



# Gennadeion News

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

## Exhibition, Lecture Explore Greek Cartography

Thanks to Margarita Samourka's initiative, numerous historical maps from her world-class map collection were displayed in the Basil Room of the Gennadius Library from January 20, 2011 through the end of February. The exhibition, "Abraham Ortelius' Greece. Maps from Margarita Samourka's Collection," curated by George Toliás of the National Hellenic Research Foundation and designed by Constantinos Staikos, presented all the maps of the Greek world that were included in the magisterial works of Abraham Ortelius: the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (1650–1598) and the *Parergon* (1579–1601).

The exhibition explored the cartographic resources on which Ortelius based his maps of Greece and its regions from



antiquity to his time, thus presenting a panorama of the first century of printed cartography of Greece, the sixteenth century. The exhibition followed the diffusion and further elaboration of Ortelius' Greek maps, as these were a nodal point in the history

of cartographic representations of Greece and its place in history for more than two centuries.

People flocked to the Library and Cotsen Hall to admire the maps and to hear an erudite lecture by George Toliás that marked the opening of the ex-

*Lecturer and exhibition curator George Toliás presenting one of the Ortelius maps of Greece.*

*Photo: H. Akriviadis*

hibition. Mr. Toliás explained that Ortelius sought to create a cartographic narration of ancient heritage, the "theater" of the christianized Greco-Roman world. Moreover, Ortelius emphasized the universal and cultural dimension of the diffusion of the Greek people and their culture through thematic maps that refer to migration and exploration.

The Gennadeion is indebted to Margarita Samourka for her generosity and her wish to establish a regular program of public lectures on cartography at the Gennadius Library. ❁

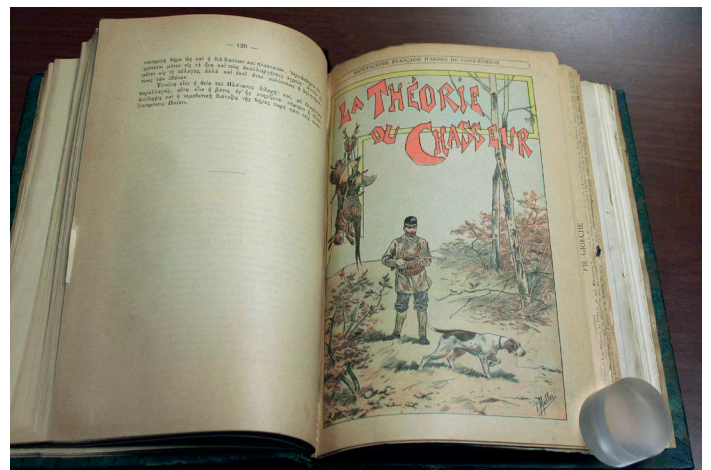
## New Acquisitions Enrich Gennadeion Holdings

Materials acquired by purchase and by gift have added to the depth and diversity of material held by the Gennadius Library.

In April the Library obtained at auction a collection of offprints from the journal «Νέα Ημέρα» [Nea Hemera], bound with a number of pamphlets. The offprints form an essay on the art of hunting under the title 'Κυνηγασία' [Hunting], by Joannes Gennadius. The volume also includes a French pamphlet titled "La théorie du chasseur" with a number of color images and explanatory captions as well as several lithographic strips

with birds, dogs, and similar images, as well as other French and Greek texts on hunting. On the preface of the bound volume there appears a handwritten dedication by Joannes Gennadius to Stephanos Skouloudis; a two-page, handwritten letter from Gennadius to Skouloudis, dated March 8, 1910, is attached to it. The binding of the newly acquired volume is identical to the binding of one of the books that belongs to the Skouloudis papers at the Gennadius Library Archives, so there is strong evidence that one of the previous owners was Skouloudis himself.

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*Offprints, bound with a letter from J. Gennadius to S. Skouloudis, acquired at auction.*

## Library Acquires Lost Musical Scores

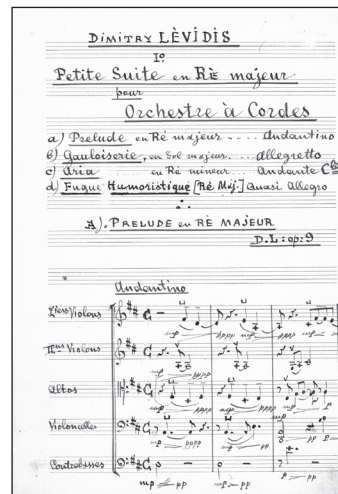
The musical scores of composer Dimitry Levidis (1886–1951) were recently added to the Archives of the Gennadius Library to supplement the other two important musical collections of the library, those of Dimitri Mitropoulos and Theodore Vavayannis. We are grateful to his sister-in-law, renowned pianist Rita Thompson Bouboulidi, for her decision to donate the Levidis papers to the Gennadius Library.

Born in Athens, Levidis spent the largest part of his life abroad, especially in France. By serving in the French army during WWI, Levidis acquired French citizenship. During his time in France his compositions were played widely. The famous conductor Serge Koussevitzky frequently included the works of Levidis in his so-called Concerts Koussevitzky, which he held in France

from 1921 to 1929. Levidis also experimented with Maurice Martenot's *Ondes musicales*, an early electronic musical instrument. In fact, Levidis' *Poème symphonique* was presented at the first public appearance of the instrument at the Paris Opera in 1928.

In 1932 Levidis, after many years abroad, decided to return to Greece. During his Greek years he produced music that can be characterized as Greek classical music, although always influenced by French Impressionism.

With a small part of his compositions deposited at the National Library of Greece, the rest of his work was, until recently, believed lost. The recently acquired works of Levidis at the Gennadius Library include *De profundis* (opus 46), *L'Iliade* (opus 62), *Le gars et la mort* (opus 64), *Stances symphoniques*



“Petite Suite” by Dimitry Levidis

(opus 49), *Berceuse pour un gendarme* (opus 65), *Petite suite*, *Aria* (opus 12), *Impromptu* (opus 32), *Éolienne* (opus 14), and others. ❀

## Boura Donates Papers

Another recent addition to the Gennadius Archives came from Dr. Aikaterini Boura, who donated to the Gennadius Library the papers of her uncle, Konstantinos Bouras. The latter was executed by the Germans in 1943 for having participated in the resistance organization “Midas 614.” Although it is a small collection of papers, it is fascinating because it records not only how Bouras was betrayed to the Germans, but also the trial of the two traitors in 1947.

## News From the Library

The Gennadeion will soon be saying goodbye to a long-time Gennadius Library staff member with the retirement of Assistant Librarian Andreas Sideris in June 2011.

Andreas studied history and archaeology at Lomonosov Moscow State University and history of the peoples of South Eastern Europe at the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales in Paris. He also has a diploma in Library Studies and Information Systems from the

Technological Educational Institute of Athens.

He joined the Gennadeion staff in 1984 and excelled in his position in the Reading Room as well as being responsible for the Library serials/periodicals. His personal contacts with scholars and institutions have brought to the Library an important number of Greek imprints. His continuous contribution to bibliographic searches, especially in Slavic languages, has been of great help to the Gennadeion. His devotion to the mission of the Gennadius Library, including providing orientation and reference services for patrons, will be greatly missed. Farewell, Andreas!



One of the two major projects of retrospective cataloguing at the Gennadeion, the electronic cataloguing of all Gennadius

Library periodicals, funded by a grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, has reached its end right on schedule. Cataloguer Asimina Rodi has been in charge of the journals at the Gennadeion, under the supervision of Head Librarian Irini Solomonidi. All discontinued and current publications—a total of 1,398 serial titles—have been fully catalogued in AMBROSIA, with full holdings information, since the project's launch in April 2008.



Scholars studying at the Gennadeion during the 2010–11 academic year shared their areas of research interest with the School and the wider academic community through the Library's Work-in-Progress Seminars. For his study of the nineteenth-century scholar and forger Constantinos Simonidis, this year's Cotsen

Traveling Fellow, Pasquale Massimo Pinto (Università degli Studi di Bari), explored the papers and typewritten book catalogs of Joannes Gennadius, who owned a set of Simonidis' books. He shared his findings in a presentation entitled “Disturbing Books: The Collection of K. Simonidis' Works in the Gennadius Library,” held in the Mandilas Rare Book Reading Room in October. Frantz Fellow Krisztina Szilagyi (Princeton University), at work on her dissertation titled “After the Prophet's Death: The Body of Muhammad in Christian-Muslim Polemic,” used the holdings of the Gennadeion to explore the religious exchanges between Christianity, Islam, and Judaism in the medieval Islamic milieu. She presented her research at a May seminar entitled “Byzantine Stories of Muhammad: Absurd Calumnies of the Greeks?” ❀

Gennadeion News pages are compiled by Gennadius Library Director Maria Georgopoulou, Head Librarian Irini Solomonidi, Administrative Assistant Maria Smali, and Archivist Natalia Vogekoff-Brogan, and edited by Sally Fay.

This publication is produced semi-annually. E-mail correspondence for Gennadeion News to [ascsa@ascsa.org](mailto:ascsa@ascsa.org).

## Acquisitions

(continued from G1)

Maria Andonatonou and Nena Karayianni, two of the artists who participated in the exhibition “Johannes Gennadius and his World,” on display at the Library last summer, have donated their works of art to the Gennadius Library.

In Maria Andonatonou’s *These Are Books*, books are handled as monuments, denuded, stripped of their matter, drained of their inks, worn, dyed white and painted over like old Cycladic houses: bundles of books “to the ‘Bibliomanes,’ Book-lovers, Book critics, Book thieves, Librarians, Library scientists, Book-robbers, Book readers, Book binders, Book connoisseurs, Bibliographers, Book publishers and Book sellers.” They are also dedicated to all those who “have never opened a book... Parcels of books amongst the living as Bookends, but also to stave off the dangerous Book mite.” The work is being exhibited among the books of the Library in the Reading Room.

*Hommage* by Nena Karayianni is an eloquent palimpsest tribute to the memory of various creative men and thinkers who left their mark on humankind. Notes of a human presence, imprinted with architectural and other achievements, which constitute a timeless global heritage, appear in Karayianni’s piece as stippled but complementary traces of a continuous pictorialized script.

The Gennadius Library is grateful to these artists for their gifts. ❀



Work by artist Maria Andonatonou.

## Gennadeion Events Fill Cotsen Hall

Lectures and events sponsored by the Gennadius Library drew diverse crowds to Cotsen Hall throughout the spring.

Among the highlights of the Gennadeion’s lecture program was the 30th Annual Walton Lecture, delivered on March 29 by Sir Michael Llewellyn Smith, Visiting Professor at King’s College London and former Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Greece. Entitled “Kings, Princes and Powers: Venizelos and Dilemmas of National Revival,” the lecture explored the relations between Eleftherios Venizelos and members of the Greek Royal Family: Prince George, King George I, and Crown Prince (and later King) Constantine. The well-attended presentation, which outlined political developments on Crete involving Venizelos and the Prince, as well as events in 1910 and 1914–15 when Venizelos rose in prominence in Greek politics, raised questions about the relationship of the Prime Minister and the Royal Family and analyzed the role of personality in politics.

On March 31 the Gennadius Library co-hosted with the record company IRIDA Classical



At the Walton Lecture: Gennadeion Overseer Margaret Samourkas with Mrs. Lena Rallis. Photo: H. Akriviadis

a musical event at Cotsen Hall to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Dimitri Mitropoulos’ death in 1960. The event included brief presentations on the works of composers Dimitri Mitropoulos and Yorgo Sicilianos by concert pianist Charis Dimaras (who also teaches piano at Ithaca College) and musicologists Ioannis Foulialis and Valia Christopoulou, as well as a moving and entertaining speech by Mrs. Elli Sicilianou, who reminded the audience about the relationship of the two composers.



In related news, the Gennadius Library is happy to announce the publication of *Un morceau de concert* by the Hellenic Music Centre, in collaboration with the Gennadius Library. The publication has been edited by Yannis Sabrovalakis and prefaced by musicologist Ioannis Foulialis. The work *Un morceau de concert*, for violin and piano, holds a special place in the compositions of Dimitri Mitropoulos, as it is his oldest existing chamber music piece, composed in 1913. In 2010, the Hellenic Music Centre and the Gennadius Library also published Dimitri Mitropoulos’ *Burial*. ❀

## Leventis Grant to Fund Library Summer Sessions

The Gennadius Library received word in December 2010 of a generous grant from the A.G. Leventis Foundation to underwrite its 2011 and 2013 Byzantine Summer School program. The biennial summer program has been enthusiastically received since its introduction in 2005.

The grant will enable up to 12 qualified applicants to participate in the month-long program with scholarships that will provide free tuition and housing.

The objective is to familiarize students who have a sound foundation in Classical Greek with Medieval Greek language and philology—a subject rarely taught in American, European, or other international academic institutions—by exposing them to primary sources, different kinds of literary genres, paleography, and epigraphy as well as bibliographic and electronic tools, drawing on the resources of the Gennadius Library. The program also includes site and

museum visits. Leading the session in 2011 are Alexander Alexakis (University of Ioannina) and Eustratios Papaioannou (Brown University).

The ASCSA is grateful to the A.G. Leventis Foundation for its support in training young scholars and exposing them to the medieval monuments and relevant museum collections in Greece, and in stimulating interest in post-Classical Hellenic studies. ❀

## Clean Monday Celebrated in NYC

The Eleventh Annual Clean Monday (Καθαρά Δευτέρα) Benefit for the Gennadius Library took place March 7 at Molyvos restaurant in New York City, where guests enjoyed traditional Lenten culinary treats such as jumbo prawns, octopus pies, and cubed beet salad and danced to the music of Grigoris Maninakis and his ensemble.

Both the Gennadeion and the ASCSA were well represented at the event; in attendance were Chairman of the Gennadius Library Board of Overseers Alexander Zagoreos and his wife Marine, along with fellow board members Ted Athanassiades and his wife Elaine, Nick Bacopoulos and his wife Calypso Gounti, Edward Cohen and his wife Betsy, Nassos Michas and his wife April, and Leo Milonas and his wife Helen, as well as Gennadius Library Director Maria Georgopoulou and ASCSA Trustees Andrew Bridges, Mary Lefkowitz, Judith Thomson, and Charles Williams. Brief remarks

by Mr. Zagoreos, Ms. Georgopoulou, and Ambassador Aghi Balta, Consul General of Greece to New York, highlighted the continuing relevance of the Gennadeion to the cultural heritage of Greece.

The event, a major fundraiser for the Gennadeion, this year drew more than 100 Philhellenes and prominent Greek-Americans. Guests included film marker Maria Iliou, Lisa Ackerman of the World Monuments Fund, sculptor Lilia Ziamou, founder of Greek America Foundation Gregory Pappas, and a new generation of Gennadeion supporters, including the children of several of the Gennadius Library Overseers. Thanks to a great group of friends and supporters, nearly \$40,000 was raised for the Library. The funds from the benefit will match a National Endowment of the Humanities Challenge Grant that was awarded to the ASCSA in January 2010 for renovations to the Library. ❖



Enjoying the festivities (clockwise from top left): Ambassador Aghi Balta, Consul General of Greece; Gennadius Library Director Maria Georgopoulou; Chairman of the Gennadius Library Board of Overseers Alexander Zagoreos, Helen Milonas, ASCSA Board Chairman Charles K. Williams, II, and School Administrative Director Irene Romano. Photos: A. Reinhard



Philoi Board President Ioannis Bourloyannis-Tsangaridis and visiting members of the Philoi looking over some of the holdings of the Gennadeion Archives.

Photo: Ioanna Phoca

## Philoi News

Lectures and performances, trips, and visits to significant cultural institutions in Athens kept members of the Association of the *Philoi* of the Gennadius Library busy during the first half of 2011.

The General Assembly of the *Philoi* met in February to elect the new Board. The current board consists of President Ioannis Bourloyannis-Tsangaridis, Vice President Michael Kotinis, General Secretary Ioanna Phoca, Treasurer Spyros Branis, and Members Evdokia Koranti and Athanasia Papanтониου. The traditional New Year's pita cutting followed the meeting.

March activities included a marvelous musical performance

organized by the *Philoi*, with well-known tenor Mario Zeffiri singing works by Richard Strauss and Franz Liszt. On the annual "Day in Memory of John Gennadius," historian Maria Christina Chatziioannou of the Institute for Neohellenic Research, National Research Foundation presented an inspiring lecture entitled "Joannes Gennadius (1844–1932), between Tradition and Modernity."

Cultural outings this year have included visits to the library of the Onassis Foundation, the house of Ioannis Metaxas, the Gennadius Library and its Archives, the Historical Archives of the National Bank of Greece and its excellent permanent

exhibitions, the Hellenic Literary and Historical Archive, the Byzantine and Christian Museum of Athens, and the Ancient Agora, where ASCSA staff gave the *Philoi* a tour of the excavations and conservation laboratory.

The Day of Florence/Anthei Gennadius was celebrated on May 19 with the fourth annual Bookfair, held in the gardens of the Gennadius Library. A trip to Macedonia, planned for early June, will take the *Philoi* to various important archaeological sites such as Dion and Vergina, as well as museums and libraries. ❖

— Irimi Mantzavinou