

Greek Gig Guide



Papapetrou exhibition
'The Ghillies' and other new works of Greek Australian artist Polixeni Papapetrou will be exhibited.

Nellie Castan Gallery, 12 River Street, South Yarra, VIC, till 25 May 2013.

The Lemnos Heritage of Gallipoli Seminar

Special Anzac Day Event Addressing The Lemnos Heritage of Gallipoli and the Forgotten Foundations of Anzac, 1915-1918 by Dr John Yiannakis.

Starts at 7.00 pm on 25 April, at The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, VIC. Free.

Melpomeni and Koraly Dimitriadis

The Greek Australian singer/songwriter and poet Koraly Dimitriadis are performing together for one show only.

Mon 22 Apr at The Toff in Town, Swanston St, Melbourne, VIC.

Australia's Greek Cafe Culture

Photography exhibition on the Greek migrant influence in Australian cafes. *Until May 1, 10am - 5pm weekdays. Macquarie University Art Gallery, Building E11A, North Ryde, NSW. Free.*

Lay-Lah Wazir final show

Yvonne Malik dons her belly dancing Bo-gyptian alter-ego Lay-lah Wazir for the last time tonight. Co-written by Margarita Maragoudaki, the show concludes its comedy festival run tonight.

The show starts at 6.30 pm, tickets are \$22/\$18 concession at The Scots Church, 156 Collins Street, Melbourne, Vic.

Brisbane Paniyiri Greek Festival

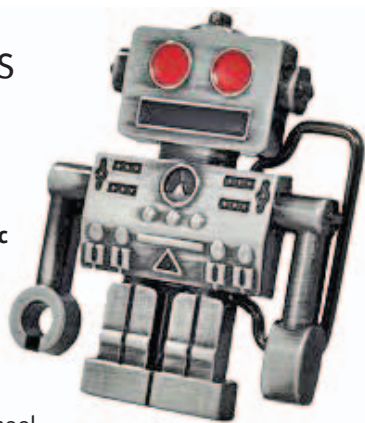
The annual Greek Paniyiri in Brisbane will try and break the Guinness World Record for Zorba dancing. Great food, dance and fanfare all in store for the weekend long paniyiri. *May 18 and 19, 29 Edmondstone Street South Brisbane QLD. Free.*

Το Ρομπωτάκι (The Little Robot)

A musical comedy for kids and the young at heart

Performed by the Hellenic Arts Theatre's Youth Group, directed by Stavros Economides, with original music by Dimitris Fotiadis.

A group of protesting students are fed up with school, homework, exams etc., until Ti-Fi, a little robot from outer space, comes into their lives. They see him as a solution to all their problems. He is willing to help them, but the children take it too far. Ti-Fi is abducted by secret agents and the kids set out to get him back. Ti-Fi teaches them important lessons that will change their lives forever.



To Ρομπωτάκι will take place at Mantouridion Greek Theatre, Greek Cultural Centre, Building 36, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville on Friday 24 May at 7.00 pm, Saturday 25 May at 5.00 pm and Sunday 26 May at 5.00 pm. Tickets are \$15 (For young and old). For more information contact Evelyn 0413 989 007 or Melpo 9519 8104.



Dimitris Staikos and Elizabeth Taylor.

Hollywood's bodyguard retires

Dimitris Staikos is the kind of person who name drops without a care in the world. It was his job, after all, to protect the silver screen darlings of Hollywood. Elizabeth Taylor, Sharon Stone, Francis Ford Coppola; all shared the spotlight with Mr Staikos right behind them for years.

Among the more than 60 celebrities he protected, Dimitris Staikos singles out Elizabeth Taylor as his favourite.

"When I met her, the first thing I told her is that she had the most beautiful eyes I had ever seen. She answered that she hadn't had a compliment for 10 years. Kind, simple, spontaneous and so accessible, that woman with the seven famous husbands, the fabulous riches, the astonishing life, who exercised influence on kings, presidents, prime ministers and businessmen," he said to Greek newspaper *Ethnos*.

But he cannot speak as highly

of his last client, 'Basic Instinct' actress, Sharon Stone. The former bodyguard remembers that she was cold, impersonal and very demanding.

"Stone was a difficult case. Intense personality, a wild woman. I remember that more than 2,500 people were waiting for her at Akrotiri. When we reached there, things got messy. Stone cut the ties of more than 60 eager men. I was furious. At some point, she made the wrong move and took my necktie. I got angry and I told her 'you won't take my necktie. To remember at least that a man protected you in Greece'. That was it. Then she liked me. But that night, I had already finished with the protection of celebrities. I quit," he says, without a trace of regret.

You can now find Mr Staikos living a well earned retirement in his tavern at the Lake of Glory Feneos.

Source: *Hollywood Greekreporter*.



Despite spending a lot of money on sacrifices, the Athenians would reap back that money by selling cow hides and the meat.

Festivals or war: what would you put your money on?

German scholar August Boeckh famously criticised the ancient Athenians for wasting public funds on festivals instead of building up armed forces. Here the myth gets debunked and gives surprising perspective to the current Greek crisis.



Tetradrachm from Athens, about 450 BC.



HELEN VELISSARIS

You could say that the Greeks loved their parties and wine so much, they made up a god for it so they could party in peace without the fear of angering the gods.

For an ancient empire, Athens certainly had its spoils. But when it came down to business, as is most commonly misunderstood, the Greeks spent vast sums on waging war, far outweighing the amount spent on festivals and religious scarifies.

German scholar August Boeckh famously criticised the ancient Athenians for wasting public income on 'frivolous' conquests like festivals, dramas and structures. But what the 18th century scholar neglected to do was back up any of his claims.

Dr David Pritchard of the University of Queensland gave a lecture on the topic last month and quantified the costings for both.

Surprisingly, ancient Athens ran more like a modern capitalist government, asking its wealthy citizens to fund plays, sponsor choirs and finance religious and ceremonial events. Festivals in Athens were not just spectacles of wealth, but tourist attractions.

For the Athenians, the packed festival calendar wasn't just a way to honour the gods, it was a economic investment that came back in multiple ways.

Festivals were mostly religiously linked, and always contained sacrifices to appease the gods. But, enterprising as the Greeks are, they managed to reap back some of the money spent on these public sacrifices. Dr Pritchard singles out the sacrificing of cows to demonstrate.

"Athens of the 330s spent 15 talents (t.) 5902 drachmas (dr.) * publicly sacrificing some 1332 cows each year," he explains. But that huge sum