



### **Dimitris Arvanitakis: Head of the Publications Department**

Born in Zakynthos, Dimitris Arvanitakis is a graduate of the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies of the University of Athens. As a fellow of the Academy of Athens from 1995 to 1999, he conducted research for his doctoral dissertation at Istituto di Studi Bizantini e Postbizantini of Venice, which was successfully defended at the Ionian University in Corfu (1999). His scientific interests span a wide range of topics: social history, history of ideas and intellectual history, history of literature and historiography, Modern Greek and Italian history, and the formation of national states.

Since 2000, he has been working at the Benaki Museum and since 2006 he has been in charge of the Publications Department. In his capacity as Head of Publications, he has overseen and coordinated the publication of a great number of the Museum's exhibition and collections catalogues and has been scientific editor of many books, including the series *Benaki Museum Library*.

Dimitris Arvanitakis has taught in postgraduate seminars in Greece and Italy, has organized scientific conferences and has edited a number of scientific volumes. Moreover, he has published many articles in scientific volumes, journals and conference proceedings. He is a member of the Editorial Secretariat of the Greek journal *Ta Istorika* and the Italian journal *Periptero*, member of the Review Team of the journal *Giornale Storico della Letteratura Italiana*, Scientific Director of the Casa di Ugo Foscolo / Hugo Foscolo's House (Zakynthos), and since 2009 he has been a Member and Coordinator of the Scientific Committee which oversees the publication of Andreas Kalvos' *Works* by the Benaki Museum.

Selected works: *Social conflicts in the city of Zakynthos. The Rebellion of the popolari (1628)*, Benaki Museum - ELIA, Athens 2001; *Andreas Moustoxydis - Emilios Typaldos. Correspondence (1822-1860)*, Benaki Museum - Kotinos, Athens 2005; *The Greek World under Ottoman and Western Domination: 15th-19th Centuries*, Benaki Museum - Alexander Onassis Public Benefit Foundation, New York 2008 (ed. in cooperation with Paschalis Kitromilidis); *Towards the nations. The Ape italiana, Andreas Kalvos, the history*, Benaki Museum, Athens 2010; *Apology of Suicide*, Benaki Museum, Athens 2012; *Andreas Kalvos. Correspondence (1813-1869)*, vol. 1-2, Benaki Museum, Athens 2014.

**The position of the Head of the Publications Department is kindly sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Tassos and Angele Nomikos.**



### **Natalia Boura: Head of the Modern Greek Architecture Archives**

Natalia Boura is an Architect. She studied Architecture at the National Technical University of Athens and obtained her Masters' Degree on Architectural Conservation from Edinburgh College of Art - Heriot Watt University, with a scholarship from the Onassis Foundation. She is the Head of the Modern Greek Architecture Archives of the Benaki Museum since February 2016, and is part of the Museum since 1998.

She has designed various exhibitions for the Benaki Museum and other institutions, including among others: *Opy Zouni Ordo ab Chao* (2016), *7<sup>th</sup> Leonidas Kourgiantakis* (2016), *The Architect's Workshop* (2015), *The Buildings of the Bank of Greece* (2011), *The World of Emmanouil Vourekas* (2009), *The Architect Kleon Krantonellis* (2009), *Dimitris Pikionis - The Architecture of Chios* (2001), *The Neoclassical Athens of Pavlos Mylonas* (2000) and has edited various publications of the Archives. In 2006 she oversaw the organization of the International Conference of Architectural Museums ICAM 13 and edited the conference proceedings. As a member of the Archives she participated in the documentation and classification of the collections.

She oversaw the Digitalization Program for part of the archive which took place in 2008 within the context of the Program *Information Society*, aiming to bring up to date the department and make the archives accessible to larger and more remote audiences. She has also worked with architectural studios in Greece and abroad in studies for new buildings, the redesign of existing ones and the restoration of monuments.

**The position of the Head of the Modern Greek Architecture Archives is kindly sponsored by an anonymous donor.**



**Maria - Christina Destouni - Yannouladou: Head of the Educational Programmes Department**

Maria-Christina Destouni-Yannouladou is the Head of the Educational Programmes Department. She studied French & Comparative Literature as an undergraduate at the Athens University and holds a Maitrise and a DEA from the Sorbonne - Paris IV. She joined the Museum in 1990 and took charge of the Educational Programmes Department in 2005. Maria-Christina designs, coordinates and implements educational activities for school groups of all levels. At regular intervals, she presents special seminars for teachers wishing to benefit from the museum's educational value for their pupils. At the same time, she proposes unique museum itineraries for families with children of all ages.

While welcoming young visitors in the Museum she also focuses on the adult public, constantly seeking new proposals for events, workshops, courses and lectures aimed at interpreting the content of the Museum's collections, making them more accessible and understandable. She organizes educational seminars with scholars and artists, firmly believing that the Museum can be a fruitful meeting point of the scientific and artistic communities with the general public. She strongly believes in the opening of the Museum to everyone, dedicating time, in recent years, on developing and presenting innovative programmes which serve this purpose. In this context, she works on building synergies and joint ventures with museum professionals in Greece and abroad. Aiming at the meaningful familiarization of children and teachers with the museum environment, she takes part in national campaigns under the auspices of the Ministries of Education and Culture, such as the "Melina Programme", in conferences and related workshops. She has written and edited many of the Department's publications. She is an active member of ICOM's CECA team.

**The position of the Head of the Educational Programmes Department is kindly sponsored by E.J. Papadopoulos S.A.**



**Maria Diamanti: Editor of the Annual Scientific Journal**

Maria Diamanti is the Editor of the Annual Scientific Journal of the Benaki Museum. She has obtained her degree in Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies from the National University of Athens and holds a Master's degree with a specialization in Modern Greek Literature from the School of Philosophy of the University of Crete. She has been working at the Benaki Museum since 1987, first at the Educational Programmes Department and then as a secretary to the late director, Angelos Delivorrias. In 2009 she became editor of the museum's scientific journal and its supplements. She has translated various Museum publications in English and Greek and has published numerous articles both in literary and in prose editions. She has also published two fairy tales.

**The position of the Editor of the Annual Scientific Journal is kindly sponsored by Neptune Lines.**



### **Sofia Handaka: Curator of the World Cultures Collection**

Dr Sophia Handaka is a social anthropologist specialized in material cultures and museums, with over 15 years of experience in the museum sector. She completed her BA at University College London and her postgraduate studies at Oxford University, where she gained her DPhil in 2005. Since 1998 she has been working at the Benaki Museum, initially at the department of Neohellenic Art and in 2010 she undertook to set up and manage the department of World Cultures.

She has coordinated and curated numerous exhibitions and publications at the Benaki Museum and has contributed to the scientific dialogue with many publications, lectures and public talks; furthermore, she has organized and participated in conferences, workshops, international networks, culture exchange programmes and collaborations applying new museological practices. In addition, she has been actively involved in internal organization and management, by contributing in setting up of new departments (Copyrights, Fundraising & Development, World Cultures, and Travelling Exhibitions). In 2006-2008 she taught as an adjunct lecturer graduate and postgraduate courses that relate to anthropology, museums and material culture at the Department of History, Archeology and Social Anthropology of the University of Thessaly.

Her scientific interests focus on one hand in the study and application of new museological trends and on the other in the representation of knowledge in museums, always combining theory and practice. She is also a volunteer and board member at the NGO HOPEgenesis for the fight against birth deficit in Greece.

**The position of the Curator of the World Cultures Collection is kindly sponsored by Intracom Holdings.**



### **Polyna Kosmadaki: Curator of the Paintings, Drawings and Prints Collection**

Polina Kosmadaki is an art historian living and working in Athens. She studied Art History and Archaeology in Strasbourg and Paris and holds a Ph.D in History of Art from the University of Paris-IV-Sorbonne. She is currently the Head Curator of the Department of Paintings, Drawings and Prints of the Benaki Museum, Athens and a Lecturer of Art in the European Studies program of the Hellenic Open University. Since 2008 she is a researcher and member of the scientific committee in the program undertaken by the Benaki Museum, the French School of Athens and the Institute of Mediterranean Studies regarding the cultural exchanges between France and Greece during the interwar period. In 2011 she organised at the Benaki Museum the International Conference “Paris-Athènes: Le double voyage 1919-1939” and she edited the Conference Proceedings. In 2013 was published the volume she co-edited (as a special issue of AICA Hellas journal), with the title: *Institutional Critique. Critical institutions*. In 2016 she published in the RIHA journal the essay [“The Greek Pavilion in the Exposition Internationale des Arts et Techniques dans la Vie Moderne. New Perspectives for National Art in the Context of Regionalism”](#).

She is currently the Head Researcher of a project on Christian Zervos and his journal *Cahiers d'art* for the French School of Athens. In the summer of 2015 she was Stanley J. Seeger Visiting Research Fellow at the Center for Hellenic Studies, Princeton University. Her research interests focus on the art of the interwar period, the Greek pavilions in the International Exhibitions of Paris (1925 & 1937), the editor and critic Christian Zervos, the reception of Antiquity in contemporary art, matters of institutional critique and exhibition history as well as artistic and curatorial practices of the 1970's. She has edited catalogues and contributed with articles and academic papers on modern and contemporary art in a number of journals and books.

For the Benaki Museum, she has organized and curated a number of exhibitions like *Ametria* (2015), *Happy Birthday. George Lappas* (2016), in collaboration with the Deste foundation, as well as *Dialogues with the Benaki Museum*, a series of new productions of contemporary art in collaboration with the British Council. In 2017 she participated in the project *Liquid Antiquity* with Deste Foundation, a critical reflection on the fluid and open-ended relationship between antique and contemporary art and coordinated the Museum's collaboration with Documenta 14.

**The position of the Curator of the Paintings, Drawings and Prints Collection is kindly sponsored by Mrs. Lulu Zein.**



**Ioanna Moraiti: Head of the Archive at Nikos Hadjikyriakos - Ghika Gallery**

Ioanna Moraiti is the Head of the Archive at the Nikos Hadjikyriakos - Ghika Gallery since 2011. She studied Photography at the Liberal Studies Workshop of artistic and applied photography and later on European Culture at the Humanities Department of the Greek Open University. She joined the Benaki Museum in 1999, in order to photograph, catalogue and document the Gallery's archive which includes the corpus of the artist's works, his photographical and his personal archive.

**The position of the Head of the Archive at Nikos Hadjikyriakos - Ghika Gallery is kindly sponsored by the National Bank of Greece.**



**Mina Moraitou: Curator of the Benaki Museum of Islamic Art**

Mina Moraitou is an art historian specialised in the study of Islamic art with 25 years experience in the field of museums. She completed her BA degree at the University of Richmond and her postgraduate studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London where she received a Postgraduate Diploma in the history of Asian Art (1992) and a postgraduate degree (MA) in the history of Islamic Art (1996). Since 1992, she works at the Benaki Museum, first in the Documentation Department and then in the department of Islamic art, while in 2012 she became the curator of the Benaki Museum of Islamic Art. She has coordinated and curated a number of exhibitions and publications for the Benaki Museum. Among them, the exhibitions "A journey into the world of Sufism» and «Thomas Hope: Drawings of Ottoman Istanbul». Her contributions include a number of publications, lectures and seminars. Each year she collaborates with cultural

	organisations for the promotion of Islamic art and of the Benaki Museum in Greece and abroad. Among her interests is to highlight the arts of the Middle East and its relations with Greece and Europe, and the promotion of understanding between cultures.
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**The position of the Curator of the Benaki Museum of Islamic Art is kindly sponsored by the Agnes Varis Charitable Fund.**



**Irimi Papageorgiou: Curator of the Department of Prehistoric, Ancient Greek and Roman Collections**

Irimi Papageorgiou, archaeologist, is the Curator of the Department of Prehistoric, Ancient Greek and Roman Collections since 2000. After a short collaboration with the 20th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities of the Ministry of Culture, she joined the Benaki Museum in 1991. She studied Archaeology and History of Art at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She has taken part in several excavations and is member of the Akrotiri Excavations Team, in Thera. Her research focuses on the Aegean iconography of the 2nd millennium BC and on the goldsmithing art in antiquity, with many relevant publications. Since 2000 she has been involved in the coordination of all archaeological exhibitions presented at the Museum. She has also contributed to all archaeological exhibitions in Greece and abroad, in which the Museum has participated. She is a member of the Society for the Promotion of Studies on Prehistoric Thera.

**The position of the Curator of the Department of Prehistoric, Ancient Greek and Roman Collections is kindly sponsored by the Hellenic College Trust.**



**Constantinos Papachristou: Head of the Nikos Hadjikyriakos - Ghika Gallery**

Constantinos Papachristou is an art historian and Head of the Nikos Hadjikyriakos - Ghika Gallery. In 2005 he joined the Benaki Museum. He studied archaeology, art history and visual exhibitions curating, first in Thessaloniki, at the Aristotle University, and later on in Paris, at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and the Ecole du Louvre. He is also coordinating and curating exhibitions at the Nikos Hadjikyriakos - Ghika Gallery. Many of his texts and studies have been published in catalogues and scientific magazines in Greece and abroad. He is a member of the Society of Greek Art Historians.

**The position of the Head of the Nikos Hadjikyriakos - Ghika Gallery is kindly sponsored by the National Bank of Greece.**



**Vassilis Paschalis: Head of the Conservation Department**

Vassilis Paschalis is the Head of the Benaki Museum Conservation Department since 2010. He joined the Benaki Museum in 1997. He holds a degree in conservation of antiquities and works of art and furthered his studies in Humanities at the University of Cyprus. He trained in easel paintings conservation in the National Gallery - Alexander Soutzos Museum. He is responsible for the participation of the department in various research programs and specializes in the analysis of inorganic pigments and the study of their use in paintings, having published extensive relevant work.

**The position of the Head of the Conservation Department is kindly sponsored by The Samourkas Foundation.**



**Xenia Politou: Curator of the Modern Greek Culture Collection**

Xenia Politou is the Curator of the Modern Greek Culture Collection since 2010. She studied French and Comparative Literature at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and at Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris 3). After working for many years at the Museum of History of the Greek Costume and the Peloponnesian Folklore Foundation, she joined the Benaki Museum in 2005. Her research focuses on textiles and costumes. She has been involved in the organization of all costume-related exhibitions at the Benaki Museum during the last ten years. She is a member of the ICOM (International Committee of Museums) Costume Committee and a founding member and secretary of the Hellenic Costume Society.

**The position of the Curator of the Modern Greek Culture Collection is kindly sponsored by Aigeas AMKE.**



**Tasos Sakellaropoulos: Head of the Historical Archives and Manuscripts Department of the Benaki Museum**

Tasos Sakellaropoulos is the Head of the Benaki Museum Historical Archives and Manuscripts Department since 2011. He joined the Museum in 2008. He studied Modern History at the University of Siena, in Italy, and has worked in scientific, research and archival programs on Modern Greek history. He has organized and taught in postgraduate students' seminars focusing on the 1940's as well as the 1967-1974 dictatorship period. He is involved in the preparation of history - related exhibitions, the classification and organization of historical archives and the publishing of exhibition catalogues and books on history.

**The position of the Head of the Historical Archives and Manuscripts Department is kindly sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Achilleas Konstantakopoulos.**



### **Haris Siampanis: Chief Executive Officer**

Haris Siampanis is since October 1st 2018 the Benaki Museum's Chief Executive Officer. Before assuming this post, he occupied the position of Chief Financial and Operating Officer from May 2012 to September 30th 2018. He was also a member of the Museum's Executive Committee since its establishment in October 2016. He has been and continues to be responsible for all financial activities of the Museum, aiming at safeguarding the Museum's short and long term financial sustainability.

Before joining the foundation, he worked as a Management Consultant at Boston Consulting Group, a multinational corporation. In this capacity, he participated in various projects both in Greece and abroad, with particular focus on financial restructuring, mergers and acquisitions and strategic corporate planning. He studied Chemical Engineering at the National Technical University of Athens and completed his graduate studies with full scholarship from Tufts University in Boston. He is also a Harvard Business School graduate and a certified executive specialized on negotiations and strategic decision making.

**The position of the Chief Executive Officer is kindly sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Constantinos Martinos.**



### **Nikos Trivoulidis: Head of Fundraising and Development Department**

Nikos Trivoulidis is the Head of the Fundraising and Development Department since 2014, responsible for the employment of existing resources, the obtainment of new ones, the creation of new revenue streams for the Museum and the management of the membership program. He studied communication at City University of New York and completed his post-graduate studies at Oklahoma University. Before joining the Museum he worked at record companies like LYRA and SERIOS, which belonged to Manos Hadjidakis, and for several years he occupied directorial positions within SKAI Group (Marketing, Programming, Publishing and Sponsoring Departments).

**The position of the Head of the Fundraising and Development Department is kindly sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Constantinos Martinos.**



### **Aliko Tsirgialou: Head of the Photographic Archives**

Aliko Tsirgialou is a photography historian. In 1999 she obtained her Masters degree in *Photography: History and Culture* from the London College of Printing and Distributive Trades of the London Institute. Since 2001, she has been working as a curator at the Photographic Archive of the Benaki Museum and in 2008 she became the head of the department. Among her main tasks are the classification, documentation and recording of the photographic collection in the management system (FOCUS-MUSEUM PLUS) as well as the coordination of the digitization and conservation works aiming at the seamless access of the scholars

to it. Long periods of time are also devoted to the study of the work of Greek and foreign photographers and the writing of texts on the history of photography.

She has organized numerous photographic exhibitions and edited the accompanying catalogues for the Benaki Museum such as “The Temples of Photography” (2003), “Ioannis D. Lambros (1915-1988), Gentle observations of a restless camera” (2007), “Athens, *Transformations of an Urban Landscape*”, (2009), “Greek Seas. A photographic journey in time”, (2013) and more. She has also contributed with texts in the editions “Encyclopedia of Nineteenth Century Photography” (Taylor & Francis 2008), “Lizzie Calligas, *Metokesis*” (Cube Art Editions 2010) και “Camera Graeca: Photographs, Narratives, Materialities” (Routledge 2015). In 2007 she co-edited the book titled “Greece Through Photographs, 160 years of visual testimony” published by Melissa Books. In 2013 she was in charge of the 31<sup>st</sup> ORACLE International Photography Curators Meeting hosted by the Benaki Museum.

**The position of the Head of the Photographic Archives is kindly sponsored by an anonymous donor.**



**Liana Tsombanoglou: Head of Pireos 138 & Head of Events**

Liana Tsombanoglou is a museologist. Graduated from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Faculty of Archaeology and Art History. She holds an MSc in Museology from the University of Portsmouth, UK, specializing in museum marketing.

She has been working at the Benaki Museum since 2003, initially at the Exhibitions’ Department, with the duty of coordinating and curating temporary exhibitions as well as their publications. In 2004, she undertook the responsibility to set up and manage the Museum’s Event Department. Every year she coordinates and supervises over 400 events, organized and hosted at the Benaki Museum.

Among her responsibilities, is the evaluation of incoming proposals, the planning and management of the Museum’s annual events program and the management of the event premises. Her tasks also include coordination and supervision of the events, contact and cooperation with the Museum’s partners. The aim is to enrich and shape the Museum’s events programme, as well as to increase financially the Museum’s annual budget. She has also been actively involved in internal organization and management of the Benaki Museum. More specifically: In 2010 she contributed in the creation of Fundraising and Development department. From 2012, she is Head of Benaki Museum/ Pireos 138, both in terms of its operation and the activities hosted.

**The position of the Head of Pireos 138 & Head of Events is kindly sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Constantinos Martinos.**

**For further information on how to participate in the sponsoring program please contact 212 6875299 and [development@benaki.gr](mailto:development@benaki.gr).**