



ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
REGION OF CRETE



6th CRETE FESTIVAL | 2026



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture

Music unites people, peoples, cultures

The “Crete Festival” has established itself as a major celebration of the island. Its success over previous years has highlighted the strong identity of our region in the fields of culture, artistic creation, and the dynamism of the people who meet the high standards of the contemporary artistic world.

Once again, the Region of Crete, implementing a policy of openness toward contemporary culture, aims to connect the cultural sector with international trends and developments while simultaneously promoting Crete's contemporary cultural creation on the international stage. This objective is pursued through the artistic, organizational, and operational strengthening of cultural organizations and artists and through the reinforcement of artistic and cultural events, which are now becoming established as important institutions in the cultural landscape.

Through this lens, the “Crete Festival 2026” consists of cultural activities of both local and wider significance organized by the Region of Crete, contributing to the realization of high-quality artistic and cultural events.

The “Crete Festival”, inaugurated in 2021 and continuing today for its sixth consecutive year, aims through its annual establishment to contribute to the promotion of culture, continuity, timelessness, support for contemporary artistic creation, the highlighting of archaeological sites and monuments, and the creation of new momentum within the cultural sector, ultimately serving and strengthening our society.

“Crete Festival 2026” demonstrates that art is called upon to rediscover its primary function within a new emerging society, and give tangible form to sounds, notes, and music.

As the Region of Crete, we warmly congratulate all the artists and contributors involved in these events.

Best wishes for success to everyone!

Stavros Arnaoutakis

Governor of the Region of Crete



Dear friends,

Welcome to the 6th Crete Festival!

It is with great pleasure that we gather this year for the sixth edition of a festival that has become an important cultural institution for Crete. An institution that grows, evolves, and unites people, places, and creative forces year after year.

The Crete Festival remains everlastingly dedicated to peace, that precious good which, together with freedom and democracy, forms an essential prerequisite for the flourishing of arts and culture.

From one end of the island to the other, in sites of archaeological and cultural significance that take us on journeys through the centuries, the festival extends across all of Crete and embraces every form of artistic expression. It strengthens partnerships with leading organizations such as the Athens State Orchestra while also providing a platform for local artists, showcasing the vibrant and multifaceted creativity of Crete.

Warm thanks are due to the Governor of Crete, Stavros Arnaoutakis, for his trust and enduring support of this institution, and to everyone who contributes to the realization and development of this cultural endeavor.

Evangelos Zacharis
President of the Regional Council of Crete



Crete, a place where history meets myth and culture becomes a living experience, once again welcomes the Crete Festival, an institution that highlights the creative strength, outward-looking spirit, and enduring cultural identity of our island.

This year's festival carries special symbolism because it coincides with a historic moment for Crete and Greece: the recognition of the Minoan Palatial Centers as elements of UNESCO World Heritage. The inclusion of Knossos, Phaistos, Malia, Zakros, Kydonia, and other monumental centers of Minoan civilization in this prestigious international list represents the culmination of a long-term effort and acknowledges the universal value of a civilization that established principles of creativity, organization, trade, art, and peaceful coexistence.

The Minoan palaces are living carriers of four thousand years of memory, the first great flourishing of Europe, symbols of human ingenuity and creativity, and bridges connecting the past with the present and future. Their recognition by UNESCO establishes Crete as a landmark of world cultural heritage and reminds us of our responsibility to protect and promote them.

Within this historic context, the Crete Festival confirms that culture belongs not only to the past. It is a living process of creation, dialogue, and participation. The festival's events, artistic encounters, and activities engage with our heritage and demonstrate the continuity of cultural creation from the Minoan era to the present day.

Let us celebrate this important international distinction with the conviction that Crete continues to inspire, create, and illuminate the world through the values of its culture. Our cultural heritage is not merely an inheritance, it is a force for the future.

Georgia Milaki
Deputy Regional Governor for Culture and Equality
Region of Crete



Art in its various forms—music, poetry, prose, and visual arts—traces the shared paths of culture. It awakens and disseminates new values and ideologies, offering a means to connect, bridge differences, and transcend conflicts.

Art mirrors and documents the society that creates it, shaping ideological and social interpretations, often beyond the creators' intentions. It can contribute to the true, intercultural unity of peoples, exemplifying the concept of "Politismos—Culture" as a collective "Polis—City".

Given the inevitable intertwining of art and society, each different culture acts as a catalyst for preserving the values of humanism, refinement, solidarity, cooperation, and cohesion.

These values are crucial for fostering a better present and future. Ultimately, culture cultivates new conditions for participation, encouraging a genuine gathering of diverse races.

Emmanouella Gerogiannaki
Deputy Head of Culture and Sports
Department of the Region of Crete



The “Crete Festival” is a collective endeavor built with persistence, vision, and a love of culture. Since its first edition in 2021, proving itself to be a stable and vibrant cultural institution, it serves clear goals and lines of actions:

The promotion of contemporary artistic creation, its connection with the history of the region, the outward-looking aspirations of our island and the meaningful access to culture for all. The commitment to these principles has been decisive in establishing the festival and securing its place in the consciousness of the public, that each year embraces this effort and gives it life.

The festival of the Region of Crete is dedicated to a timeless and fundamental value: Peace. In an era marked by tensions, instability, and divisions, the need for peaceful coexistence is not merely relevant — it is urgent. Peace is not something given, it is a continuous act of responsibility, understanding, and respect for others, always intertwined with freedom.

Through the festival's events, held in iconic cultural landmarks, music transcends borders, brings people together, and inspires them with messages of hope for a better future.

We warmly thank the President of the Regional Council, Evangelos Zacharis, for his decisive contribution, and the Governor of Crete, Stavros Arnaoutakis, for his vision and practical support. Let music become a bridge between people, nations, and cultures!!!

Ioanna Giannari
MA in Arts Management - City, University of London
Responsible for the planning, coordination,
and curation of the «Crete Festival»





FREE ENTRY FOR THE PUBLIC AT ALL EVENTS

Attendance at every event 30 min. before starting

Friday, June 26 & Saturday, June 27, 2026 – Rethymno Regional Unit
COURTYARD OF THE MUSEUM OF ANCIENT ELEUTHERNA
Start of the 6th “Crete Festival”

10 Years of the Museum of Ancient Eleutherna
Ballet – Studio Daniil Simkin

Start Time: 21:00

Ancient ritual meets contemporary ballet. The world premiere “Korybantes” brings world-class dance to the Museum of Ancient Eleutherna. The myth is connected through the universal language of human movement. The Korybantes were mythical beings often associated with the Kouretes and the Idaean Dactyls, named after Mount Ida (Psiloritis), Crete's highest mountain. Rising opposite Ancient Eleutherna, the mountain forms the natural backdrop of the performance.

Inspired by this myth, we asked renowned New York ballet principal dancer Daniil Simkin and his team from Studio Simkin to take inspiration and showcase in Crete, on the gardens of the Museum of Ancient Eleutherna, a world-premiere performance dedicated to the Korybantes/Kouretes. The performance is followed by selections from both classical and contemporary dance repertoire.

Professor N. Chr. Stampolidis

Organization:



Co-organization:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Rethymno Ephorate of Antiquities



ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟΥ ΧΩΡΟΥ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΝΑΣ

Support:



ΜΟΥΝΙCΙΠΑΛΙΤΗΤΑ ΡΕΘΥΜΝΟΥ



ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑΚΗ ΕΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΡΕΘΥΜΝΟΥ



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ

Sunday, June 28, 2026 – Rethymno Regional Unit
COURTYARD OF THE MUSEUM OF ANCIENT ELEUTHERNA
10 Years of the Museum of Ancient Eleutherna
Screening of Mimi Denissi's Docudrama "The Woman Behind Elgin"
Start Time: 21:00

Screening of **Mimi Denissi's** new dramatized documentary, **The Woman Behind Elgin**, a production of significant historical and cultural interest.



Organization:



Co-organization:

Support:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Rethymno Ephorate of Antiquities



ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟΥ ΧΩΡΟΥ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΝΑΣ



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ, ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ, ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ, ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ

Saturday, July 11, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit
COURTYARD OF THE BYZANTINE CHURCH OF PANAGIA GOUVERNIOTISSA
A Night at the Opera - Myrto Papathanasiou & Dimitris Platanias
Start Time: 21:00

The Athens State Orchestra returns to the Crete Festival to present a dazzling Opera Gala featuring two internationally acclaimed Greek artists: soprano Myrto Papathanasiou and baritone Dimitris Platanias. Together, they promise an enchanting journey through the world of opera, featuring masterpieces from the international repertoire that highlight the passion and virtuosity that make opera a timeless art form. The program includes arias and duets from operas by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Giuseppe Verdi, Giacomo Puccini, Pietro Mascagni, and Ruggero Leoncavallo. The concert will be conducted by the distinguished maestro Ilias Voudouris.

PROGRAM:

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756 – 1791)

The Marriage of Figaro, Introduction from the opera

Don Giovanni, Leporello's aria "Madamina, il catalogo è questo"

PIETRO MASCAGNI (1863 – 1945)

Cavalleria Rusticana, Intermezzo from the opera

GIACOMO PUCCINI (1858 – 1924)

Tosca, Tosca's aria "Vissi d'arte"

GIUSEPPE VERDI (1813 – 1901)

La Traviata, Act II, scene and duet Violetta – Germont

"Madamigella Valery..."

The Sicilian Vespers, Introduction from the opera

ANTONIN DVOŘÁK (1841 – 1904)

Rusalka, Rusalka's aria "Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém"

RUGGERO LEONCAVALLO (1857 – 1919)

The Clowns, prologue and Tonio's aria

"Si può? Signore! Signori!"

GIACOMO PUCCINI (1858 – 1924)

Madama Butterfly, Butterfly's aria "Un bel di vedremo"

GIUSEPPE VERDI (1813 – 1901)

La Traviata, Germont's aria "Di Provenza il mar, il suo!"

Il Trovatore, Act IV, scene and duet Leonora – Count

"Udite ... Qual voce!"

MUSIC DIRECTOR: **Elias Voudouris**

SOLOIST: **Myrto Papathanasiou** | soprano

Dimitris Platanias | baritone

Organization:



Co-organization:



Support:



ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΗ ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΚΗΣ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΑΣ
ΕΤΕΛ ΑΣΙΜΙΝ
Η ΓΟΥΒΕΡΝΙΟΤΙΣΣΑ



Sunday, July 12, 2026 – Chania Regional Unit

VENETIAN HARBOR OF CHANIA

Opera Gala with the Athens State Orchestra

Start Time: 21:00

The Athens State Orchestra returns to the Crete Festival to present a dazzling Opera Gala featuring two internationally acclaimed Greek artists: soprano Myrto Papathanasiou and baritone Dimitris Platanias. Together, they promise an enchanting journey through the world of opera, featuring masterpieces from the international repertoire that highlight the passion and virtuosity that make opera a timeless art form.

The Athens State Orchestra's Opera Gala is one of the cultural highlights of this summer and a unique opportunity for audiences to enjoy exceptional voices and symphonic sound in the impressive setting of Chania's Venetian Harbor. The concert will be conducted by the distinguished maestro Ilias Voudouris.

PROGRAM:

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756 – 1791)

The Marriage of Figaro, Introduction from the opera

Don Giovanni, Leporello's aria "Madamina, il catalogo è questo"

PIETRO MASCAGNI (1863 – 1945)

Cavalleria Rusticana, Intermezzo from the opera

GIACOMO PUCCINI (1858 – 1924)

Tosca, Tosca's aria "Vissi d'arte"

GIUSEPPE VERDI (1813 – 1901)

La Traviata, Act II, scene and duet Violetta – Germont

"Madamigella Valery...»

The Sicilian Vespers, Introduction from the opera

ANTONIN DVOŘÁK (1841 – 1904)

Rusalka, Rusalka's aria "Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém"

RUGGERO LEONCAVALLO (1857 – 1919)

The Clowns, prologue and Tonio's aria

"Si può? Signore! Signori!"

GIACOMO PUCCINI (1858 – 1924)

Madama Butterfly, Butterfly's aria "Un bel dì vedremo"

GIUSEPPE VERDI (1813 – 1901)

La Traviata, Germont's aria "Di Provenza il mar, il suo!"

Il Trovatore, Act IV, scene and duet Leonora – Count

"Udite ... Qual voce!"

MUSIC DIRECTOR: **Elias Voudouris**

SOLOIST: **Myrto Papathanasiou** | soprano

Dimitris Platanias | baritone

Organization:



Co-organization:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Chania Ephorate of Antiquities



Support:



ΔΗΜΟΣ ΧΑΝΙΩΝ
MUNICIPALITY OF
CHANIA • CRETE



Monday, July 13, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit

VLAHAKEIO CULTURAL CENTER, VIANNOS

La Folia – Variations, Passacaglias & Baroque Virtuosity

Start Time: 21:00

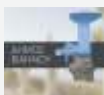
The Crete Festival presents an explosive musical travelogue, where Mediterranean passion meets the robust European tradition. Distinguished musicians perform in a dynamic ensemble of strings and harpsichord, illuminating the two great schools of Baroque music: Italian virtuosity and German grandeur.

On one side stand the architectural genius of Bach and the imposing magnificence of Handel. On the other, the theatrical energy of Vivaldi and the sparkling writing of Geminiani bring to center stage the evening's true protagonist: the violin, in works of extraordinary virtuosity.

Organization:



Support:



Thursday, July 16, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit

COURTYARD OF SAINT TITUS CATHEDRAL

Bandina & Sax Ensemble – "The Magical World of Wind Instruments"

Start Time: 21:00

A celebration of music presented by the ensembles of the Haris Sarris Music Schools.

From the atmospheric sound of the Sax Ensemble to the explosive and vibrant performance of the 35-member Bandina, the evening promises a unique musical journey filled with beloved melodies, film themes, and dance rhythms.

Organization:



Support:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Heraklion Ephorate of Antiquities



**ΔΗΜΟΣ
ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ**



Monday, July 27, 2026 – Chania Regional Unit

VENETIAN FORTRESS OF FIRKAS

"Ode to the Beautiful City of Chania" with Daphne Laimou

Start Time: 21:00

The "Crete Festival" presents a special piano recital by internationally acclaimed Greek pianist and composer Daphne Laimou-Zafeirakopoulou. An original musical and audiovisual creation designed specifically for the Crete Festival and inspired from the history, culture, and natural landscape of Chania.

During the concert, the music will be accompanied by a video projection directed by internationally renowned director and actor Nikos Ziagos, assisted by Aphrodite Nikoletta Sfairopoulou. Enriched with iconic images of Chania, the projection will create a living dialogue between sound, image, and place. The recital aims to provide audiences with a deeply immersive experience where contemporary musical creation meets historical memory and the natural beauty of Crete, in harmony with the spirit of the "Crete Festival".

Organization:



Co-organization:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Chania Ephorate of Antiquities

Support:



ΔΗΜΟΣ ΧΑΝΙΩΝ
MUNICIPALITY OF
CHANIA • CRETE

Friday, July 31, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit
VENETIAN WALLS - M. HATZIDAKIS" GARDEN THEATER
Blue 7 Ensemble – "From Jazz to... Chiotis!"
Start Time: 21:00

A surprising musical journey bearing the signature of the Blue 7 Ensemble! This innovative ensemble from Heraklion "marries" the rich sound of wind instruments with the rhythmic energy of percussion and double bass, breaking down musical boundaries. Through inventive arrangements, the ensemble's outstanding musicians invite us to a unique evening where the global rhythms of Astor Piazzolla, Chick Corea, and George Gershwin meet the melodic genius and immortal spirit of Manolis Chiotis.

Organization:



Support:



ΔΗΜΟΣ
ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ

Tuesday, August 4, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit

FORMER MUNICIPAL SCHOOL OF ARCHANES

"Where the Stone Sings – From Rizitiko to Minore" with Passe - partout

Start Time: 21:00

The musical performance Where the Stone Sings – From Rizitiko to Minore is a journey through the time and place of Greek musical memory. Beginning with the Rizitiko song — the deep, plain, doric voice of the Cretan land. The performance unfolds a thread connecting traditions, peoples, and eras.

Women's voices and a live orchestra set out from Crete's oldest vocal traditions and travel across the Aegean and the Mediterranean, encountering the Balkans, Thrace, Asia Minor, Pontus, Cyprus, and the Ionian Islands before arriving at urban folk music and Rebetiko. It is a musical stage narrative about the power of collective song: where the stone of memory, tradition, and place continues to sing, creating a unified musical story in which communal singing serves as a vessel of memory, experience, and emotion.

Organization:



Support:



Wednesday, August 5, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit
VENETIAN WALLS - M. HATZIDAKIS" GARDEN THEATER
"Dona nobis pacem – echoes of hope"

Start Time: 21:00

A unique performance for cello, piano, and dance, inspired by the concept of peace, created especially for the "Crete Festival".

The production explores peace not merely as the absence of conflict but as a profound human condition of harmony and hope, an inner process, an attitude that is cultivated and sustained, allowing all human emotions to flourish. Rather than escaping reality, it serves as a quiet reminder that peace may begin with small, almost imperceptible acts of expression and coexistence.

Through the collaboration of music and movement, images emerge that touch both the collective and the personal, the visible and the unspoken. The cello and piano create a sonic space within which the dancer moves, not to recite a specific story, but to embody states and transitions: tension and release, conflict and harmony, silence and communication.

Organization:



Support:



Monday, August 10, 2026 – Chania Regional Unit

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF “APTERA” - ANCIENT APTERA THEATRE

Concert - recital with Christoforos Stamboglis

Start Time: 21:00

The Classical period of European music began in the mid-18th century with Mozart and Beethoven (who was possibly his student) among its principal representatives. The relationship between these two giants of German music remains a subject of scholarly research, as the reported meeting between Mozart and the sixteen-year-old Beethoven in 1787 has never been historically confirmed.

What remains unquestioned, however, is Beethoven's boundless admiration for Mozart and his profound understanding of Mozart's work.

At the same time, in the Ionian Islands, Nikolaos Mantzaros—the composer of the Greek National Anthem—in 1815, completes the first opera written on Greek soil, which Christoforos Stamboglis has recorded twice. The Ionian school in literature is significantly influenced by the great German classicists, with the main representative in this case being its leader D. Solomos, while the Ionian composers seem to faithfully follow—and naturally so—the great Italians of their time and especially the three great representatives of Bel canto: Bellini, Donizetti, and Rossini. However, through set-to-music poetry, German classicism finds its way to unite with Ionian music and thus, this marriage gives us an exceptional result through an important collection of compositions for piano and voice.

Organization:



Co-organization:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Chania Ephorate of Antiquities



Tuesday, August 11, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit

VENETIAN WALLS - “MANOS. HATZIDAKIS” GARDEN THEATER

Piano Recital by Aris Graikousis - W. A. Mozart – 270 Years Since His Birth (1756–2026)

Start Time: 21:00

The distinguished pianist Aris Graikousis, to mark the 270th anniversary of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's birth, presents a recital dedicated to the timeless magic and inexhaustible imagination of the great composer.

The piano becomes the narrator of a musical journey through Mozart's inner world, theatricality, and lyrical genius. Through carefully selected works, the recital illuminates the profound expressiveness and dramatic intensity hidden beneath the apparent simplicity of Mozart's music.

Program:

- Fantasia in D minor k. 397
- Sonata No. 12 in F major k. 332
Allegro
Adagio
Allegro assai
- Fantasia in C minor k. 475
(Adagio – Allegro – Andantino – Piu allegro – Tempo I)
- Confutatis maledictis & Lacrymosa s550/2 (From the “Requiem” k. 626)
in a transcription for the piano by Franz Liszt.
- Fantasie brillante sur “Le nozze di Figaro” op. 493 Fantasy on themes from
the opera “The Marriage of Figaro” in a transcription for the piano by Carl Czerny.

Organization:

Support:



ΔΗΜΟΣ
ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ

Sunday, August 23, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit
VENETIAN WALLS - “MANOS. HATZIDAKIS” GARDEN THEATER

Origins & Transcendence

Start Time: 21:00

Continuing the collaboration between the Crete Festival and the Chania Chamber Music Festival, we present for another year in Heraklion this year's Avant Premiere concert from the latter. Outstanding musicians of fine technical mastery and artistic sensitivity will perform chamber music works that showcase the richness, subtlety, and expressive power of the genre.

Organization:



collaboration:



Support:



ΔΗΜΟΣ
ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ

Friday, August 28, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF MALIA

August Full Moon 2026

Start Time: 21:00

A special Full Moon concert featuring Manolis Mitsias, Giota Negka, and the Malia Choir.

Organization:



Co-organization:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Heraklion Ephorate of Antiquities



Thursday, September 3 & Friday, September 4, 2026 – Chania Regional Unit
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF “APTERA” - ANCIENT APTERA THEATREA
Tradition & Memory / Concerts VI–VII

Start Time: 21:00

Continuing the outward-looking vision of the Chania Chamber Music Festival, initiated through the support and collaboration of the Crete Festival, the partnership of the two institutions returns to the unique Ancient Theatre of Aptaera. The collaboration has opened new pathways for chamber music to engage with Crete's most iconic archaeological sites, offering audiences an experience of fine artistic quality. Through virtuosic performances, artistic brilliance, and innovative presentation, chamber music emerges as a meeting place where art, history, and landscape engage in a creative dialogue.

Organization:



Co-organization:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Chania Ephorate of Antiquities

collaboration:



Saturday, September 5, 2026 – Rethymno Regional Unit
NERATZE MOSQUE – Pantelis Prevelakis Hall
"AENAON" String Quartet & Ioanna Forti

Start Time: 21:00

For the first time, vocalist Ioanna Forti joins the AENAON String Quartet in a program centered on works for string quartet and voice, spanning from Romanticism to contemporary Greek composition.

The program highlights the expressive flexibility of this distinctive musical combination. Works by Barber, Respighi, Zacharis, Puccini, Schubert, and Debussy will be performed.

Organization:



Sunday, September 6, 2026 – Lasithi Regional Unit
KAZARMA VENETIAN FORTRESS - SITIA
AENAON String Quartet – “Dancing with the Classics!!”
Start Time: 21:00

The AENAON chamber music ensemble, celebrating ten consecutive years of artistic creation, will present a mixed program specially designed for the beautiful city of Sitia!

A concert-tribute to the great classical composers, incorporating dance-inspired elements that add elegance and a unique variety of moods. Beginning with the foundations of string quartet composition, it contrasts W.A. Mozart's (1756–1791) Adagio and Fugue with Joseph Haydn's (1732–1809) famous work The Lark, capturing the Classical era in all its grandeur.

The celebration of dance then emerges through Dmitri Shostakovich's (1906–1975) unique Elegy and Polka, culminating in a masterpiece that combines the twelve-tone movement with Greek folk tradition: Five Greek Dances by Nikos Skalkottas (1904–1949).

To conclude the evening, three masterpieces from film and rock music will be performed: the melancholic Nata's Song from Cinema Paradiso by Ennio Morricone, Queen's incomparable Bohemian Rhapsody, and ABBA's dazzling Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!.

Organization:



Co-organization:



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture
Lasithiou Ephorate of Antiquities

Support:



Friday, September 25, 2026 – Heraklion Regional Unit
VENETIAN WALLS - “NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS.” GARDEN THEATER
MYTHS OF CRETE

Start Time: 21:00

A new musical work about the Minoan Palaces and Minoan Civilization, composed by Dimitris Maramis, will serve as the closing event of the 6th Festival of the Region of Crete!

Minos' mother, Europa, his wife, Pasiphaë, and his daughters Ariadne, Phaedra, and Akakallis awaken within the Minoan palaces, bringing their voices to life across the centuries.

The abduction of Europa by Zeus, Pasiphaë's irrational love for the bull and the birth of the Minotaur, Ariadne's thread in Daedalus' labyrinth, Phaedra's forbidden love for Hippolytus, and the affairs of Akakallis and her sons by the gods Hermes and Apollo form the dramatic core of this new work by composer Dimitris Maramis, which will close the 6th Crete Festival.

Organization:



Support:



ΔΗΜΟΣ
ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ



REGION OF CRETE “CRETE FESTIVAL”

We warmly thank the Hellenic Red Cross – Regional Section of Heraklion
for their excellent collaboration every year and their ongoing support of
the “Crete Festival”.















ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
REGION OF CRETE

ΜΕ ΤΗΝ ΣΥΝΕΡΓΑΣΙΑ:



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού
Εφορεία Αρχαιοτήτων Ηρακλείου
Εφορεία Αρχαιοτήτων Χανίων
Εφορεία Αρχαιοτήτων Ρεθύμνου
Εφορεία Αρχαιοτήτων Λασιθίου



ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟΥ ΧΩΡΟΥ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΝΑΣ
MUSEUM OF ANCIENT ELEUTHERNA



ΠΑΝΙΣΤΙΤΗΡΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE



ΔΗΜΟΣ ΧΑΝΙΩΝ
MUNICIPALITY OF
CHANIA - CRETE



Chania Philharmonic



ΔΗΜΟΣ
ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ



ΜΕΜΟΡΙΑΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΚΗΣ ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΗΣ
ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΗ ΓΣΜ
Η ΠΡΟΥΒΕΡΝΩΤΙΣΣΑ



ΠΕΡΙΚΛΗΣ ΒΑΛΑΧΑΚΗΣ
Πνευματικό Κέντρο Ελεύθερνας



FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM OF ANCIENT ELEUTHERNA
«ΟΙ ΦΙΛΟΙ ΤΟΥ ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟΥ ΑΡΧΑΙΑΣ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΝΑΣ»



Εταιρεία
Ελεύθερνας
2020 - 2021