



Gennadeion News

A SPECIAL INSERT TO THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES AT ATHENS

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Skouloudis Papers and the Greek Political Landscape

The finding-aid for the papers of Stephanos Skouloudis, a prominent Greek politician and former Prime Minister, was recently revised by historian Eleutheria Daleziou (University of Glasgow), who describes here his contributions to modern Greece.



Stephanos Skouloudis

Photo courtesy Gennadeion Archives

The archive of Stephanos Skouloudis (1838–1928), which was donated to the Gennadius Library in 1986 by Skouloudis' nephew, George Athenogenes, is an important primary resource for students and scholars of modern Greek history and politics. A successful businessman and one of the co-founders of the Bank of Constantinople, Skouloudis became involved in Greek politics after he moved to Athens in 1876. Following the outbreak of the Eastern Crisis in 1875, when ethnic uprisings against the declining Ottoman Empire started in the Balkans, he was appointed as the Greek delegate to the negotiations with the Albanians.

This was the starting point of his memorable political career.

A close friend, both politically and personally, of Charilaos Trikoupi (Prime Minister of Greece 1875, 1878, 1880, 1882–85, 1886–90, 1892–93, 1893–95), Skouloudis served in Trikoupi's cabinets as Minister of Education and Minister of the Marine. During the first government of Prime Minister Dimitrios Rallis (1897), he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs. At the peak of his career, in the midst of the Great War and the crisis in the Greek political scene stemming from the break between King Constantine and Prime Minister Eleftherios Venizelos, Skouloudis was summoned by the King to head the

government for a short period of time (1915–1916). This was to be his last service to his country. With the return of Venizelos in 1917, he was accused of treason and imprisoned. Released two years later, he died on August 19, 1928, in Athens.

Skouloudis was an ardent lover of the arts and an important collector of paintings, which he left to the National Gallery of Greece. He was also a philanthropist, and among his most important benefactions was the Ophthalmology Clinic at Baloukli in Constantinople. He was also involved with the ambitious project to drain Lake Copais in

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Gennadeion Director Wraps Up Busy First Year

Maria Georgopoulou, who assumed her post as Gennadeion Director in August 2004, oversaw a busy inaugural year, including the launching of a new program in Medieval Greek.

With a Ph.D. from UCLA, a Maitrise from the Sorbonne, and a B.A. from the University of Athens, Ms. Georgopoulou taught at Yale University in the Department of the History of Art for twelve years before taking up her position at the Gennadeion. During her time at Yale, she founded

Yale's Program for Hellenic Studies, which focuses on the study of post-Classical Greece from the Byzantine through the modern period. Funded by the Niarchos Foundation, the program incorporates the teaching of Modern Greek along with courses in several departments as well as public lectures, cultural events, symposia, and research scholarships. As head of the program, among her many other activities she organized the conference "Modern Greece and Its Monuments."

Ms. Georgopoulou's scholarly

research centers on the artistic and cultural interaction of peoples in the eastern Mediterranean, particularly during the Middle Ages, encompassing Byzantine, European, and Islamic art. In addition to the colonies of Venice, she has studied the significance of the Gothic style in the architecture and sculpture of Greece, and the material culture of the thirteenth century. In 2001, she published *Venice's Mediterranean Colonies: Architecture and Urbanism* (Cambridge University Press), which exam-

ines the architecture and urbanism of Venetian Crete in the later Middle Ages. In 2004 she edited the electronic publication *Byzantium: Faith and Power, An exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art* (www.greekworks.com), due to appear as a book by the end of the year. She is currently writing a book on portable objects in the thirteenth century in their economic and social context, and this past spring organized at the Gennadeion the conference "Material Culture in the Medieval Mediterranean." ❁

Mandilas Room Dedicated

To honor John B. Mandilas and to formally dedicate the Rare Book Reading Room named in his memory, the Gennadius Library hosted an evening of music and poetry on April 6. The Library's



Trustee Lana Mandilas

Photo: Haris Akriviadis

own Gavriela Vasdeki, who has served the Gennadeion since 1998 as Secretary, recited poetry of Cavafy, Engonopoulos, Eliot, Embiricos, Seferis, and Shakespeare set to music by composers from Debussy to Villa-Lobos, performed by harpist Maria Bildea and flautist Panagiotis Drakos. Following the concert in Cotsen Hall, guests were invited to a dinner in Loring Hall as guests of Mrs. Theodoti-Artemis Mandilas, her daughter and Gennadeion Trustee Lana Mandilas, and other family members.



The John B. Mandilas Rare Book Reading Room, set up for a small exhibition for the April 6 event.

Photo: Nikos Daniilidis

Medieval Greek Summer Session

The Gennadius Library inaugurated a new four-week Summer Session in July 2005 designed to familiarize participants with Medieval Greek. The brainchild of Library Director Maria Georgopoulou, the seminar was led by Professors Alexander Alexakis and Eustratios Papaioannou. In addition to daily intensive instruction and tutorials, the Summer Session introduced the eight participants to sites and monuments in Thessaloniki, Athens, and Boeotia.

Mr. Alexakis, currently Associate Professor of Byzantine Literature at the University of Ioannina, is the author of *Codex*

Parisinus Graecus 1115 and its Archetype.

Mr. Papaioannou, Assistant Professor of Greek and Latin at The Catholic University of America, is a member of the Steering Committee for the Medieval and Byzantine Studies Program and the Executive Committee of the Center for the Study of Early Christianity.

Made possible by the generosity of Lloyd Cotsen, Chairman of the Gennadeion's Board of Trustees, the Summer Session will take place biannually, alternating with Dumbarton Oaks' summer program. ❀

Frantz Fellow Receives Getty Postdoctoral Fellowship

Veronica della Dora, M. Alison Frantz Fellow this past year at the Gennadius Library, has been awarded a Getty postdoctoral fellowship for 2005–06 within the framework of the Getty Scholars Program, "The Persistence of Antiquity." The fellowship will enable her to continue working on themes evolving from her work at the Gennadeion for her dissertation, which focuses on visual and written representations of Mount Athos from the early eighteenth century to World War II. A graduate student in UCLA's geography department, Ms. della Dora used her time at the Gennadeion to complete her thesis, exploring the contexts in which Mount

Athos has been constructed as a place of myth since Classical antiquity.

Ms. della Dora will use her stay at the Getty Research Center to expand her project by examining the eastern Mediterranean conceived as a "Classical region" and how this affected its mapping during the western Enlightenment, when the perception of Greece and the Levant underwent a radical shift. She plans to expand the boundaries of her dissertation to include physical remains such as those at Ephesos, Delphi, or Troy, as well as landmarks of pure memory such as the Tower of Babel or the Pharos of Alexandria. ❀

Gennadius Library News

In February and March, the newly opened Athanassiadis Seminar Room in the Main Building of the Gennadius Library hosted the second part of Whitehead Professor Glenn Bugh's seminar "Venice and Greece," offered to the Regular and Associate Student Members of the School. Library Director Maria Georgopoulou also presented a lecture to the class on Venetian Crete.



On May 18, the Gennadeion sponsored the presentation of the documentary "Elias Petropoulos. An Underground World," directed by Kalliopi Legaki and produced by Maria Gentekou. The film was awarded the FIPRESCI Prize at the 7th Documentary Film Festival at Thessaloniki.



Denis Vovchenko (University of Minnesota) has been selected as the M. Alison Frantz Fellow for 2005–06. Mr. Vovchenko's project

is "Containing Balkan Nationalism: Pan-Orthodox Visions and the Megali Idea (1850–1900)."



AMBROSIA—the computerized union catalogue of the holdings of the Gennadius, Blegen, and British School Libraries—and other bibliographic electronic resources can now be accessed from the Gennadeion's Main Reading Room. AMBROSIA is designed to enable users to search for books in all three libraries simultaneously.



Friends and benefactors of the Gennadius Library celebrated Clean Monday for the fifth year in a row at Estiatorio Milos in New York City with a special treat—a concert by Grigoris Maninakis and the Mikrokosmos Ensemble. Under the patronage of H.E. The Ambassador of Greece and Mrs. George V. Savvaides, the event raised \$35,000 for the renovations to the Library's East Garden. ❀

Material Culture in Middle Ages Topic of Symposium

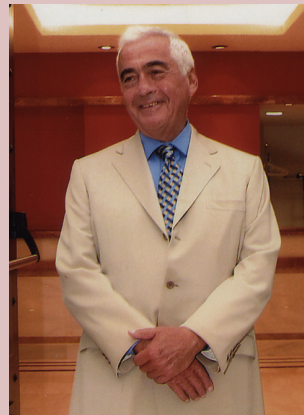
Issues of artistic exchange, technological innovation, and cultural assimilation focusing on the material culture of the medieval Mediterranean were the topics of a symposium organized by Library Director Maria Georgopoulou in April 2005 at the Gennadius Library. The symposium convened archaeologists and art historians expert in Latin European, Byzantine, and Islamic cultures to examine issues of production and consumption in the multiethnic Mediterranean during the Middle Ages.

Symposium speakers included Vaso Penna (Center for the Study of Early Modern Pottery and University of the Peloponnese), Demetra Papanikola-

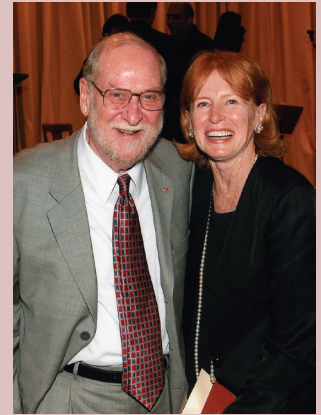
Bakirtzi (Archaeological Institute of Macedonian and Thracian Studies), Guy D.R. Sanders (Corinth Excavations), Scott Redford (Georgetown University), Robert Ousterhout (University of Urbana-Champaign), and Anna Ballian and Anastasia Drandaki (Benaki Museum). They explored artistic encounters and the industrial arts, focusing on specific artifacts and media from an archaeological, technological, and stylistic perspective. Papers and discussions alike highlighted problems transcending traditional disciplinary boundaries and raised awareness of issues of cultural translation within the context of the medieval Mediterranean. ❀

Benefit Honors Lloyd Cotsen

It took more than a cloudburst to dampen the enthusiasm of 200 friends of the Gennadius Library, who turned out for a concert and dinner in honor of Gennadeion Board Chair Lloyd Cotsen on June 2. Grigoris Maninakis joined with singer Argyro Kaparou to present "A Musical Journey," performing the poetry of Seferis, Elytis, and others set to music by some of Greece's greatest composers. After the concert in Cotsen Hall, the skies opened, but the party went on, with dinner served under tents in the Gennadeion East Gardens. Thanks to generous underwriting, the benefit earned some \$40,000 towards establishing a travel fellowship in Mr. Cotsen's honor.



Photos: Haris Akriviadis



Conference Honors Manousakas

Manousos I. Manousakas (1914–2003) was honored in a day-long conference at Cotsen Hall this past January organized by the Research Center for the Study of Medieval and Modern Hellenism of the Academy of Athens and the Hellenic Institute for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies in Venice, with the support of the Gennadius Library. A member of the Academy of Athens and an expert on the history and literature of Venetian Crete, Mr. Manousakas was also active in promoting the intellectual profile of the Gennadeion and its treasurers during his tenure as Member and then as President of the *Philoi* of the Library in the mid-1980s.

In an illustrious academic career that spanned much of the second half of the twentieth century, Mr. Manousakas was Director of the Medieval Archives section of the Academy of Athens, Professor at the University

of Thessaloniki, Director of the Hellenic Institute for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies in Venice, Director of the Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies at the National Research Foundation in Athens, President of the committee that established the University of Crete; and a Member of the Academy of Athens (1982–2003) and its President until 1996.

In 1986, Mr. Manousakas edited and presented the book *History of Athens* by John Benizelos (+1807), a work closely related to the founder of the Gennadius Library, John Gennadius. Benizelos, an intellectual and a teacher from Athens, was Gennadius' great-grandfather. After discovering Benizelos' unpublished manuscript in England in 1926, Gennadius prepared an edition for publication in 1930, but it was Mr. Manousakas who initiated its publication and incorporated Gennadius' introduction into the text.



Clockwise from upper left: Lloyd Cotsen at the entrance to Cotsen Hall; Gennadeion Trustee and speaker Edmund "Mike" Keeley with Margit Cotsen; Director of the Gennadeion Maria Georgopoulou, Director of the American School Stephen V. Tracy, and Gennadeion President Catherine deG. Vanderpool after their tributes to Mr. Cotsen.

At the conference, ten students and colleagues of the late academician spoke on his intellectual and academic contributions to the study of medieval and early modern Hellenism. ❀

CORRECTION

An article about the acquisition of a book on astronomy by Dionysios Pyrrhos (Summer 2004 *Gennadeion News*) incorrectly listed the publication date as 1896. The work was published in Athens in 1836.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Chronicles of Modern Greece: Myrivilis Papers

Leda Costaki, Special Cataloguer in the Archives of the Gennadius Library, recently completed the finding-aid for the papers of Stratis Myrivilis, donated in 1999 by his widow Eleni Myrivili, daughter-in-law Kaiti Myrivili, and children Haris Myrivili and Drosoula Angelopoulou, following on Myrivilis' own wishes. Ms. Costaki describes here the collection and its importance.

One of the most important figures in Modern Greek literature, Stratis Myrivilis is perhaps best known for his novels *Life in the Tomb* (Η ζωή εν τάφω, 1930), *The Schoolmistress with the Golden Eyes* (Η Δασκάλα με τα Χρυσά Μάτια, 1933), and *Vassili* (Βασίλης ο Αρβανίτης, 1943), which have been widely read by several generations of Greek readers. Most of his writings, however, consisted of newspaper articles (*chronographemata*) and texts for his radio programs, evidence of another side to Myrivilis—active journalist and broadcaster.

There are hundreds of such articles, some reworked for publication in collections of short stories. In them, Myrivilis covers a variety of themes, ranging from the relationships of people living close together in the neighborhoods of Athens to those of characters in rural areas, and from the beauty of nature or the change of seasons to the moral values and political situations of the time. These writings capture the atmosphere of a period and society now lost, and display the same lyrical yet realistic qualities of Myrivilis as a novelist.

Myrivilis' life, closely tied with the history of modern Greece, is itself like a novel. Born on the island of Mytilene in 1892, he died in Athens in 1969. During his lifetime, he witnessed world wars and war in Greece, the liberation of his native island, rebellions and disillusionment, and the despair and hope that followed World War II. As an ardent young patriot, Myrivilis volunteered twice for war service, serving in the Balkan Wars as well as the campaign in Asia

Minor, and he also worked as a reporter at the Albanian front. A revolutionary idealist, Myrivilis was a supporter of *demotike* (the popular form of Greek now written and spoken throughout Greece, in opposition to the more formal *katharevousa*) and a pro-Venizelist. Eventually he became known as one of the greatest prose writers of modern Greece.

The Gennadeion collection includes personal documents, manuscripts, papers delivered on various occasions, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and a press collection, including newspapers that Myrivilis himself published or directed (Καμπάνα, Σάλπιγξ, Ταχυδρόμος) as well as underground publications that circulated during the German Occupation (παράνομος τύπος). Among the earliest documents in the collection are Myrivilis' notebooks from elementary school, various school certificates, and picture postcards that he exchanged with his friends. His military career is also well attested, not only by documents related to his service (φύλλα πορείας, απολυτήρια), but also by awards, medals, and even the official record of the wound he received in the battle of Killis in 1913. Of particular interest from the perspective of cultural and social history is the material relating to his activities as director of a military theatrical group for the entertainment of the soldiers at the front. His correspondence with relatives, friends, intellectuals, and fans also reveals information about the cultural and political concerns of his time.

The collection also includes a significant section of transla-



Stratis Myrivilis and his family.

Photo courtesy Gennadeion Archives

tions of his work and reviews published in Greece and abroad, as well as secondary materials compiled by his son, Lambis, including newspaper clippings, studies on Myrivilis and his work (especially his novels), and material from exhibitions and public events in his honor. Myrivilis' work also has been translated into many languages, and the Myrivilis family has donated to the Gennadeion a number of his books in translation. ✂

Skouloudis Papers

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Boeotia in the late nineteenth century; his papers relating to the project were catalogued by N. Melios and A. Papadopoulos in 1989.

The papers, comprising six linear meters, include Skouloudis' official correspondence, scrapbooks of press clippings, and books from his private library. They provide a wealth of information about Skouloudis' political career and the history of modern Greece in the last part of the nineteenth and the first quarter of the twentieth centuries. ✂

Walton Lecturer Focuses on Byzantium

Helen Evans, Curator of Medieval Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, presented her "Visions of Byzantium: Past, Present, and Future" in the twenty-fourth annual Walton Lecture, organized by the Gennadius Library at Cotsen Hall in early February. Since 2005 marks the 100th anniversary of the first Byzantine exhibition at Grottaferrata, Italy, Ms. Evans spoke about the history of Byzantine exhibitions in the last 100 years, including those she has organized at the Metropolitan Museum, as well as her future projects in the field of Byzantine art.

An expert on Armenian illuminated manuscripts and their artistic relationships with Byzantine and Western medieval art, Ms. Evans has been instrumental in showcasing Byzantium as a major component of medieval culture. In 1997 she planned the exhibition "Glory of Byzantium" as a sequel to the "Age of Spirituality" that had taken place 20 years earlier. The show reached a wide audience and its catalogue has since become a standard reference book. Following on this success, in 2004 Ms. Evans organized an equally significant exhibition on Late Byzantine art, "Byzantium. Faith and Power (1261–1557)," encompassing the last centuries of Byzantine art and culture. Ms. Evans' presence at the Metropolitan Museum and in the museum world in general has been a catalyst for the promotion of Byzantine studies in the United States. ✂

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