incubator of Hellenism," he said.

The proceeds will support the Museum's mission as the only national non-profit institution dedicated to collecting, preserving, sharing, and celebrating Greek history, culture, and the Greek American experience.

Thank you to our sponsors

We are grateful to so many for making Gala 2015 a remarkable night and humbled by the generosity of our donors. Support from our Chairman, Co-chairs, Board, volunteers, staff, and all the donors who contributed through ticket purchases, sponsorships, in-kind donations and auction participation were central to our success. A special thank you to NHM's Diamond, Platinum, Gold and Silver Sponsors. They include:

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CEO and President
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Upcoming Exhibitions

TOURISM LANDSCAPES: REMAKING GREECE

NOVEMBER 2015 – MAY 2016
CALAMOS GREAT HALL

Last seen at the Acropolis Museum in Athens and originally presented at the 14th International Architecture Exhibition, this exhibition explores the role of tourism and architecture as vehicles for the modernization of Greece.

The myth of contemporary Greece has always been defined by its historical continuity and unaltered landscape. However, economic activity that intensified rapidly during the country's post-War period led to an explosion of tourism. As a result, architecture began to merge with the surrounding, previously unchanged, landscape to unveil a new appearance for Greece.

Through images and models, this exhibition presents and examines examples of existing and unrealized architectural projects, as well as new designs developed for the exhibition by Greek and foreign architects, to show the shaping of a new Greek national identity.



AEGEAN: CREATION OF AN ARCHIPELAGO

NOVEMBER 2015 – MAY 2016
SECOND FLOOR

The first ever exhibition to explore the 20-million-year evolution of Homer's "wine dark sea."

Inspiring some of the world's greatest civilizations, the Aegean Sea and its dazzling islands have been shaped by volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tectonic shifts, and violent weather phenomena, over 20 million years. This exhibition explores the tumultuous history, geology, and evolution of this most beautiful sea, home to Sappho, Homer, Pythagoras and Hippocrates, and such mythical creatures as the Cyclops, Calypso, Circe, and the Sirens.

Rich with digital and audiovisual material and tangible artifacts that include underwater findings, 20 million year old fossils, and a 14-meter petrified tree trunk, this exhibition will showcase the key role of geological activity and mineral wealth in the evolution of civilizations, attracting and fascinating both children and adults.



Celebrating The Greeks

Opening November 25, *The Greeks—Agamemnon to Alexander the Great* draws from the collections of 21 museums throughout Greece, making it the largest exhibition of its kind to tour North America in 25 years. Spanning 5,000 years of Greek history and culture, the exhibition presents stories of individuals from its origins in Neolithic villages through its expansion during the conquests of Alexander the Great.

The Greeks is making the first of two U.S. stops at The Field Museum in Chicago, and its appearance is the result of a first-of-its-kind partnership between The Field Museum and co-presenter, the National Hellenic Museum.

The exhibition contains more than 500 magnificent artifacts, many of which have never been displayed outside of Greece. Show-stopping examples include enigmatic stone figurines from the Cycladic Islands, gold funerary masks from Bronze Age tombs, classical marble statues of Greek poets, athletes, and heroes, and brightly painted ceramic vases featuring scenes from Greek mythology and daily life.

On June 25, Field Museum Trustees, and President Richard W. Lariviere hosted leaders of Chicago's Greek American community at a breakfast to announce the November exhibition opening of *The Greeks—Agamemnon to Alexander the Great*, made possible in part by a generous contribution of the John P. Calamos Foundation, and John P. Calamos, Sr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Hellenic Museum. Mr. Lariviere saluted the productive partnership between The Field and the National Hellenic Museum, expressing appreciation to John Calamos for offering the city of Chicago and the nation a unique opportunity to view more than 5,000 years of history.

The exhibition was developed by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Education and Religious Affairs (Athens, Greece), The Field Museum (Chicago, USA), the National Geographic Museum (Washington, DC, USA), Pointe-à-Callière, Montréal Archaeology and History Complex (Montréal, Canada), and the Canadian Museum of History (Gatineau, Canada).



Mask of Agamemnon (Replica)

When unearthed in the late-19th century, archaeologists believed this to be the death mask of Agamemnon, the mythical king of Mycenae.

©Archaeological Museum of Mycenae

Now is a Great Time to Become a Member!

Join the National Hellenic Museum now and receive a reciprocal membership to The Field Museum between November 25, 2015 and April 10, 2016. The co-presentation of *The Greeks—Agamemnon to Alexander the Great* by The Field Museum and the National Hellenic Museum provides a unique opportunity for members of both institutions to enjoy reciprocal benefits.

From November 25, 2015 to April 10, 2016, in addition to NHM benefits, members will also receive:

- Free basic admission to The Field Museum
- Free admission to special exhibitions: *The Greeks* and *Mammoths and Mastodons* (tickets are limited; available on a first-come, first-served basis)
- Discount on other ticketed exhibitions
- Discounted 3D movie tickets
- Discount on purchases at The Field Museum stores and restaurants

To receive these special benefits at The Field Museum, you must present a current membership card and photo I.D.

For questions about reciprocal benefits, please contact either the National Hellenic Museum at membership@hellenicmuseum.org or 312.655.1234 ext. 21 or The Field Museum at membership@fieldmuseum.org or 312.665.7700 ext. 7705.

Current Exhibitions



{continued from page 1}

The National Hellenic Museum opens the first major exhibition in Chicago of the art of legendary actor, painter and sculptor, Anthony Quinn.

Transcending Boundaries: The Art of Anthony Quinn is an exhibition of more than 80 of Quinn's emotive paintings and powerful sculptures, showcasing the depth and breadth of his creative genius, traces of his Mexican Indian heritage, and his experiences with various cultures around the world.

This exhibition also sheds light on Quinn's film career and his longstanding friendship with Greece, the personal and professional challenges he faced as an immigrant and Mexican American, how his drive, determination and talents led him to become an internationally acclaimed actor and artist, beloved around the world.

"Working on this exhibition has been like peering into Anthony Quinn's soul; seeing a man who struggled for both his life and his art; both with himself and against difficulties and tragedies," says Connie Mourtopalas, the Museum's President of Cultural Affairs and the exhibition's curator. "This is why he was so brilliant in his portrayal of

Zorba. They were very similar; even in their tragedies, both losing a son. In fact, Quinn credits Zorba with helping him mourn and deal with his son's death. They were both proud and passionate men, who even in the face of tragedy and loss did not give up on life."

"I am excited and privileged to be able to assist in showcasing a selection of Anthony Quinn's works," says John S. Koudounis, Museum Board of Trustees member and sponsor of the exhibition. "He was a true Renaissance man, his amazing talents in writing, painting, sculpting and, of course, acting are rarely found in any one person. As a Greek American, I am grateful to Anthony Quinn for his love of the Greek people and for bringing our heritage, our literature, and our stories to the attention of the world."

The exhibition, which will run through October 2015, is produced in collaboration with Katherine Quinn, the Anthony Quinn Foundation, and the Anthony Quinn Trust. It is sponsored by John S. Koudounis & Family, John and Martha Cannis, Chris P. Tomaras/PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation, National Hellenic Invitational Basketball Tournament, Angelo and Mary Capps & Family, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest C. Karras, and the National Hellenic Society.

Securing NHM's Future

Do you know that you can help sustain the Museum's mission far into the future? Consider naming the National Hellenic Museum in your will or make it the beneficiary of any type of estate gift.

To learn more, call Marianne Vallas Kountoures, Director of Development, at 312.655.1234 ext. 30.

Recent Donations

EVIDENCE OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GIFT

Accepting an item into the Museum's collection is always an emotional experience both for the donor and the Museum staff. All items are laced with history and sentiment. There are even times when an item comes from some of history's most profound chapters.

Such is the case with 91 year old WWII veteran and OSS spy, Helias Doundoulakis, who recently entrusted his medals and uniform, along with his fascinating oral history, to the Museum, where they will inspire people for generations to come.

Helias was born in Canton, Ohio, to Greek immigrant parents, who moved the family back to Crete, when he was just a boy. In May 1941, young Helias and his brother George fought in the heroic Battle of Crete, joining British intelligence once the island fell. Chased by the Gestapo, Helias was rescued and sent to Egypt by Patrick Leigh Fermor, British WWII legend and classicist.

In Egypt, Helias was chosen by the OSS (U.S. Office of Strategic Services), exhaustively trained as a spy, and dropped off in the Greek city of Salonica. In a city crawling with Nazis, Helias and a Greek army officer navigated a sea of informants under the eyes of the enemy, reporting their movements through a wireless radio station. Helias's constant companion was a cyanide capsule, with which he would end his life rather than be tortured. We are privileged and honored to have been entrusted with preserving the tangible evidence of this extraordinary story.



Mr. Doundoulakis's war memoir, *I was Trained to be a Spy*, is sold in our Museum store.

Reaching for the American Dream: The Legacy of Greek Immigration

INTERACTIVITY ADDED TO THE IMMIGRATION EXHIBITION

In September, the Museum is adding an interactive component to its core exhibition, *Reaching for the American Dream: The Legacy of Greek Immigration*. Using a touch screen monitor, visitors are asked a series of questions to illustrate what it was like to be a Greek immigrant traveling to America in the late 1800s and early 1900s. By answering questions like where they came from, what luggage they would like to bring to America, and what area of the United States they would like to settle in, visitors are led on a journey similar to what immigrants experienced at the turn of the century. This interactive kiosk is designed to help visitors appreciate the immense sacrifices Greek American immigrants experienced in finding a new life in America, and is interesting for all ages. Additionally, the exhibition will showcase about 15 oral histories from Greek Americans who made that arduous journey, or whose parents came to the United States. For more information on the kiosk or our oral history project, call 312-655-1234, ext. 31.

STORIES WORTH PRESERVING, STORIES WORTH TELLING

Spoken history is as old as time itself. The oral tradition has given us some of the world's greatest stories, from the Iliad and the Odyssey, to countless folktales, songs and poems. The intimacy and nuance of the recorded voice have made oral history an invaluable tool in documenting and interpreting the past. Its power lies in offering the world's unsung heroes the opportunity to write history, and in doing so, to preserve valuable details that bring the story of communities to life. Build a legacy; share your story and the story of your ancestors with the National Hellenic Museum. Here, we will preserve it for future generations and use it to fill in the gaps of American history.



Cultural Programs

GREECE, CITIZENSHIP, AND POLITICS – ANCIENT & MODERN

OCTOBER 29, 2015

In Collaboration with the Chicago Humanities Festival

Ancient Athens was the birthplace of democracy. Today, Greece and other European nations are testing grounds for an evolved form of citizenship within greater Europe. Moral philosopher Martha Nussbaum will discuss what remains powerful in the ancient example. Ambassador Ioannis Vrailas of the European Union Delegation to the U.N. joins with a conversation on citizenship within the E.U. Moderated by Jerome McDonald of WBEZ

GREEK PHILOSOPHERS, FOUNDING FATHERS & AMERICAN LAW

NOVEMBER 12, 2015

Richard Allen Posner, Judge, U. S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit in Chicago, and most cited legal scholar of the 20th century, will discuss the influence of Greek philosophers, Aristotle in particular, on America's founders, law and institutions.

CHICAGO'S CLASSICAL TRADITION

DECEMBER 3, 2015

Ancient Greece and Rome have been influencing Chicago's social, cultural and intellectual development for more than 150 years. Sara Monoson of Northwestern University and Director of The Classicizing Chicago Project will explore how antiquity relates to Chicago's history and its identity as a modern, global metropolis.

DIALOGUES FROM HOMER'S ODYSSEY: A STAGED READING

JANUARY 10, 2016

Odysseus' encounters with an array of adversaries– the Sirens, Calypso, Circe, and the Cyclops– will be brought to life by some of Chicago's finest actors. Join NHM for a dramatic performance from Homer's epic mythological journey and experience the Odyssey through the oral tradition.

LEADERSHIP 101: POWERFUL LESSONS FROM LEADERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

JANUARY 14, 2016

Stunning parallels exist between the visionaries of yesterday and today. Learn how modern business and political leaders were influenced by powerful lessons by legends like Alexander the Great.

COMBAT TRAUMA & THE TRIALS OF HOMECOMING: GREEK DRAMA & THE VETERAN EXPERIENCE

JANUARY 21, 2016

Contemporary knowledge of post-traumatic stress disorder sheds new light on Homer and the Greek playwrights. These classics provide new insight into the trauma of combat. This reading and discussion will engage veterans and scholars, exploring of the anguish of war, examining the road to recovery through the Greek classics.

PICASSO: MINOTAURS, MYTHS & MUSES

JANUARY 28, 2016

In his quest for a modern aesthetic, Picasso's work often evokes ancient Greek art, with the Minotaur serving as his alter ego. Annie Morse, Sr. Lecturer at the Art Institute of Chicago will discuss Picasso's relationship with ancient art and the role of classicism as a counterpart to Modernism.

THE ARCHIMEDES PALIMPSEST: MODERN TECHNOLOGY REVEALS ANCIENT SCIENCE

FEBRUARY 9, 2016

How do you read a 2,000 year-old manuscript that's been battered and painted over? William Noel, Penn State's Ancient Books Curator, will tell the fascinating story of a technological miracle, the "powerful particle accelerator" and a Byzantine prayer book, revealing the true genius of Archimedes– the ancient world's greatest scientist.

ANTIQUITIES IN PERIL – HERITAGE AT RISK

FEBRUARY 18, 2016

The recent destruction of antiquities and archeological sites in the Middle East horrified the world; yet, such destruction is not without precedent. A panel of experts will discuss how we can protect our shared heritage by holding our own selves accountable and empowering other.

DAYS OF ALE AND WINE

MARCH 3, 2016

The ancient Greeks believed the best diet consisted of bread, meat, vegetables and beer, known to them as zythos. Learn about the archaeology of ancient brewing and wine-making from Lucas Livingston of the Art Institute of Chicago, Museum Educator, Art Historian and Home brewer.

Cultural Programs

THE TRIAL OF ANTIGONE: HEROINE OR ENEMY OF THE STATE?

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016 | AT THE FIELD MUSEUM

Following the success of the trials of Socrates and Orestes, the legal dream team of Patrick Fitzgerald, Bob Clifford, Patrick Collins and Dan Webb, take on the case of Antigone, the Greek princess who defied the law and paid the ultimate price. Held in The Field Museum's elegant James Simpson Theatre, you, the citizens, will be asked to cast your vote: guilty or not guilty. Followed by a reception and tours of *The Greeks—Agamemnon to Alexander the Great* exhibition.



SALAMIS: THE ENCOUNTER THAT SAVED GREECE AND CIVILIZATION MARCH 17, 2016

Barry Strauss, of Cornell University, gives a dramatic account of the Battle of Salamis, a tactically brilliant battle. An expert on naval warfare, Dr. Strauss will share how Greek victory over the massive Persian Empire changed history and cleared the path for Western civilization.

ETHICS IN MEDICINE & SCIENCE: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH MARCH 31, 2016

Esteemed medical and scientific experts, scholars, and religious leaders will discuss the ethics of Hippocrates' "First, do no harm," and will debate whether this age-old oath has the breadth of principle to provide a framework for contemporary ethical dilemmas.

DEMOCRACY & KNOWLEDGE: LESSONS FROM CLASSICAL ATHENS APRIL 10, 2016

When does democracy work well, and why? Is it the best form of government? Stanford University classicist and political scientist, Josiah Ober, will discuss how a reexamination of democracy's origins sheds light on its values and limitations in contemporary politics.

WHAT IS BEAUTY & WHO DECIDES? APRIL 17, 2016

While it is agreed that humans crave beauty, the concept defies definition. Dr. David Konstan, Professor of Classics, New York University, will discuss the nature of beauty in Antiquity and compares the ancient concept with contemporary aesthetics.

THE WORLD'S OLDEST COMPUTER: THE ANTIKYTHERA MECHANISM APRIL 2016

Explore the Antikythera Mechanism. Dating back to 205 BC, this analog computer was designed to predict astronomical positions and the cycles of the ancient Olympics. Experts will discuss how state-of-the-art technology was used to decode the truth behind the world's first computer.

OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO

On October 17-18, the Museum opens its doors for the Chicago Architecture Foundation's (CAF) fifth-annual Open House Chicago (OHC). OHC is a free event that takes the public inside the city's greatest spaces and places to showcase Chicago's culturally-rich neighborhoods and promote public awareness and appreciation of its building design and architecture. As one of 200 locations, the Museum will be free and open to the public from 9am to 5pm both days.

For more information, go to openhousechicago.org.



333 SOUTH HALSTED STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60661

New Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 11am - 5pm

Thursday 11am - 8pm

Saturday & Sunday 11am - 5pm

Monday Closed

We offer guided tours every Sunday at 1pm.

HOST YOUR EVENT AT THE NHM

Whether it's a cocktail reception, a wedding or a business meeting, the National Hellenic Museum provides elegant spaces with unparalleled views, quality and comfort. The Museum's signature Rooftop Terrace features a spectacular panoramic view of Chicago's iconic skyline. Inside the Museum, 5,300 sq. ft. of multi-purpose space can host intimate parties or large events, presentations, performances, lectures and film screenings. For more information or to schedule an on-site visit, please email events@hellenicmuseum.org or call 312-655-1234 x22 and ask for Klea Miho.

The National Hellenic Museum seeks to inspire visitors of all ages with the rich history, challenges and successes of Greek American immigrants who have embodied the American experience and the American dream. The Museum also serves as America's center for preserving, nurturing and sharing Greek culture and a gathering place for celebrations and events.

The National Hellenic Museum is proud to provide:

- » Engaging and inspiring exhibits that define Greek history and culture as well as Greek antiquities and artifacts
- » Educational programs to perpetuate the language, philosophy and ideals of Hellenic heritage
- » Cultural and literary events to enlighten and entertain
- » Documentation and archiving of personal histories to capture and share the lives, experiences and organizations of Greeks in America

Located in Chicago's Greektown, the sleek 40,000-square-foot National Hellenic Museum is both contemporary and timeless, connecting all generations—past, present and future—to the rich heritage of Greek history, culture, art and the Greek American experience. The National Hellenic Museum, previously known as the Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center, has been fulfilling this mission since 1983.