

**5th Chania Book Festival**  
**"Worlds in Conflict"**  
**22 - 28 June 2026**

**#ChaniaBookFestival**  
**@ChaniaBookFestival**

**CO-ORGANIZED BY: MUNICIPALITY OF CHANIA IN COLLABORATION  
WITH THE REGION OF CRETE**

## **Project Team**

**Director:** Manolis Pimplis

**Cultural Programme Design:** Pavlina Marvin, Kyriaki Beioglou, Manolis Pimplis

**Production Editing – Programme Editing:** Zoe Georgoula

**Organization of Parallel Events:** Kyriaki Beioglou

**Communication & Public Relations:** Vasilis Kimoulis

**Social Media Management and Digital Content Creation:**

Digital Media and Strategic Communication Lab - Department of Communication and Digital Media, University of Western Macedonia, Anastasia Yannacopoulou, Assist. Prof., University of Western Macedonia. Social media team members: Sophia Stamatopoulou, Stelios Tasopoulos, Nikolena Altzerini, Gina Kromintarovska, Charis Mamoucha, Argyris Georgiadis, Chara Dimitriou, Giorgos Mitropoulos, Panagiotis Gkitsos, Konstantinos Kallinikos, Chrysanthi Markou

**Technical Direction & Website Management:** Lefteris Bletsas

**Visual Communication:** Menelaos Kouroudis-K2design

**Hospitality Organization:** Athina Charitaki, GoProEvents

**Volunteer Coordination:** Lefteris Bletsas

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**Grand Arsenal**

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**Staircase of St Mark's Street**

**MULaR (Katehaki Sq.)**

**Neoria Square**

**Agios Rokkos, Splantzia**

**Cultural Centre of Chania**

**Museum of School Life, Municipality of Chania**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
**Programme**  
**Events**

**Monday**  
**22 June 2026**

**18:00-19:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**Travelling to Leonardo Padura's Havana**

**Leonardo Padura**, novelist, essayist and one of the most important writers in Latin America, discusses with his translator, **Kostas Athanasiou**, about his book "*Havana: Wandering Through Space and Time*".

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hellenic Ibero-American Literature Festival in Athens LEA / Kastaniotis Publishing

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**Presentation of the Books of Aristeidis G. Archontakis**

A discussion on the work of **Aristeidis Archontakis**, a creator who successfully balances the rigorous logic of Physics with the deep sensitivity of Literature, leaving his own distinctive mark on contemporary letters.

The author will be joined by:

**Michalis Lazaridis**, Professor, School of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Technical University of Crete

**Chrysoula Skepetzi**, visual artist

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Smili Publishing

**Grand Arsenal**

**Discussing Modern Poetry with Stamatis Filippidis**

On the occasion of his recent book *In Defence of Difficult Poetry: Interpretative Readings of Modernist Poems*, **Stamatis Filippidis**, Professor Emeritus at the University of Crete, discusses with **Angela Kastrinaki**, Professor of Modern Greek Literature at the University of Crete, and **Giannis Dimitrakakis**, Associate Professor of Modern Greek Literature Philology at the University of Crete, the ways in which modern poetry can be read and understood, as well as major Greek and international modernist poets, such as George Seferis, Odysseas Elytis, Paul Valéry, T. S. Eliot and Paul Éluard

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Sokolis Publishing

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**"Philosophy of Western Music: A Contemporary Introduction" by Andrew Kania**

**Andrew Kania**, Professor of Philosophy at Trinity University of San Antonio, on the occasion of his book "Philosophy of Western Music: A Contemporary Introduction", discusses about his book *The Philosophy of Western Music*. He will speak about music as an artistic medium and about as well as the contribution philosophy can make to our understanding of music.

The author will be introduced and interviewed by his publisher, **Christina Zisi**, before the discussion is opened to the audience.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Ekkremes Publishing

**19:30-21:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**Official Opening Ceremony of the 5th Chania Book Festival  
Honoured Figure 2026**

The 5th Chania Book Festival honours academic teacher and author **Stefanos Trachanas**.

**Tuesday  
23 June 2026**

**18:00-19:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**Elisavet of Crete: A Novelistic Representation**

The era and multifaceted activity—particularly the political activity—of Elisavet V. Kontaxaki in Crete, Syros, Athens and Constantinople. Author **Angeliki Karathanassi-Manoussaki** discusses her book with **Marina Aretaki**, Laboratory Teaching Staff at the Department of Philology, University of Crete. Excerpts from the book will be read by **Michalis Virvidakis** and **Marina Panigyraki**.

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**Archives of the Sea: Stories of Maritime Worlds in Conflict and Connection**

Where human and maritime worlds met in the past, the stories of the *Archives of the Sea* were born. In these stories, marine creatures, human ingenuity and the compelling tide of history created cultural bridges connecting worlds in conflict and offering hope.

Participants:

**Dimitra Mylona**, archaeologist-zooarchaeologist, Researcher at the Institute for Aegean Prehistory – Center for East Cretan Studies

**Roxani Margariti**, Professor of Medieval Maritime History, Center for Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies, Emory University, Georgia, USA

Moderator: **Maria Andreadaki-Vlazaki**, Honorary Director General of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage and Director of the Kastelli Hill Excavations in Chania.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Archives of the Sea Blog

**Grand Arsenal**

**From Caravaggio to the Odyssey: The Paper Worlds of Milo Manara**

From the revolutionary realism of Caravaggio to the archetypal journey of Odysseus, Milo Manara's work constantly moves between contrasting worlds, where beauty coexists with violence, adventure with self-discovery, and myth with history.

On the occasion of the Greek edition of "*Caravaggio*" and the forthcoming publication of "*The Odyssey*", Giannis Iatrou (DocMZ Publishing) and Marios Ioannidis (Chaniartoon Press Publishing) explore the many facets of one of Europe's most important comics creators.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: DocMZ Publishing / Chaniartoon Press Publishing

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

### **The Significance of The Laws for Lorentzatos and for Us Today**

"*The Laws, or the Great Tradition, or Ancient Wisdom*" is the most extensive unpublished (and unfinished) work discovered among the papers of Zissimos Lorentzatos (1915–2004). Beyond their obvious scholarly importance, what might *The Laws* mean for the contemporary reader?

In discussion:

**Yannis Dimitrakakis**, Associate Professor of Modern Greek Literature Philology, University of Crete

**Dimitris Polychronakis**, Professor of Modern Greek Literature, University of Crete

Moderator: Stavros Zoumboulakis, author and President of the Supervisor Board of the National Library of Greece

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Artos Zois Publishing

**19:00-20:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **"Lalo Sou Ta" by Matthaïos Frantzeskakis**

A discussion on "*Lalo Sou Ta*", a volume bringing together historical testimonies concerning the displacement of the people of Famagusta.

Participants:

**Matthaïos Frantzeskakis** (research and interviews)

**Chara Andreadou**, historian and educational consultant, Scientific Co-Director of the Oral/Local History at the Chania Film Festival

**Giannis Margioulas**, philologist and secondary-school teacher

**Filippos Charalambous**, philologist and editor

Welcoming address:

**Giannis Chatziioannou**, President of the Association of Cypriots of Chania.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Pyxida tis Polis Publishing

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **Island Life Reimagined: Literature as Initiation**

The initiation of a young narrator into love, life and the reality of death. The initiation of readers into psychological darkness and its dissolution through the art of language.

On the occasion of his book "*The Writing of the Waves*", **Giorgos Papadakis** discusses with **Marina Aretaki**, Laboratory Teaching Staff at the Department of Philology, University of Crete.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hestia Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **Kazantzakis' "Kapodistrias": The Struggle of Characters in the Conflict of Ideas**

The figure of Ioannis Kapodistrias also inspired Nikos Kazantzakis, who wrote the play *Kapodistrias*. What is the significance and relevance of this work today?

Participants:

**Sifis Michelogiannis**, Former President of the Greek Department of International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis, ISFNK, Honorary Member of ISFNK

**Roula Vouraki**, Philologist – Author

**Konstantinos Kalaitzakis**, Ph.D Candidate of Modern Greek Philology at the University of Crete

CO-ORGANIZED BY: International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **Human Geography and Historical Destinies Between the Balkans and Central Europe**

Serbian author **Dragan Velikić**, on the occasion of his novel "*Bonavia*", discusses with journalist **Anastasia Grigoriadou**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Kastaniotis Publishing

**20:00-21:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **The Persistent Past: The Photographs of the Execution of the 200 Communists at Kaisariani**

Journalist **Petros Katsakos** discusses with historian **Menelaos Charalambidis** regarding the incident that shocked Greek society after the discovery of the photographs depicting the execution of 200 communists at the Kaisariani Shooting Range on 1 May 1944.

What do these images mean for us more than eighty years later? Why did they move Greek society so deeply? Who were the people who walked so defiantly towards death? And why do the events of the Axis Occupation return continuously to the forefront of public debate, reigniting interest but also causing tensions?

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **Translating Dostoevsky and "The Grand Inquisitor"**

On the occasion of the renewed interest in Dostoevsky's work through Eleni Bakopoulou's translations for Agra Publishing, author **Savvas Michael** discusses with publisher **Stavros Petsopoulos** one of the most important chapters of "*The Brothers Karamazov*": "*The Grand Inquisitor*".

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Agra Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **"En Chaniois" Magazine**

Presentation of the annual issue of "*En Chaniois*", published by the Municipality of Chania, featuring the proceedings of the symposium *Mikis Theodorakis: Present and Future*, held in Chania in December 2025.

In Discussion:

**Giannis Giannakakis**, Deputy Mayor of Culture, Municipality of Chania

**Matthaios Frantzeskakis**, Director of Chania Film Festival, publisher and President of Pancretan Association of Friends of Mikis Theodorakis

**Varvara Perraki**, Philologist

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Municipality of Chania / Pancretan Association of Friends of Mikis Theodorakis

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"Nights with Gabriela" / by Lila Troulinou**

Author **Lila Troulinou** discusses her novella "*Nights with Gabriela*" with philologist **Sitsa Kotsifaki**, reflecting on Rome in the late '70s, the search for love in times of despair and the aftermath of student movements.

Excerpts from the book will be read by actress **Marina Panigyraki**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Perispomeni Publishing

### **Staircase of St Mark's Street**

#### **"Tropologies"/ ("Amendments") by Yiannis Doukas**

**Giannis Yiannis Doukas** presents an extended poem that began as a dialogue with the opening chapter of *Ulysses*. "Amendments" of the title refer to the Articles 34, 35, 36 and 37 of the Irish Constitution (solemnization of marriage without gender discrimination, the right to abortion and the decriminalization of blasphemy). The poem focuses on youth, citizenship and democracy, examining the ways in which these are threatened.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Polis Publishing

**21:00-22:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **Social Change and Identity Tensions Through Queer Literature**

Booker Prize-winning British author **Alan Hollinghurst**, on the occasion of his novel *"The Sparsholt Affair"*, discusses with journalist **Grigoris Bekos** and **Kyriaki Beoglou**, journalist and member of the Chania Book Festival programming organizing team.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Kastaniotis Publishing

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **A World in Conflict: The Case of Maria Mamaliga's "Mercado"**

Author **Giannis Nikoloudis** and author and film critic **Maria Mamaliga** discuss the conflicts both within the psyche of the 17-year-old Sephardi heroine of the state-award winning novel "Mercado" (Hestia Publishing, 2024), as well as between tradition and modernity, and between the Allies and the Axis during World War II, in Rhodes, Marmaris, Istanbul and Ashdod.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hestia Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **"For the Purpose of Enrichment"/ "Epi Skopo Ploutismou" by Elisavet Chronopoulou**

Author **Elisavet Chronopoulou** discusses her new book with historian **Menelaos Charalambidis**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Polis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **Myth as a Structural Element of National Narratives**

Author and historical researcher **Christos Machairidis** and philologist and author **Roula Vouraki** discuss the revival of the legendary story of the guard of the Greek flag in Acropolis in April of 1941, on the occasion of the publication of his (Machairidis) research on Konstantinos Koukidis,

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Ereisma Publishing

**Wednesday**

**24 June 2026**

**17:00-19:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

## **From Conflict to Connection: The Book as a Bridge** *Experiential Workshop for Parents and Children*

Through children's literature, parents and children are invited to reimagine their relationship and build bridges of communication. The workshop aims to foster understanding of different perspectives, strengthen empathy and create a shared language between parent and child. In a world where conflict is inevitable, the workshop proposes an alternative path: we do not need to agree in order to coexist.

The workshop will be led by **Dimitra Valavani** and **Despoina Tziaki**, educators and storytellers, members of the group "*Paramythades En Plo*".

The event is intended for parents and children aged 6–10. Participation is limited to 24 people (12 children accompanied by their parents). Advance registration is required.

**18:00-19:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**"A Wandering Cinematographer": The Autobiography of Walter Lassally**  
**Emy Markantonaki**, former interpreter at the European Union; **Kostas Mavrakakis**, President of the "Chrysostomos" Literary Society, architect and editor of the publication; **Akis Kapranos**, film critic; and **Matthaios Frantzeskakis**, director of the Chania Film Festival and publisher, discuss the recent publication dedicated to the distinguished cinematographer Walter Lassally, Academy Award-winning Director of Photography, who spent a significant part of his life in Chania.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Pyxida Tis Polis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **Who Narrates the Past? The Historian or the Individual?**

History records events; memory records lives. This discussion explores the relationship between official historiography and personal narrative. How does testimony become Literature? What is the value of subjective memory, and when does it become a source of knowledge?

Participants:

**Minas Voulgaridis**, author, history researcher

**Giorgos Limantzakis**, turkologist, Ph.D in Political Science and History, Panteion University of Social Sciences

**Vangelis Maravelakis**, Political Scientist, history researcher

**Maria Bra**, writer

**Christos Tsantis**, writer and Head of Radamanthys Publishing

**Andromachi Chourdaki**, philologist and writer

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Radamanthys Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"The Farewell of the Minotaur"/ "L'Adieu du Minotaure" by French photographer Nyima Marin**

Presentation of the photographic book by Chania-born French photographer and visual artist **Nyima Marin**.

The artist will be joined by **Maria Choulaki**, Artistic Director of Photoxenia. Poems will be read by actor, director and playwright **Michalis Virvidakis** in Greek and by **Stella Koutsoupaki** in French.

Welcoming speeches:

**Stella Koutsoupaki**, President of the Hellenic-French Association of Chania  
**Manolis Pimplis**, Director of the Chania Book Festival  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Photoxenia / Hellenic-French Association of Chania

**19:00-20:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**Caryl Férey – The Beauty of the World Under Threat**

Multi – award-winning French author **Caryl Férey**, on the occasion of the recent Greek editions of “*Grindadráp*” and “*Okavango*”, discusses with **Petros Katsakos** journalist and author of the book “Istories choris foni/ Stories without a Voice” (Oktana Publishing).

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Agra Publishing

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**A Contemporary Cretan Perspective: From the Rural Past to the Urban Present**

Authors **Michalis Almpatis** and **Lazaros Alexakis** meet on common literary ground, where tradition confronts urbanization and the darkness of the human soul is illuminated at times through harsh truth and at other times through satire.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Nisos Publishing / Dioptra Publishing

**Grand Arsenal**

**Bringing Back the Transformative Power of Art**

On the occasion of the publication of “*On the Sublime*” by Dionysius Longinus, Professor of Ancient Greek Literature at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), **Vasileios P. Vertoudakis**, discusses with **Angela Gioti**, Associate Professor of Comparative and Modern Greek Literature at the University of Crete, the fertile concept of the Sublime and its relevance today.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: EPOPS Publishing

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**Library Reading Clubs**

A discussion on library reading clubs and their growing impact on Greek society.  
In discussion:

**Stavros Zoumboulakis**, President of the Supervisor Board of the National Library of Greece

**Vivi Choudalaki**, Head of Libraries and Children’s Creative Centers, Municipality of Chania

**Emmanouela Mastoraki**, Coordinator of Reading Club of Public Central Library of Rethymno

**Chrysa Korkou**, Instructor of Children’s Reading Club of Public Central Library of Rethymno

CO-ORGANIZED BY: National Library of Greece / Municipal Library of Chania / Public Central Library of Rethymno

**20:00-21:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**“Collaborationists and Dreamers: A True Story” by Xenophon I. Contiadis**

A compelling book that recounts the dramatic journey of two people who, having once been friends, found themselves on opposing sides during the 1940s. Through their lives, the book seeks to shed light on the deep wounds of that turbulent period, which continue to influence contemporary Greek society.

Author and university professor **Xenophon I. Contiadis** discusses the book with former Member of the European Parliament, **Petros Kokkalis**. The discussion is moderated by journalist and Member of the Project Team of Chania Book Festival, **Kyriaki Beiglou**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Topos Publishing

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **"Red Gorge"/ "Kokkino Farangi" by Giannis Nikoloudis**

Author **Giannis Nikoloudis** discusses his novel with philologist **Varvara Perraki**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Patakis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **"E. Ch. Gonatas: Small and Strange Stories" by Frangiski Ampatzopoulou**

Professor Emerita (AUTH) **Frangiski Ampatzopoulou**, recipient of the Grand State Prize for Letters (2018), discusses her recent book devoted to E. Ch. Gonatas with journalist **Mikela Chartoulari**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Patakis Publishers / Patakis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"Alex... and Now You Can Leave Me"/ "Alex...Je suis en train de te laisser me quitter" by Didier Aubourg**

When Artificial Intelligence Simulates Reality. French author **Didier Aubourg** discusses his novel with:

**Giorgos Chalkiadakis**, Professor of Artificial Intelligence, Technical University of Crete

**Vicky Kollia**, philologist and journalist

**Despoina Pollanagnostaki**, actress and mathematician and

**Kostas Dantinakis**, translator of the book

CO-ORGANIZED BY: En Athinais Bookshop

### **Staircase of St Mark's Street**

#### **"Beyond Consent"/ "Pera apo ti Synainesi" by Evariste Pimplis and**

#### **"Inside the Minefield, They Told Me I Would Learn How to Dance"/**

#### **"Mesa sto Narkopedio, mou eipan pos na matho na horevo" by Maria Louka**

Authors **Maria Louka** and **Evariste Pimplis** discuss their recent books, focusing on consent, the limits of freedom, sexual trauma and the impact of the MeToo movement on contemporary Greek-language literature. The discussion is moderated by **Pavlina Marvin**, writer and Member of the Project Team of Chania Book Festival

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Polis Publishing / Kappa Publishing

### **MULaR**

#### **Meet the Author: A Conversation on the Work of Julianne Pachico**

British-Colombian writer **Julianne Pachico** discusses her literary work with author and publisher **Panagiotis Kechagias**, focusing on themes such as memory, violence and cultural identity.

The discussion will be held in English with consecutive interpretation.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: British Council Greece

**21:00-22:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**"Perfection"/ "Teleiotita" by Vincenzo Latronico**

Booker Prize nominee Italian author **Vincenzo Latronico** discusses his acclaimed novel "*Perfection*" with poet **Danae Sioziou**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Loggia Publishing

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**Dictatorship and Crime Fiction: The Case of the Greek Military Junta (1967–1974)**

Authors in discussion:

**Andreas Apostolidis**

**Ieronymos Lykaris**

**Giannis Moschos**

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hellenic Crime Writers' Club

**Grand Arsenal**

**"The Story of 18 ANO: A History of Recovery and Emancipation Without an Expiration Date"/ "I Istoría tou 18ANO: Mia istoría apexartisis kai heirafetisis, choris imerominia lixis" by Katerina Matsa**

Psychiatrist and former Director of *18 ANO*, **Katerina Matsa**, discusses the history and philosophy of the pioneering drug - free rehabilitation programme together with author **Savvas Michael**. The programme demonstrates that reintegration is possible through empowerment and art.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Agra Publishing

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**"Hidden Homeland"/ "Krimeni Patrída" by Yannis Kiourtsakis**

**Yannis Kiourtsakis** discusses his latest book, which marks his forty-seven-year presence in the literary world— usually in the form of hybrid autobiographical texts or essays, with the philologist **Anna Lambardaki**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Patakis Publishing

**Staircase of St Mark's Street**

**"A New History of Mouchette"/ "I Nea Istoría tis Mousét" by Georges Bernanos**

Authors **Elisavet Chronopoulou** and **Maria Louka** discuss Bernanos' powerful novella, whose heroine is a 14-year-old, scorned girl who committed suicide without having planned it, published in 1937, yet it remains poignantly relevant today (and the theme is timeless). The discussion is moderated by **Stavros Zoumboulakis**, President of the Supervisor Board of the National Library of Greece.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Artos Zois Publishing

**MULaR**

**Greece in the Second World War: The Scale of Destruction**

World War II is by far the bloodiest and most destructive war in History. Although 80 full years have passed, the cost borne by Greece during the war has

not been calculated in a scientifically documented manner. Historian **Menelaos Charalambidis** discusses with journalist **Kyriaki Beioglou** the issues raised in the collective volume "*The Long Night of the Occupation: Human Losses and Material Destruction in Occupied Greece (1941–1944)*" / "*I makra nyxta tis katochis. Anthropines apoleies kai ylikes katastrophes stin katexhomeni Ellada (1941 -1944)*", which he edited together with his colleague Stratos N. Dardanas.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Alexandria Publishing

**Thursday**  
**25 June 2026**

**17:00-19:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **Writing for the Conflict**

##### *Creative Writing Workshop*

This workshop is aimed particularly at writers at the beginning of their creative journey, in any language, and focuses on the sensitive subject of conflict.

Participants are required to submit in advance a poetic text (poem or poetic prose) of up to 500 words, translated into English. The workshop will be conducted in English.

The session will be led by **Alexandra Büchler**, Director of Literature Across Frontiers (LAF), with the participation of poet **Ghayath Almadhoun** and writer-translator **Richard Gwyn**.

Registration is required. Places are limited to 10 participants and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Literature Across Frontiers (LAF) / Arts Council of Wales

**18:00-19:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **Aspects of Violence in the Family and Society**

A discussion between **Alejandro Palomas** and **Rodrigo Rey Rosa** on their recent literary works, together with translator **Kostas Athanasiou** and journalist **Nikos Kourmoulis**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hellenic Ibero-American Literature Festival in Athens LEA / Kastaniotis Publishing / Opera Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **"Kazantzakis' Letters": Opening the Correspondence of Nikos Kazantzakis**

Presentation of the digital platform of Nikos Kazantzakis' correspondence ([letters.kazantzaki.gr](https://letters.kazantzaki.gr)), a contemporary research and cultural project that makes 1,000 letters of the author accessible to the public. The presentation will be given by **Paraskevi Vasileiadi**, Curator of the Museum Collections, Deputy Director and Project Manager of *Kazantzakis' Letters*.

The event will also include a screening of the museum's 2023 mini-documentary *I Am Free (Eimai Lefteros)*, directed by **Nikos Pantermarakis**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Nikos Kazantzakis Museum

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**“Small Cracks”/ “Mikres Rogmes” and “The Obvious Extraversion of Vowels”/ “I katafanis exostrefeia ton fonionton” by Polyna Bana**

Author and lawyer **Polyna Bana** discusses her books with:

**Evangelia Fakinou**, President of the Court of First Instance of Rethymno

**Eleftheria Daskalaki**, lawyer and author

The discussion will be moderated by: **Giorgos Kortsalioudakis**, lawyer.

Welcoming speech will be addressed by **Agapi Mikrou**, President of the Chania Bar Association.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Chania Bar Association / Nikas Publishing / Saixpirikon Publishing

**18:30**

**Agios Rokkos, Splantzia**

**Exhibition**

**Opening**

**“The Children Went Around: The Multiverse of Takis Giannousas”**

Welcoming speeches will be addressed by:

**Dimitris Michelogiannis**, Special Adviser to the Governor of Crete

**Nadia Argyropoulou**, Curator of the Exhibition

**Giannis Palavos**, Associate Curator and Author

**Manolis Pimplis**, Director of the Chania Book Festival

ORGANIZED BY: Region of Crete

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Municipality of Chania / Ministry of Culture – Ephorate of Antiquities of Chania, in cooperation with the Cultural Association of Velventos

**19:00-20:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**Between Personal and Collective Terror**

In the 21st century, we are all called upon to achieve an almost impossible balance between our vulnerable private lives and the lawless sphere of the outside world. And no one can know what lies around the next turn in the rabbit hole.

British author **Hari Kunzru**, on the occasion of his novel *Red Pill* (*Kreas gia Lykous* in Greek edition), discusses these issues with **Pavlina Marvin**, author and member of the Chania Book Festival organizing team.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Doma Publishing

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**The Home as a Battlefield**

The family is commonly perceived as a space of protection and affection; yet it is also the first site of conflict, socialisation and the reproduction of social norms.

Participants:

**Anna Kallivretaki**, Mental Health Counselor and author

**Maria Katsikandaraki**, preschool teacher and author

**Charalampos Magoulas**, Faculty member at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Nicosia

**Dimitra Marangoudaki**, Special Education teacher and author

**Valia Papadaki**, author and philologist

**Konstantina Charitaki**, teacher and author

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Radamanthys Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **When Fiction Encounters Historical Truth and Philosophy**

Author **Apostolos Doxiadis** discusses his new novel *Blue Dog (Galanoskylos)* with journalist **Nikos Kourmoulis**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Psychogios Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"Supersaurus" / "Souperosauros" by Meryem El Mehdati**

Author **Meryem El Mehdati** discusses her novel with journalist **Alexandra Christakaki**.

Born in Morocco and raised in the Canary Islands, the young author portrays with freshness and humour the challenges faced by those born in the 1990s: workplace alienation, racism and overtourism.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Carnivora Publishing

**20:00-21:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **"Faha": The Small Village at the Edge of the Great World**

Booker Prize-shortlisted Irish novelist, playwright and screenwriter **Niall Williams** chose the fictional village of *Faha* as the setting for a world filled with deeply human stories. The author discusses his work with journalist and member of the organizing team of the Chania Book Festival, **Kyriaki Beiglou**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Doma Publishing

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **"White Mountains" / "Lefka Ori" by Nikolas Galanis**

Photographer and author **Nikolas Galanis** presents his photographic album dedicated to the iconic landscape of Western Crete. He will be joined by **Stavros Badogiannis**, President of the Chania Mountaineering Club.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Region of Crete

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **"The Binoculars of Vasily Chuikov" / "Ta kalia tou Vasili Tsouikov" by Vasilis Gourogiannis**

Author **Vasilis Gourogiannis** discusses his new book with **Manolis Pimplis**, Director of the Chania Book Festival.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Metaichmio Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **When National Minotaurs Cross the Sea: Smyrna, Wales and Crete**

Author **Christiana Lamprinidi** and Welsh writer and translator **Richard Gwyn** discuss their books *"Smyrna of the Many and the All"* *"Smyrni ton pollon kai ton olon"* and *"Ambassador of Nowhere: A Latin American Pilgrimage"*. The discussion will be moderated by **Pavlina Marvin**, author and member of the organizing team of the Chania Book Festival.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hestia Publishing / Literature Across Frontiers / Arts Council of Wales

### **Staircase of St Mark's Street**

#### **Exercises in Style and Life**

A discussion on the complete body of work of author and translator **Achilleas Kyriakidis**, in conversation with journalist, author and editor of e-magazine *O Anagnostis*, **Giannis Baskozos**.

### **MULaR**

#### **Meet the Author: A Conversation with Abi Daré**

Award-winning Nigerian-born author **Abi Daré** discusses her work and the major themes of her novels with poet **Danae Sioziou**.

The discussion will be held in English with consecutive interpretation.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: British Council Greece

**21:00-22:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **Identity, Desire and Reinvention**

On the occasion of her novel "*Audition*", American novelist **Katie Kitamura** discusses with journalist **Eleonora Orfanidou** the multiple versions of the self, the roles we adopt in our relationships, and the blurred boundaries between desire, truth and interpretation.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Dioptra Publishing / Hellenic American Union

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **From Trauma to Miracle**

Author **Thrasos Kaminakis** discusses his book "*Islands at Heart*" / "*Kata vathos nisia*" with journalist **Giouli Tsakalou**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Kastaniotis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **Contemporary History and Politics in Palestine, Iran and the United States**

A discussion inspired by the books "*The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine*" by Ilan Pappé, "*A History of Modern Iran*" by Ervand Abrahamian and "*United States of War*" by David Vine.

Participants:

**Nikos Gryspolakis**, regenerative farmer and water management engineer

**Lambrini Thoma**, journalist

**Charalampos Magoulas**, Faculty member at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Nicosia

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Salto Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **Eccentric, Paradoxical, Sacred: The Meaning of Deviation**

Starting from the exhibition of Takis Giannousas, Emerita Professor (AUTH)

**Frangiski Abatzopoulou**, the Curator of the Exhibition **Nadia Argyropoulou** and author **Giannis Palavos** discuss the concept of deviation in Greek literature and art, and the eccentric figures who challenged established norms and redefined them.

### **Staircase of St Mark's Street**

#### **Song and Literature: Sketches for a Summer**

Through the narrative power of literature and songwriting, three musicians on stage follow the thread of summer as it appears in poems set to music, songs and prose texts.

Conceived and performed by musicians:

**Sophie Lies**

**naxakis g.**

**Kreon Kanakaris**

### **MULaR**

#### **Paramythades En Plo: Folk Tale Storytelling**

**Dimitra Valavani, Angeliki Bemplidaki, Nikos Blazakis, Stella Rozaki and Despoina Tziaki** narrate traditional folk tales in which the familiar and the unknown coexist in stories filled with symbolism, wisdom and unexpected twists. A storytelling performance for adult audiences, celebrating the enduring power of oral tradition and the magic of folk tales.

**Friday**

**26 June 2026**

**11:00-14:00**

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"The Voice of Translators: The Adventure of Translation"**

**11:00-12:00**

#### **Social Stereotypes and Translation**

Translators in discussion:

**Kostas Athanasiou**

**Achilleas Kyriakidis**

**Krystalli Glyniadaki**

**12:00-13:00**

#### **Gender and Translation**

Participants:

**Efi Giannopoulou**

**Christiana Lamprinidi**

**Richard Gwyn**

The discussion will be moderated by **Alexandra Büchler**.

**13:00-14:00**

#### **Translating Japanese Poetry, or Why Japanese Has No Capital Letters**

A masterclass with writer, documentary filmmaker and translator from Japanese **Panagiotis Evangelidis**.

**18:00-19:30**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **Dimensions of the Far-Right's Footprint in Europe and the United States**

**Yannis Hamilakis**, archaeologist and Professor at Brown University (USA), discusses with writers **Hari Kunzru** and **Maurice Attia**. The discussion is moderated by **Manolis Pimplis**, Director of the Chania Book Festival.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Doma Publishing / Polis Publishing

**18:00-19:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**"Tails" / "Oures" by Giannis Paschos**

Stories suspended between reality and fantasy, mythology, science and fiction. Unexpected and unimaginable encounters in the depths of the oceans and the shallows of sorrow. **Giannis Paschos** discusses his book with journalist and member of the organizing team of the Chania Book Festival **Kyriaki Beiglou**.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Perispomeni Publishing

**Grand Arsenal**

**"Alexandros Panagoulis: Defying Death" "Alexandros Panagoulis: Apitheia sto thanato" (edited by Nikos Sifounakis and Thanasis Petridis)**

Historian **Tasos Sakellaropoulos** and writer **Ieronymos Lykaris** discuss the book.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Kastaniotis Publishing

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**A Discussion on the Books "Konstantinos" by Panagiotis Evangelidis and "Paranti" by Katerina Iliopoulou**

Authors **Katerina Iliopoulou** and **Panagiotis Evangelidis** explore the relationship between the contemporary city, the social phenomena that shape it, and the transformative power of literature. The discussion will be moderated by **Pavlina Marvin**, writer and member of the organizing team of the Chania Book Festival.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Gennitria Publishing / Hestia Publishing

**19:00-20:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**"The Guerrillas"/ "Les Guérillères" by Monique Wittig**

A discussion on the translation of this landmark feminist work with:  
**Efi Giannopoulou**, translator  
**Danae Sioziou**, poet  
**Maria Louka** writer and documentary filmmaker  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Ektos Grammis Publishing

**Grand Arsenal**

**"Senorita"/ "Seniorita" by Ersi Sotiropoulos**

On the occasion of her new work, which explores the complex ramifications of grief, writer **Ersi Sotiropoulos** discusses with journalist **Giannis Pantazopoulos**.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Patakis Publishing

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**Towards a New Role for Intellectuals? A Discussion on the Book "61 Polaroids for the Greek Adventure" / "61 polaroid gia tin elliniki peripeteia" by Mikela Chartoulari**

Who are today's intellectuals? What dialogue are they engaged in, and on which issues? How do they illuminate overlooked aspects of contemporary reality through their work? Author of the book **Mikela Chartoulari** discusses these

questions with **Pavlina Marvin**, writer and member of the organizing team of the Chania Book Festival.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Polis Publishing

**19:30-21:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **How Will Democracies Breathe Again?**

In discussion:

**Anna Karakatsouli**, Professor of European History and Culture, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)

**Giannis Pantelakis**, writer and journalist

**Giorgos Siakantaris**, sociologist, writer and literary critic

The discussion will be moderated by journalist, **Natali Hatziantoniou**.

**20:00-21:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **"Crossing the Ocean" (English Edition) by Niki Troullinou**

A portrayal of the multiple dimensions of Greek migration during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

In discussion:

**Athina Rossoglou**, translator and historian specialising in diaspora studies

**Nikos Kastrinakis**, President of the World Council of Cretans

**Niki Troullinou**, author

The discussion will be moderated by journalist and communications specialist,

**Elia Koumi**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Pyxida tis Polis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **"14 Shadows and Truths of Greece" / "14 skies kai alitheies tis Elladas" by Stavros Theodorakis and Aris Vourvoulias**

**Stavros Theodorakis**, in collaboration with **Aris Vourvoulias**, investigates and presents detailed evidence on fourteen crucial issues facing contemporary Greece.

The authors are joined by:

**Giannis Pantazopoulos**, journalist

**Christos Chomenidis**, author

**Panagiotis Simandirakis**, Mayor of Chania

The discussion will be moderated by journalist, **Eftychia Pentaraki**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Metaichmio Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **Searching for Lost Homelands: Identity, Migration and Historical Memory**

On the occasion of her literary debut "*They Call Us Something Else on the Road*" / "*Sto dromo mas fonazoun allios*", writer and *Die Zeit* journalist **Laura Cwiertnia** discusses with poet and translator **Krystalli Glyniadaki**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Loggia Publishing

### **Staircase of St Mark's Street**

**“The Cyber-Leviathan Emerges” / “Ο κυβερνολεβιαθαν αναδυεται” by Giorgos Matalliotakis**

Writers **Nikos Galanis** and **Giorgos Matalliotakis** discuss the fine line separating digital progress from algorithmic control.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Enantia Publishing

**MULaR**

**On the Side of Poetry**

Poet **Ghayath Almadhoun** reads and discusses his poetry with poet **Lena Kallergi** and **Katerina Iliopoulou**, poet and Director of the literary journal *FRMK*.

The discussion will be held in English. Poems will be read in both languages.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Literature Across Frontiers (LAF)

**21:00-22:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**“Maria, the Woman of Coincidences” by Jonathan Coe**

**Jonathan Coe** discusses his novel “*Maria, the Woman of Coincidences*”, his literary work, his relationship with Greece, and his Greek readership with journalist **Xenia Kounalaki** and translator **Alkistis Trimperi**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Polis Publishing

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**Reading Cavafy Today**

What can a new edition reveal about a globally acclaimed poet?

Catalan Hellenist and translator of Cavafy, **Eusebi Ayensa**, presents the extensive research behind the new two-volume edition of Cavafy’s poems and discusses with **Manolis Pimplis** how Cavafy continues to engage with the present and inspire readers around the world.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Dioptra Publishing

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**“Joseph Came Afterwards”/ “Ο Ιωσήφ μετά” by Fotini Tsalikoglou**

On evil and its unexpected transformations. The author discusses her book with journalist, **Grigoris Bekos**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Kastaniotis Publishing

**MULaR**

**“I Want Everything” by Dominic Amerena**

Australian writer **Dominic Amerena** discusses his novel with writer and publisher **Panagiotis Kechagias**. The discussion will be held in English without interpretation.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Gennitria Publishing

**Staircase of St Mark's Street**

**“People Who Resemble Neither One Another Nor Everyone Else”**

In dialogue with Takis Giannousas’ exhibition (*Ta Paia Epigan Periato*, Agios Rokkos), writer **Giannis Palavos** and singer-songwriter **Maria Papageorgiou** read prose texts and poems from Greek literature devoted to eccentric, unconventional and outsider figures.

Maria Papageorgiou will also perform songs inspired by the theme.

**21:00-23:00**

**Grand Arsenal**

**Did He Disturb the Universe? The Poetry of Giorgos Kokkinidis (1955–2012)**

Screening of the award-winning documentary **The Man Who Disturbed the Universe**, directed by **Stavros Psyllakis**, dedicated to the poet who, after spending many years in the Chania Psychiatric Hospital, “disturbed the harmony of the universe”.

A discussion on Kokkinidis’ poetry follows with:

**Vicky Tsourtou**, Associate Professor of Developmental Psychology, University of Crete

**Angela Gioti**, Associate Professor of Modern Greek Literature, University of Crete

**Stavros Psyllakis**

**Nikos Vittis**, composer of the film’s music

Readings from the poet’s work by **Pavlina Marvin**, writer and member of the Chania Book Festival organizing team.

**Saturday**

**27 June 2026**

**11:00-13:00**

**Grand Arsenal**

**The Greek Book Abroad**

**Part I:** Presentation of OSDEL’s recent research on Greek book production.

Speaker: **Mirella Batziania**, Content and Bibliographic Database Manager of OSDEL’s BookPoint.

**Part II:** A discussion dedicated to the possibilities for the international promotion of Greek literature, translations, and the contemporary challenges of opening the Greek book to the world.

In discussion:

**Nikos Bakounakis**, President of the Hellenic Foundation for Books and Culture

**Adriana Martínez**, Director of the Hellenic Ibero – American Literature Festival in Athens LEA

**Anna Pataki**, publisher

**Ersi Sotiropoulos**, writer

**Krystalli Glyniadaki**, poet and translator

**Maria Papaioannou**, Head of Arts, British Council Greece

**Manolis Pimplis**, Director of the Chania Book Festival

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hellenic Foundation for Books and Culture / Greek Collecting Society for Literary Works

**17:30-18:30**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**“Gaza Diaries”/ “Imerologia Gazas”: A Conversation Between Ghayath Almadhoun, Christos Georgalas and Catrin Ormestad**

Doctor **Christos Georgalas**, who took part in a humanitarian mission to Gaza in spring 2025 and is the author of “*Gaza Diaries*” / “*Imerologia Gazas*”, discusses

the situation in the Middle East with poet **Ghayath Almadhoun**, of Syrian and Palestinian origin, and Swedish writer and journalist **Catrin Ormestad**, who specialises in the Middle East. The discussion will be moderated by **Efi Giannopoulou**, translator.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Literature Across Frontiers / Topos Publishing

**18:00-19:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **"Letters" "Epistles" by Danae Sioziou, Presented by the Students of the 1st Experimental Junior High School of Chania**

Students of the 1st Experimental Junior High School of Chania present Danae Sioziou's third poetry book, "*Letters*" "*Epistles*", and discuss it with the author.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Antipodes Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **Leonidas Kakaroglou: Memory Does Not End**

A tribute event dedicated to the personality and multifaceted work of Chania poet **Leonidas Kakaroglou**.

Participants:

**Tasos Sakellaropoulos**, historian

**Nikos Davvetas**, author

**Giannis Giannakakis**, Deputy Mayor for Culture, Municipality of Chania

The conversation will be moderated by philologist **Anna Lambardaki**.

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **Dying on the VOAK: A Conversation with Eleni Giannakaki**

Modern Greek literature scholar and novelist **Eleni Giannakaki** discusses her new novel "*Cretan Pilaf*" "*Kritiko Pilafi*" with journalist **Mikela Chartoulari**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Patakis Publishing

**18:30-19:30**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **The Middle East and the War in Gaza: A Conversation with Author and Academic Sotiris Roussos**

Professor of International Relations and Religion in the Middle East **Sotiris Roussos** discusses with journalist **Panos Charitos** the power relations in the Middle East and the multi-layered framework needed to understand developments in the region, on the occasion of his two most recent books, "*The Middle East and the War in Gaza*" "*I Mesi Anatoli kai o Polemos sti Gaza*" and "*Revolution and Revolt in the Middle East*" "*Epanastasi kai Exegersi sti Mesi Anatoli*".

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Gutenberg Publishing / Erma Publishing

**19:00-20:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **"Together, How?": Presentation of the 2nd Issue of *Saligari* Magazine**

The need and desire for coexistence as a central question of our time.

Participants:

**Nikos Sgouromallis**, PhD candidate in Modern Greek Literature

**Maria Sachpasidi** (Sophie Lies), singer-songwriter and music educator  
**Giorgos Nikiforakis**, psychologist  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Saligari Magazine

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **Caring for Trauma with Words: The Therapeutic Qualities of Literature**

Psychiatrist and psychoanalyst **Savvas Savvopoulos** and journalist and writer **Giannis Pantelakis** discuss the therapeutic power of narrative and the ways in which literature approaches psychic trauma.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Papadopoulos Publishing / Themelio Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"This Is How the World Ends" / "Etsi Teleioni o Kosmos" by Lena Divani**

On the occasion of her new, sharp socio-political work, **Lena Divani** discusses with **Eleni Kechagioglou**, philologist and publishing editor.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Patakis Publishing

**19:30-21:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **The Anatomy of Conflict: From the Nakba and Yom Kippur to the Search for Co-existence**

**Hanan Ashrawi\***, distinguished Palestinian politician, legislator and writer, with a long-standing presence in the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) and the Palestinian National Council (PNC), and **Gideon Levy**, Israeli writer and leading columnist for *Haaretz*, analyse the new reality taking shape in the Gaza Strip. They shed light on political dynamics, the anxieties of both societies, the dangerous acceptance of violence and the shrinking of the peace movement. At the same time, they seek answers as to whether realistic prospects for coexistence between the two peoples still exist for the day after.

The conversation will be moderated by journalist and war correspondent, **Panos Charitos**.

\* Hanan Ashrawi will participate online.

### **Staircase of St Mark's Street**

#### **"Worlds in Conflict" Through Contemporary Greek-Language Fiction**

Five writers — **Fotini Tsalikoglou**, **Giannis Makridakis**, **Elena Maroutsou**, **Maria A. Ioannou** and **Ersi Sotiropoulos** — discuss how conflict, whether social, cultural or existential, is reflected in contemporary literature.

The discussion will be moderated by author, **Kyriakos Charitos**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hestia Publishing / Ikaros Publishing / Nefeli Publishing / Patakis Publishing / Kastaniotis Publishing

**20:00-21:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **"A Road of Her Own" / "Enas dikos tis dromos" by Argyro Mantoglou**

At the edge of silence, a journey across three centuries of women's experience.

The author discusses her book with journalist **Alexandra Chaini**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Kastaniotis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

**Dionysis Savvopoulos, the Time-Maker: "Because the Years Run Loose" / "Giati ta xronia trexoun chyma"**

Journalists **Stavros Theodorakis** and **Pavlos Tsimas** discuss the creator whose songs are inhabited by contemporary Greece.

Moderator and respondent:

**Eleni Kechagioglou**, philologist and editor of the book

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Patakis Publishing

**Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

**"War Capitalism: The Second Age of Empires" / "Polemikos Kapitalismos. I deyteri ephi ton Autokratorion" by Petros Papakonstantinou**

On the alarming drift of international developments towards aggressive nationalism, militarism and war, journalist and author **Petros Papakonstantinou** discusses his book with **Christos Belbas**, President of the Association of Secondary Education Teachers of Chania. The discussion will be moderated by journalist **Petros Katsakos**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Topos Publishing

**MULaR**

**On the Side of Poetry**

Poet **Yiouli Volanaki** and poet **Nikos Galanis** read poems from their most recent books, "*Menologio*" / "*Minologio*", "*Yfainontas Thrafsmata*" / "*Yfainontas Thravsmata*" and "*Sharpened Wings*" "*Akonise ftera*" respectively, and discuss the main thematic axes of their work. The discussion will be moderated by journalist, **Anna Routsis**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Thraka Publishing / Enantia Publishing

**21:00-22:00**

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

**War, Information and Propaganda: Truth Under Siege**

How does the horror of war reach our screens, and what is the real cost of information? Journalists **Pavlos Tsimas**, **Xenia Kounalaki**, **Panos Charitos** and **Petros Katsakos** open a live discussion on the world's ongoing war fronts. Drawing on their experience, they analyse the mechanisms of news production, the challenge of fake news and the role of the media in shaping public opinion. The discussion will be moderated by journalist and member of the organizing team of the Chania Book Festival, **Kyriaki Beiglou**.

**Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

**"The Little Archaionauts Travel to Greek Calabria" / "Oi mikroi Argonautes taxideyoun stin elliniki Kalavria" by Vasiliki Vourda**

Author **Vasiliki Vourda**, Director of the Centre for Greek Language and Culture "Ellinomathia" in Reggio Calabria, speaks on the occasion of her book about Greek Calabria, its language, songs and customs.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Oselotos Publishing

**Grand Arsenal**

**Greece and China: Between Conflict and Harmonisation**

On the occasion of the Crete University Press series *China – History and Culture*, **Chloe Balla**, Professor of Ancient Philosophy at the University of Crete,

discusses with **Pantelis Golitsis**, Associate Professor of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; **Stefano Gandolfo**, Director of Columbia Global Center Athens; and **Anna Baka**, Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, Charles University, Prague.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Crete University Press / Centre of Ancient Greek and Chinese Culture

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"Nights with Kalli" / "Nichtes me tin Kalli" by Giorgos Symbardis**

Heatwave, balconies in Petralona, secret glances. The complexity of connection with the other through the eyes of **Giorgos Symbardis**. The author discusses his book with book critic **Alexandra Chaini**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Metaichmio Publishing

### **Staircase of St Mark's Street**

#### **A Tribute of Honour and Memory to Giorgos Ioannou**

A heartfelt confession on the occasion of writer and songwriter **Thomas Korovinis'** book *"Letter to Brother Giorgos Ioannou Who Has Been Away for Years in Glavani"* *"Gramma ston adelfo Giorgo Ioannou pou lepei xronia sti Gklavani"*.

The author will be joined by:

**Nikos Davvetas**, author

**Evi Koutroumbaki**, philologist and writer

With the participation of **Kreon Kanakaris**, singer-songwriter.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Agra Publishing

### **MULaR**

#### **On the Side of Poetry**

Poets **Maria A. Ioannou** and **Krystalli Glyniadaki** read their poems and discuss the themes of their work with journalist **Anna Routsis**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Ikaros Publishing / Nefeli Publishing / Polis Publishing

**Sunday**

**28 June 2026**

**11:00-12:30**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **Experiential Workshop on the Relationship Between Literature and the Visual Arts with Elena Maroutsou**

The workshop will refer to creators who distinguished themselves both in the visual arts and in writing, as well as to works that incorporated elements from both art forms.

Participants will draw inspiration from paintings and photographs and will write texts, which they will then share with the group. Participation in the workshop requires booking one of the 15 available places.

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **Workshop "Travelling with Liberty" for Children Aged 8–12**

The activity is inspired by the book *Liberty* by **Melina Iliopoulou** and **Maria Yiassa**, which becomes a means of highlighting the value of dreams, shared goals and collective creativity. At the end, children will express their journey

through a short text or a drawing. Participation in the workshop requires booking one of the 20 available places.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Papadopoulos Publishing

**11:00-12:00**

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **From the Page to the Feed: Writers in the Age of "Noise"**

A masterclass dedicated to the challenges posed by social media for writers: the formation of their public image, online communities of readers, and the communication of literature in the digital age. The masterclass will be held by **Anastasia Yannacopoulou**, Assistant Professor at the University of Western Macedonia and Head of Digital Communications of the Chania Book Festival.

**18:00-19:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **"Classified KYP Documents on the Cyprus Issue" / "Aporrita eggrafa tis KYP gia to Kypriako"**

The unseen history of the summer of 1974 comes to light through revealing documents and material from a personal archive. Historian **Tasos Sakellaropoulos**, who wrote the introductions and commentary for the book, discusses it with **Manolis Pimplis**, Director of the Chania Book Festival.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Metaichmio Publishing

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **"The Fall of Kostantia" "I alosi tis Konstantias", Presented by the Students of the 4th General Lyceum of Chania**

Students of the 4th General High School of Chania present Yannis Makridakis' book "*The Fall of Kostantia*" "*I alosi tis Konstantias*" and discuss it with the author.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hestia Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **Commemorative Literary Years and Their Impact. Album "Lord Byron, Poet and Philhellene, 1788-1824"**

**Sissy Papathanasiou**, historian, writer and Director of Letters at the Ministry of Culture, and **Vasilis Sabatakakis**, Associate Professor of Modern Greek Studies at Lund University and President of the European Society of Modern Greek Studies, present the Ministry of Culture's commemorative publication for "Lord Byron Year 2024", marking 200 years since the Exodus of Messolonghi.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Directorate of Letters – Ministry of Culture

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"What I Know About You" by Eric Chacour**

A discreet, witty and tender portrait of a family falling apart and of a society undergoing dramatic change. Author **Eric Chacour** discusses his book with its translator, **Stella Zoumboulaki**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Metaichmio Publishing

**19:00-20:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **"With Two Dads" by Eric Mukendi**

A discussion on **Eric Mukendi's** book, which explores family, migration, social acceptance and personal growth. The author discusses the book with **Varvara Roussou**, literary critic and permanent faculty member at the Athens School of Fine Arts, and **Zizi Saliba**, PhD historian-economist and publisher.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Thines Publishing

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **"Ministry of Loneliness"/ "Ipourgeio Monaxias" by Elena Karakouli**

Can AI kill loneliness?

On the occasion of her new novel, the author discusses with **Marina Aretaki**, Laboratory Teaching Staff Member at the Department of Philology, University of Crete.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Kastaniotis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **From the History of Literature and Ideas to Reception and the Poetics of Texts**

A contemporary discussion on the importance of philology, on the occasion of the tribute volume dedicated to **Christina Dounia**.

Participants:

**Christina Dounia**, Professor Emerita of Modern Greek Philology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), writer

**Dimitris Angelatos**, Professor Emeritus of Modern Greek Literature and Literary Theory, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)

**Giannis Dimitrakakis**, Associate Professor of Modern Greek Philology, University of Crete

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Hestia Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **"Vatrachomyomachia"**

*(edited by Agni Stroubouli)*

On the occasion of the publication of "*Vatrachomyomachia*", the verse parody of the *Iliad*, distinguished storyteller **Agni Stroubouli** discusses with **Pavlina Marvin**, writer and member of the organizing team of the Chania Book Festival, the Trojan War raging in a lake between mice and frogs.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Potamos Publishing

**20:00-21:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **The World of Maurice Attia**

French-Algerian psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and writer **Maurice Attia**, one of the most important voices in contemporary French noir, discusses his latest book in Greek, "*The Colours of Revenge*", with **Manolis Pimplis**, Director of the Chania Book Festival.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Polis Publishing

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre - Hall 2**

#### **Including Otherness in the Values of Our Society**

On the occasion of the publication of **Iosif Alygizakis'** book "*The Story Before History: A Novel of Self-Knowledge*" "I Istoria prin tin Istoria: ena mythistorima autognosias" the author discusses with philologist **Dionysia Karavasileiadi** social inequalities and the need for society to treat individuals equally.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Ereisma Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **"Thirteen"/ "Dekatria" by Christos Chomenidis**

On the occasion of his new autobiographical work, writer **Christos Chomenidis** discusses with **Filou Mavrodellou**, coordinator of the Reading Club of the Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki and French-language teacher.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Patakis Publishing

### **Grand Arsenal - Hall 2**

#### **Meeting Danish Author Martin Glaz Serup**

Widely translated Danish poet and prose writer **Martin Glaz Serup** discusses his work with his translator **Sotiris Souliotis** and reads his poems (Greek translation by S. Souliotis). They will also discuss Martin Glaz Serup's recent novel *Del af livet (A Part of Life)*, published in Denmark in 2025 and not yet translated into Greek.  
CO-ORGANIZED BY: Melani Publishing

### **Staircase of St Mark's Street**

#### **"Letters to the Virgin Mary" / "Grammata stin Panagia" by Kyriakos Charitos and "The Garden of Fugitives"/ "O kipos ton figadon" by Elena Maroutsou**

The two authors discuss their recent books.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Ikaros Publications / Patakis Publishers / Ikaros Publishing / Patakis Publishing

**21:00-22:00**

### **Mikis Theodorakis Theatre**

#### **Nikos Papadakis as Author-Biographer of Eleftherios Venizelos**

A discussion on his writing and the publications of the National Research Foundation "Eleftherios K. Venizelos", where he served as Director General and Chairman of its Executive Committee.

In discussion:

**Tasos Sakellaropoulos**, historian

**Stratis Bournazos**, historian

**Nikos Kalogeris**, Deputy Regional Governor of Chania

The discussion will be moderated by Director General of the National Research Foundation "Eleftherios K. Venizelos", **Giorgos Koukourakis**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: National Research Foundation "Eleftherios K. Venizelos"

### **Grand Arsenal**

#### **"Social Media: The Freedom to Speak Without Being Heard" / "Social Media. I eleftheria na milas xoris na akougesai" by Konstantinos Poulis**

Writer and journalist **Konstantinos Poulis** discusses his recent book with journalist **Alexandra Christakaki**.

CO-ORGANIZED BY: Gutenberg Publishing

## **Parallel Events**

### **Agios Rokkos, Splantzia**

#### **“Ta Paia Epigan Periato: The Multiverse of Takis Giannousas”**

#### **Exhibition of Works by Self-Taught Folk Painter Takis Giannousas (1923–2010)**

The exhibition presents works by self-taught folk painter **Takis Giannousas** from Velventos, Kozani, an artist who developed an entirely personal visual universe in which memories of rural life, everyday experience, history, religious imagination, and memories of the German Occupation and the Greek Civil War coexist in dense, colourful compositions.

Through more than twenty works, exhibited for the first time outside Velventos, visitors will discover a remarkable example of modern Greek folk art and a unique visual archive of twentieth-century provincial Greece.

**Exhibition duration:** 19 June – 12 July 2026

**Opening hours:** Daily, 10:00–13:00 and 19:00–22:00

**Opening:** Thursday, 25 June, 18:30, Agios Rokkos

**Curator:** Nadia Argyropoulou

**Curatorial Associate:** Giannis Palavos

**Coordination:** Zoe Georgoula, Production Coordinator, 5th Chania Book Festival

ORGANIZED BY: Region of Crete

Co-organized by: Municipality of Chania; Ministry of Culture – Ephorate of Antiquities of Chania

In cooperation with: Velventos Cultural Association

## **MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL THEATRE OF CRETE (DI.PE.THE. CRETE)**

### **Neoria Square**

A special encounter between literature and theatre.

Every evening at 21:00, excerpts from works by contemporary writers will come to life in Neoria Square, behind the Mikis Theodorakis Theatre, creating an atmosphere in which the written word is transformed into a live experience.

Specifically:

#### **Tuesday, 23 June & Wednesday, 24 June**

#### **“I Was There Too, in Orphalezia”**

Direction and instruction by **Stella Skordara**.

#### **Thursday, 25 June**

#### **Dramatic Reading based on the book “Beyond Consent” by Evariste Pimplis**

Selection of excerpts, direction and presentation by **Stellina Ioannidou**.

#### **Saturday, 27 June**

#### **“I Was Not Made for War”**

A performance of words and memory featuring:

Fani Georgakaki

Emmanouil Stefanoudakis

All performances last approximately 20 minutes.

### **Cultural Centre of Chania**

As part of the celebrations marking its 50th anniversary, three exhibitions will be presented at the Chania Cultural Centre and will be open to visitors during the following hours:

**10:00–14:00 and 18:00–21:00 (except public holidays)**

**1. “The People and the Work”**

An exhibition dedicated to the history of the Cultural Centre, featuring archival material from its earliest productions.

The newspaper **Haniotika Nea** participates through material from its archive.

**2. Rare Book Editions Exhibition**

An exhibition of rare editions, including first editions, signed editions and unique copies, highlighting our intellectual heritage under the gaze of major literary and cultural figures.

Participating institutions include:

Chania Municipal Library

Lyceum Club of Greek Women – Chania Branch  
alongside private collectors.

**3. “The Covers”**

An exhibition of designed book covers by painter **Yannis Valavanidis**.

The exhibition was first presented at the National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation (MIET) from June to September 2015 under the title **“The Art of the Book Cover.”**

Exhibition material courtesy of art historian **Martha-Elli Christofoglou**.

**Exhibition Organization and Curation:** Lefteris Lambrakis

**Collaborators:** Anna Lambardaki – Maria Michelogianni

Group guided tours for children and adults are available by appointment.

**Admission is free.**

**Museum of School Life, Municipality of Chania**

Two experiential learning routes designed and facilitated by **Maria A. Drakaki**, curator of the Museum of School Life, educator and adult-learning specialist.

**“Interpretive Path: Black and White – Conflict or Encounter of Worlds? Light or Darkness?”**

**Friday, 26 June | 18:00–20:00**

Inspired by the book *A Child of Books*, participants explore the power of contrast between light and darkness.

Through words and art, every conflict is transformed into a luminous bridge of communication and creativity.

Advance registration is required for the 25 available places.

**“Interpretive Path: The Silken Thread That Connects Us”**

**Saturday, 27 June | 10:30–13:00**

Inspired by Kyriakos Charitos’ book *To Metaxenio (The Silken Thread)*, participants explore adolescence, transformation and family relationships.

Advance registration is required for the 25 available places.

**Karolos Kampelopoulos Foundation**

**“Karolos’ Monastery” Museum**

In collaboration with the **Alekos Fassianos Museum**, the Foundation presents the exhibition:

**“Alekos Fassianos – Karolos Kampelopoulos: An Acquaintance in Paris”**

The exhibition opens on **Saturday, 29 November at 18:00**.

The initiative belongs to **Stella Koutsoupaki**, Director of the “Karolos’ Monastery” Museum, and is organized in collaboration with the **Hellenic-French Association of Chania**, with the generous support of:

Region of Crete

Regional Unit of Chania

Regional Development Fund of Crete

Municipality of Chania

The exhibition is held under the auspices of the **Embassy of France in Greece**.

The collection of the “Karolos’ Monastery” Museum includes, among many other masterpieces, works by renowned Greek artist **Alekos Fassianos**, forming a small but significant part of the vast collection patiently assembled over the years by artist and celebrity hairdresser **Karolos Kampelopoulos**.

### **Opening Hours**

Visits are always accompanied by a guided tour (approximately one hour).

**Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday – Saturday: 10:00–14:00**

**Wednesday – Friday: 18:00–21:00**