



PROGRAM

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# Days of Cyprus

**22-23 April 2024**

**Venue: Ilija M. Kolarac Foundation**  
(Belgrade, Studentski trg 5)

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The Centre for Cypriot Studies of the University  
of Belgrade-Faculty of Philosophy  
in cooperation with the Research Unit ISTÓŠ-History,  
Archaeology and Art, Heritage Management  
of the European University Cyprus are organizing the

# Days of Cyprus

**22-23 April 2024**

Ilija M. Kolarac Foundation, Belgrade, Studentski trg 5

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**22 APRIL 2024**

20:00

Inauguration of the Photography exhibition  
“Panagies of Cyprus”

20:15

Concert

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**23 APRIL 2024**

18:00-20:00

Cyprus: Identity/ies in the Middle Ages and Beyond

1st Roundtable Conference

of the Centre for Cypriot Studies (University of Belgrade)  
and the Research Unit ISTÓŠ: History, Archaeology  
and Art, Heritage Management (European University Cyprus)

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# MONDAY 22 APRIL 2024

## PROGRAM

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### Nocturnes of History and Art

#### 20:00 INAUGURATION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION “PANAGIES OF CYPRUS”

Exhibition concept and coordination: Dr. Christodoulos Hadjichristodoulou and Stelios Stylianou

**Organizers:**

- The Centre for Cypriot Studies, University of Belgrade
  - Holy church Panagia Faneromeni in Nicosia
  - Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus in Serbia
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#### 20:15 CONCERT

Program concept and coordination: Annini Tsiouti, Scientific Collaborator, European University Cyprus

**Organizers:**

- The Centre for Cypriot Studies, University of Belgrade
- European University Cyprus

##### 1. GIUSEPPE VERDI (1813-1901), « AVE MARIA » IN OTELLO

The action takes place on the island of Cyprus, where the Moorish governor Otello returns after a victory over the Ottomans in a naval battle. Otello's ensign Iago, jealous of his master, tricks him into believing his young wife, Desdemona, is being unfaithful. In this aria, Desdemona is praying to the Virgin Mary, for all the people who suffer as much as she does. But her prayers won't stop the jealous Otello from murdering her in her bed.

##### 2. GAETANO DONIZETTI (1797-1848), « VIENI O TU CHE OGNOR IO CHIAMO » IN CATERINA CORNARO

The title of Donizetti's opera is Caterina Cornaro ossia La Regina di Cipro (Caterina Cornaro or The Queen of Cyprus). The action takes place in Venice and in Cyprus, in 1472. The wedding of Caterina, daughter of Andrea Cornaro, a Venetian nobleman, and the Frenchman Gerardo, is postponed, when word arrives that the king of Cyprus, Lusignano, wants to marry her. In this aria, in the Prologue of the opera, Caterina is singing a melody of longing, calling her lover to her.

##### 3. VERONIKI REZAI (BORN 2000), PIECE FOR SOLO CLARINET (2022)

In the context of the “giorkin” concerts, where pieces written by young Cypriot composers and played by young Cypriot instrumentalists were presented, I was asked to write a piece for solo clarinet. I must say that even though “giorkin” is a Cypriot concert series, the piece itself doesn't have any Cypriot qualities. In this work I tried to paint a portrait of playfulness, quirkiness and simplicity, keeping in mind the player that it was written for. Nikola Janjic gave the first performance of the piece in Cyprus, in 2023.

##### 4. CHRISTODOULOS GEORGIADES (BORN 1943), ALONE-NOT ALONE FOR SOLO PIANO (1993-2008)

A musical diptych which portrays two seemingly contradictory emotional states. In Alone I have chosen the language of atonality, something quite rare in my own output, but in this case, it offers me the appropriate tools to express the tension, solitude and questioning relevant to the title. In Not Alone I return to tonality as a release and the fulfilment of being surrounded by human warmth, knowing that we are all “connected”.

##### 5. CHRISTODOULOS GEORGIADES (BORN 1943), SERBIAN DANCE (2018)

How on earth did a Serbian Dance end up in the collection “Traditional Songs and Dances of Cyprus” published by Stelios Papadopoulos? The answer, I suppose, lies in the island's turbulent history. Cyprus has been invaded and occupied through the centuries by so many foreign powers; and, especially during the long stretch of Ottoman rule (1571–1878), there must have been a great deal of give and take with neighbouring lands (the Middle East, the Balkans) and their cultures – including in the field of folk music.

When one day in London, I came across this short melody while playing through a book of Cypriot folk music, I was immediately attracted by its catchy tune. So I played around with it and extended it, inserting a few additional sections of my own, to make it longer and, I hope, to give it a sense of completion.

##### 6. COSTAS CACOYANNIS, « OH MY ROSE - ΑΧ ΤΡΙΑΝΤΑΦΥΛΛΙΑ ΜΟΥ » (2009)

This song became an instant hit when it featured on the soundtrack of the Cypriot TV series «The Roses of Wrath - Τα ρόδα της οργής». The plot is set in the beginning of the 20th century and depicts the hardships of rural life, as well as social inequalities and the exploitation of workers by rich landowners. The lyrics by Pambos Kouzalis are playfully unclear as to whether the song is addressing a rose bush, with prickly stems, or a girl named Rose, whose love prickles the heart.

##### 7. ANNINI TSIOUTI (BORN 1978), ANOTHER ARRANGEMENT (2024)

Familiar traditional melodies are combined with classical motifs and invented tunes in a short instrumental medley written especially for this occasion.

**8. EVAGORAS KARAGIORGIS (BORN 1957), « THE CLAY DANCER – Ο ΧΟΡΕΥΤΗΣ ΤΟΥ ΠΥΛΟΥ » (2009-2019)**

The « Clay Dancer » was originally composed for piano in 2009 and then transcribed for clarinet and piano. It is a three-part work, inspired by the titular short story by Costas Lymbouris, published in 2006. Nikolis, the « clay dancer » built his house with his own two hands, dancing in the clay and always mixing the right doses of water, hay and earth. After the Turkish invasion he is a refugee and misses his house and his village. After his wife's death and sensing his end is near, Nikolis asks the Turkish-Cypriot refugee living in his house to give him one night. He spends his last night in his beloved house, looking at the ceiling he formed with his own hands.

**9. MICHALIS CHRISTODOULIDES (BORN 1944), « LIVING WITH TWO DEATHS - ΖΩΝΤΑΝΟΝ ΜΕ ΔΥΟ ΘΑΝΑΤΟΥΣ» (2000)**

The lyrics for this song are from a 16th century manuscript found in the Venice Marciana National Library, known as the « Rimes of Love ». These « Medieval Cypriot Love Songs » are the work of an unknown erudite poet, clearly influenced by Italian poetry, and especially Petrarque and his school. The song is featured on the album « My heart pining - Η Καρδιά μου Πεθυμώντα », released in 2000.

**10. MICHALIS CHRISTODOULIDES (BORN 1944), « KEEP EVIL AWAY – ΤΖΑΙ ΜΗ ΚΑΚΟΝ» (2011)**

Published in 2005, the poetry collection « Narration of a country - Χώρας Ιστορήση » by Evridiki Perikleous Papadopoulou received the National Poetry Award. Written exclusively in the Cypriot dialect, it was set to music, in its entirety, by Michalis Christodoulides in 2011. This song is an invocation to keep evil away from the country and keep it safe, and for life to flourish in peace.

**PROGRAM NOTES:**

**Nos. 1-2 and 6-10:** Annini Tsiouti

**No. 3:** Veroniki Rezai

**Nos. 4-5:** Christodoulos Georgiades

**Orchestration and musical arrangement for nos. 1-2, 6-7, 9-10:** Annini Tsiouti

## BIOS

### **Chryso Makariou soprano**

Based in Vienna, soprano Chryso Makariou is one of the most distinguished Greek-Cypriot singers of her generation. Equally comfortable with operetta and concert repertoire, as well as on the international opera stage, she appears regularly as a soloist with various orchestras around the world and has recently returned from an opera gala tour in China. Chryso Makariou is the founder of the cultural association VIENNA QUARTIRE ARTISTICO, which aims to promote music through collaborations with international artists. Actively engaged in charity projects, in 2015 Chryso started the annual concert “Viennese Christmas” in favor of the Cypriot Association “Ena oneiro mia Efhi” which helps ailing children and their families.

### **Renato Kamhi violin**

Renato Kamhi graduated in violin at the Royal Conservatories of Brussels and Ghent, class of Mikhaïl BEZVERKHNI, 1st prize Queen Elisabeth international competition. Holder of a French national teaching diploma, the Certificate of Aptitude, he teaches at the Puteaux Conservatory. He is a founding member of the ARK trio, a piano trio with which he recorded the album “Escales” (2018). Renato Kamhi also completed a Doctoral thesis in musicology at the Sorbonne University in Paris on Judeo-Spanish music from the ex-Yugoslav territory.

### **Nikola Janjic clarinet**

Nikola Janjic first started clarinet lessons at the age of 9 at the Cyprus Youth Symphony Orchestra Academy. In 2012 he joined the Youth Orchestra, where he played until 2018. He continued his education at the HFMT Cologne in the class of Michael Schmidt and is currently completing his Master's Degree with Ralph Manno. Important musical experiences include playing solo with the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra in 2017 as well as with the Cyprus Youth Symphony Orchestra in 2018. From 2020-22 he was a member of the Mediterranean Youth Orchestra and since 2022 he is a substitute clarinetist with the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra.

### **Annini Tsiouti piano**

Annini Tsiouti has given first performances of many works for solo piano or chamber ensembles by contemporary composers of various schools and orientations. She is also very active as a musical arranger and vocal accompanist, regularly appearing in concerts and shows with singers and ensembles. Annini completed a Doctoral thesis in Musicology at the Sorbonne University in Paris, specializing in the piano works of Greek composer Nikos Skalkottas. She also holds a Master's Degree in Linguistics from the INALCO University in Paris. She is a member of the academic staff of the Master's Program Hellenic Studies, of the European University Cyprus, where she especially created and teaches postgraduate online courses in modern Greek culture and civilization, with a special focus on language and the arts. Annini is a member of the research unit ISTOS: History, Archaeology and Heritage Management, of the European University Cyprus.

# TUESDAY 23 APRIL 2024

## PROGRAM

### Cyprus: Identity/ies in the Middle Ages and Beyond

#### 18.00-20.00 1ST ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE

Of the Centre for Cypriot Studies (University of Belgrade) and the Research Unit ISTÓS: History, Archaeology and Art, Heritage Management (European University Cyprus)

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Chrysovalantis Kyriacou, Theological School of the Church of Cyprus / European University Cyprus

#### RESPONDERS SPEAKERS:

- Jelena Erdeljan, University of Belgrade
- Panos Christodoulou, European University Cyprus
- Vlada Stankovic, University of Belgrade / European University Cyprus

Any historical examination of Cypriot history after Late Antiquity brings to the fore the enduring presence of Eastern Orthodox Christianity in identity politics, from the medieval to the modern period. Various ideological processes, including the politicisation of religious faith, nationalism, colonialism, and anti- or crypto-colonialism have left their imprint on earlier and more recent historiographical paradigms concerning Cyprus; an island that is not only one of the biggest but also one of the best-studied in the Eastern Mediterranean. Sketching major tendencies in Cypriot historiography between the late nineteenth and early twenty-first centuries, the lecture proposes an interdisciplinary methodology and analyses fresh evidence to point out themes that highlight, through a number of case studies, the plurality of Cypriot identities under the Byzantines, Franks, Venetians, Ottomans, British, and after the Independence.

#### ORGANIZERS:

- The Centre for Cypriot Studies, University of Belgrade
- Research Unit ISTÓS: History, Archaeology and Art, Heritage Management, European University Cyprus

## BIOS

### Chrysovalantis Kyriacou

Dr Kyriacou is Lecturer in Ecclesiastical History at the Theological School of the Church of Cyprus. He is member of the Academic Staff (Visiting Lecturer) of the MA Hellenic Studies of the European University Cyprus. He is a Research Associate of the Hellenic Institute at Royal Holloway, University of London, and his area of expertise is the history and culture (literary and material) of the Late Antique, Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Eastern Mediterranean, focusing on Cyprus. His research, publications and teaching encompass a broad spectrum of subjects: Late Antiquity, Byzantium, Early Christianity, Church History, and Byzantine/Medieval Art and Archaeology. Dr Kyriacou is the author of four books on the history and culture of Byzantine, Crusader and Venetian Cyprus.

### Vlada Stankovic

Vlada Stanković is Professor of Byzantine Studies and Head of the Chair for Byzantine Studies at the University of Belgrade. He is member of the Academic Staff (Visiting Professor) of the MA Hellenic Studies of the European University Cyprus and founder and director of the Centre for Cypriot Studies. He is a member of the Editorial Board of *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* since 2009. He has lectured in several universities around the world. Vlada Stanković is the author of seven monographs, more than three dozen scholarly articles, editor of two collective volumes, and Editor in Chief of Lexington Book's series *Byzantium – A European Empire and Its Legacy*. He studies Byzantine history, culture and literature, the Balkans, and the East Mediterranean from the Middle Ages until today.

### Panos Christodoulou

Panos Christodoulou is Assistant Professor of Hellenic Studies at the European University Cyprus, Coordinator of the MA Hellenic Studies (90ECTS/18 Months), E-Learning: History, Archaeology and Art, Heritage Management and founder and director of the Multidisciplinary Research Unit ISTÓS- History, Archaeology and Art, Heritage Management of the European University Cyprus. He is coordinator and scientific collaborator of several international research programmes on Ancient History and Civilizations. His research and publications focus on Ancient Greek history, myths, and politics. He also specialises in the reception of the antiquity in the 19th and 20th centuries.

### Jelena Erdeljan

Jelena Erdeljan is a professor of Byzantine and medieval art at the Department of Art History, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade. She is the founder and director of the Center for the Study of Jewish Art and Culture Studies at the Faculty of Philosophy and has been decorated Kavayera del Ladino for her outstanding contribution to the development of Sephardic studies. She is a member of the board of the Archaeological Institute in Belgrade and the Genocide Victims Museum in Belgrade. She has published eight monographs, dozens of scientific papers and edited two volumes of papers. Her research focused on the visual culture of the Balkans and the Mediterranean from late antiquity to the present.



