

Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens

Newsletter

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Editorial

This year, as in previous years, our activities and events were shared between Athens and Ireland in a fruitful collaboration between the Irish Universities and the Athens Office. The latter provided effective support for the three IIHSA fieldwork projects on the islands of Crete, Kephalonia and Kea. The projects continued their study seasons with the participation of international teams of specialists. From the educational perspective, a number of undergraduate and Masters students participated in the field projects and enriched their knowledge by working alongside experienced field archaeologists and researchers. They, along with other graduate students, including students awarded the 2015 IIHSA Travel Bursaries, made good use of our premises at 51A Notara Street.

This year the older projects also had to deal with the plans and problems of long-term storage for the large volumes of artefacts which the projects generated over the years. Beyond the practicalities, the team of the Priniatikos Pyrgos excavation published a nicely produced volume which includes the team members' work in progress: "A Cretan Landscape: Priniatikos

Pyrgos and Environs" (BAR Inter. Series 2014). 2015 was a year of anniversaries in Ireland, and the IIHSA played its part in the celebrations in Athens and Ireland. In the literary scene, the 150th anniversary celebrations from the birth of poet laureate W.B. Yeats in June, was marked in Athens by Professor Kevin Barry's lecture held in the Museum of Cycladic Art as a collaborative event between the Irish Embassy in Athens, the IIISA and the Museum of Cycladic Art. This



Study Tour 2015 group at Delphi

fine lecture was also the concluding event of the very popular and thought-provoking series of public discussions on the topic of 'Archaeology and Society', which was organized by Assistant Director Aris Anagnostopoulos and the Museum of Cycladic Art's curator Nikolas Papadimitriou. Later in the year a 'mirror event' to honour W.B. Yeats in Ireland was hosted by Maynooth University when Professor Brian Arkins discussed the "Greek themes in Yeats' volumes: The Tower and the Winding Stair." We are grateful to the President of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan, for introducing the event. In December the concluding literary event was the Living / Writing poetry symposium of Greek and Irish poets, which was organised by the Kapodistrian University with Dr

Contents

- 1 Editorial
- 3 Events in Athens
- 6 Events in Ireland
- 9 Tours of Greece
- 9 Education and bursaries
- 9 Fieldwork projects



Joanna Kruczkowska, Marie Curie fellow as the prime mover.

The IIHSA annual lecture in Athens kept to the theme of archaeology, museums and their social and historical context. Dr Raghnall O'Floinn's lecture "The National Museum of Ireland and the Making of a National Collection", focused on the history of the collections of the National Museum of Ireland, the museum's activities since its foundation, and its role in modern Irish society. With this lecture we also had the opportunity to honour our patrons, late Ambassador Stelios Mallikourtis and his wife Anna, who as Honourary Secretary of the Friends of the Acropolis Museum is closely connected with the museum environment in Athens.

The IIHSA Day School, which is held yearly in Ireland is our most popular public outreach event. In February a good number of travel aficionados (including members and friends of the Institute) attended the day-long event "Travel in the Ancient World" held in University College Dublin to listen to a wide-ranging talks on the subject.

Last, but not least, none of these events and activities would have been possible without the support of our donors. Our thanks are due to the Irish Universities for their financial contributions and the funding bodies, primarily the Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP), for supporting our field projects. We also wish to

extend our warmest thanks to our patrons: the McCabe Family for their generous 2015 gift, and Professor George Huxley for his yearly donation. As always our sincere thanks are due to Managing Committee Member Jason O'Brien for his truly invaluable financial support for IIHSA activities ranging from educational all the way to recreational.

The Ambassadors and staff of the Embassies of Greece and Cyprus in Ireland have honoured us with their presence and participation in our events. We wish Ambassadors Mrs D. Zagorianou-Prifti (Ambassador of Greece) and Dr M. Stavrinos (Ambassador of Cyprus), who are both leaving Ireland this year, all the best for their future life and careers. Our collaboration with the Irish Embassy in Athens is precious to us. We wish to thank the new Ambassador of Ireland, Mr Noel Kilkenny and First Secretary Luke Feeney for their continuing support.

Christina Souyoudzoglou-Haywood

Director, Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens

University College Dublin, School of Classics

Events in Athens

Public Discussions. 'Archaeology and Society' in collaboration with the Museum of Cycladic Art

Aris Anagnostopoulos, IIHSA

In 2015 we organized a series of major public events in collaboration with the Museum of Cycladic Art. Inspired by the flurry of public announcements and the controversy surrounding the discovery of a tomb in Amphipolis, northern Greece, we organized a series of public discussions involving archaeologists, historians and heritage specialists, dealing with the issues that the media coverage left untouched. Four public discussions took place in the auditorium of the MCA, and three companion lectures, surveying theimportance of antiquity in modern culture, at the Irish Institute. A concluding lecture, in conjunction and



D. Prantzos, D. Voudouri, N. Papadimitriou and J. Wright discussing 'How ancient is the past".

with the support of the Irish Embassy in Athens, was given by Professor Kevin Barry (see below). The events were hugely successful, with hundreds of people queuing up at the gates of the Museum to attend, and hundreds more tuning in for live streaming. The discussions were long and heated, demonstrating the interest of the public in the social aspects of the ancient past.

The Discussions

1. Archaeology and the Public

Friday February 20th. Led by Dr. Aris Anagnostopoulos. Discussants: Professor Petros Themelis, Professor Yannis Hamilakis, Dr Olga Sakkali

The discussion centered on the range of relationships of the general public with the ancient remains of the past. The question asked was whether participation of the public in the archaeological process was perceived as a personal experience or as something that is part of the living memory and the present of a place or a community. Whether there was space for the contribution of local communities in the management of ancient heritage and for their involvement in all aspects of the archaeological process in Greece. What are the factors that prohibit this from happening?

2. How Ancient is the past?

Monday, 16 March 2015. Led by Dr Nikos Papadimitriou. Discussants: Professor James Wright, Director of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens; Danfi Voudouri, Assistant Professor of Right and Culture Law, Panteion University; Dimitris Plantzos, Senior Lecturer in Classical Archaeology, University of Athens.

This discussion aimed to establish the criteria that have shaped cultural management in terms of the legal framework, the archaeological practice itself and the role of the public, in a historical perspective from the 19th century to the present day. The predilection shown for some eras over others is evident in the practice of archaeology in Greece. How do we choose what is important and worthy of conservation and what is not?

3. Who defines historical memory and how?

Monday 27 April 2015. Led by Tasos Sakellaropoulos (Historian, Benaki Museum Historical Archives, Modern Social History Archives). Discussants: Antonis Liakos (Historian), Christina Koulouri, Professor of Modern History, Panteion University, Nikos Belavillas, Assistant

Professor of Urbanism and Urban History, National Polytechnic University of Athens.

The discussion centered on the processes and institutions that shape collective memory. The discussants aimed towards a definition of collective memory in its broadest sense possible, investigating its permutations in society and history. They strove to pinpoint the social processes of inclusion and exclusion of publics, and to show the important role of the 'built monument' in the process. They also highlighted aspects of 'alternative' narratives and their clash with official versions of history.



Eleana Yalouri speaking on the 7th May.

4. Present and Future of Arhcaeological Museums.

Monday 18 May 2015. Led by Despina Katapoti (Assistant Professor of Cultural Theory and Digital Culture, University of the Aegean). Discussants: Angelos Delivorias (Professor Emeritus at the University of Athens, former director of the Benaki Museum), Nikos Stampolidis (Professor of Archaeology at the University of Crete and director of the Museum of Cycladic Art), Anastasia Tourta (Honorary Director of the Byzantine Culture Museum of Thessaloniki)

The discussion centred on the role of archaeological museums today. The discussants built on their large experience with organizing museum collections and running a museum. They presented their own philosophies in approaching a museum collection, the

challenges of new technologies, and the questions posed by new theories of museum studies.

The Lectures at the Irish Institute

In order to accommodate the large turnout for the events to be held at the Irish Institute, we sought the co-operation of "Circuits and Currents", for the use of the (neighbouring) project space of the Athens School of Fine Arts, on Notara Street. We wish to extend our thanks to them. The lectures were on the following themes:

Archaeology and Music

Wednesday 22 April 2015.

The musicologist and composer Anargyros Deniozos took the audience on a tour of the composers that have used ancient Greek inspiration for their music, and the issues associated with restoring or approaching ancient Greek music in general.

Archaeology, Anthropology and Modern Art Thursday 7 May 2015.

Eleana Yalouri, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Panteion University discussed the ways in which modern art has sought inspiration in disciplines that are concerned with the (material) cultures of the past – such as anthropology and archaeology. She paid special attention to the case of Greece, where modern art has to face a 'difficult heritage'.

Celebrating W.B. Yeats (1865-1939) in Athens

"Yeats at 150: Collective Memory, Ancient Pasts"

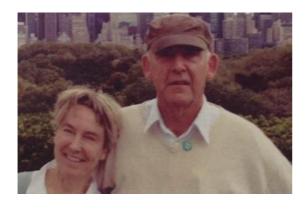
by Professor Kevin Barry (NUI Galway) 11 June 2015, Museum of Cycladic Art

The lecture was organized in collaboration with the Irish Embassy on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the birth of the Nobel Prize-winning poet W.B. Yeats. It also added an Irish flavour to the series of public discussions and lectures that we held earlier in the year in collaboration with the Museum of Cycladic Art mentioned above.

To a packed audience in the lecture theatre of the Museum of Cycladic Art, Kevin Barry talked about the complex nature of memory in the narrative of the Irish past. He focused on the subjects of writing and mapping, anniversaries and commemorations, exhibitions and displays, and migration in relation to the themes in W.B. Yeats' poetry.

Following the lecture, celebrated Greek poet Katerina Anghelaki-Rooke and Yiorgos Chouliaras read from Yeats' work in English and in their own Greek translation. We are grateful for their continuing participation in the IIHSA's programme.









K. Anghelaki-Rooke with Y. Chouliaras reading Yeats' poems

IIHSA Annual Lecture in Athens

"The National Museum of Ireland and the Making of a National Collection"

by by Dr Raghnall o'Floinn, Director of the National Museum of Ireland

4 November, British School at Athens

The talk was held in memory of our late patron Stellios Mallikourtis, who served as Ambassador to Ireland between 2003-06. The audience included patron Mrs Anna Mallikourti and Stelios' son Yannis Mallikourtis who thanked the IIHSA and gave a moving address about his father.

Dr O'Floinn explained that 2015 marked the 125th anniversary of the opening of the new building of the National Museum in 1890, and talked about the foundiation, history and current structure of Ireland's largest museum.

After the event, the organisers and speaker relaxed over an informal dinner at the Black Sheep restaurant in Pangrati.



 $R.\,\mbox{O'Floinn}$ speaking on the history of the National Museum of Ireland.



From left: A. Anagnostopoulos, Ambassador of Ireland N. Kilkenny, R. O'Floinn, Prof. J. Bennet and Mrs Bennet with A. Mallikourti (not visible).

IIHSA lectures by visiting speakers from Irish Universities

"When Tyche met Fortuna: Aspects of Conceptual History of the Ancient Mediterranean"

by Dr Daniele Miano (University College Dublin) -May 27th 2015

"Unlocking Sacred Landscapes': A Holistic Approach to Cypriot Sanctuaries and Religion"

by Dr Giorgos Papantoniou (Trinity College Dublin; IRC/ Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow)- March 18th 2015

Seminar in the Gennadius Library

Dr Lynda Mulvin, UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy, delivered a work-in-progress seminar on James Cavanah-Murphy September 10th 2015

"James Cavanah-Murphy's (1760-1814) Arabian Antiquities of Spain at the Gennadius Library: a contribution to nineteenth century colour theory in Europe"

The Living / Writing Symposium

In December 2015 The IIHSA participated in initiative of the Kapodistrian University of Athens to organize a poetry symposium bringing together invited Irish and Greek poets in a conference

Dr Joanna Kruczkowska, Marie Curie fellow at the Kapodistrian University, writes:

"The Living / Writing poetry symposium was a successful and uplifting event, combining academic and artistic qualities. It was attended by nine poets, Irish and Greek, as well as academics from Ireland, the UK,

the Irish in Greece, Greeks in Ireland. Paula Meehatalked about Crete and Ikaria, the Bronze Age as vital for the landscapes of Ireland and Greece, and about the modern history of Ikaria in the context of the Greek Civil War and the visit of Louis MacNeice. Theo Dorgan evoked the common sense of temenos and immanence in the landscape of both countries, a healthy approach to myth in Greece and Ireland, as well as the affinity of Irish poets with Cavafy and Elytis. Liana Sakelliou remembered translating sessions devoted to and attended by Michael Longley and Brendan Kennelly on Santorini in 1992, and Yiorgos Chouliaras shared his





The Living/Writing workshop sessions at the IIHSA. Left, Theo Dorgan in the centre talking, with Harry Clifton and Rowena Flower to the right and Aris Anagnostopoulos behind. Right, Joanna Kruczkowska (organizer) between Leontia Flynn and Yiorgos Chouliaras. On either side, David Ricks (left) and Jerzy Jarniewicz (right).

Greece and Poland. Two wonderful poetry evenings, the Irish one also illustrated with music, were preceded by a stimulating academic session, which juxtaposed vital issues in the poetry of Ireland, Greece and poetry in general.

On Saturday morning (5 Dec 2015) a round table discussion was held at the Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens. The poets and critics shared their personal and literary connections with Ireland and Greece. Many of them evoked a sense of homecoming:

memories of Seamus Heaney while in the diplomatic service in Dublin. David Ricks focused on W. B. Stanford, Louis MacNeice and other academics and poets linked with Greece, on their predilection for Greek Christianity. Harry Clifton pondered on the everlasting appeal of Classical Greece in Ireland, the working of myth as validating and universalising the Irish experience"

The discussion was followed by poetry workshops delivered by Paula Meehan, Theo Dorgan and Haris Vlavianos to young Greek poets.

Events in Ireland

IIHSA Day School 2015

Saturday, 21 February 2015

"Travel in the Ancient World"

A lively group of fifty participants (including members, and friends of the IIHSA, and students), took part in this year's Day School, which was held in the Newman Building, University College Dublin. The talks covered a rainbow of topics: *Trade and travel in the Bronze Age Mediterranean* (Christine Morris), *The Perils of SeaTravel*

in Antiquity (Philip se Souza), Going the extra mile for democracy (Maeve McHugh), Pausanias: an ancient guidebook? (Andrew Smith), How to get from A to B on a Roman Road (Alexander Thein), Traversing the Roman Mediterranean (Hazel Dodge), and Icaros and the concept of flying (Christina Haywood). A reception offered by Odaios Foods concluded the event.







At the 2015 Day School: A. Thein on Roman roads, Maeve Mc Hugh on the application of cost distance analysis if travelling from country to city (here with session chair Jo Day, right) and Christina Haywood on Icaros and the concept of flying in ancient Greece.

Celebrating W.B. Yeats (1865-1939) in Ireland

"Greek themes in Yeats' volumes. The Tower and the Winding Stair"

by Professor Brian Arkins, NUI Galway, 15 October, Maynooth University

The lecture was held in the IIHSA partner University in Maynooth and was organised by Managing Committee

member, Dr Maeve O'Brien. Professor Philip Nolan, Maynooth University President, introduced the lecture and talked about the work of the IIHSA. The lecture was followed by a short film featuring Theo Dorgan, Seamus Heaney and Sinéad O'Connor reading poems by Yeats, and by delicious finger-food offered by ODAIOS FOODS.

Study Tour of Greece 2015

Twenty four students from University College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin and Maynooth University joined this year's study tour, the IIHSA's 18th tour for undergraduates. The itinerary took them from Athens to Delphi (see cover photo), Olympia, Bassae, Mystras, Mycenae, Tiryns, Epidauros, Corinth, the Argive Heraion and Eleusis. They also visited several Greek museums. The tour was guided by Dr Siobhán Hargis and Dr Michael Iliakis.

Travel bursaries

Three students were awarded travel bursaries this year. Graduate students: Elise Poppen, Trinity College Dublin for her research on "Panhellenic games in the Roman period", Venina Svetli Kalistratova, Trinity College Dublin, for "Boar hunting from the Bronze Age to Classical times", and Stephen Burgess, final year undergraduate, Maynooth University, for his research project "The visibility of women in Classical Athens".

We are grateful to Jason O' Brien for his generous sponsorship of the Travel bursaries.





Study Tour group dinner in Athens

Fieldwork projects

PRINIATIKOS PYRGOS EXCAVATION PROJECT

Barry Molloy (Director), Joanna Day (University College Dublin) and Vera Klonza-Jaklova (Masaryk University in Brno)

The Priniatikos Pyrgos team undertook a study season in Crete in June and July. We were based in Istron and travelled to work in our basement *apotheke* in Aghios Nikolaos each day.

Our study this season focussed on two key periods: The Late Prepalatial (ca. 2700-1900 BC) and the Early Byzantine (ca. 500-900 AD). For the Late Prepalatial, we completed our analyses of the ceramics from all clear stratified contexts and sought to refine the specific details of this period at the site. This was a difficult task because in most areas where there was activity in this period, habitation in the following Proto-Palatial Period caused mixing of the ceramics. The period is particularly important for us to understand because the settlement was one of the largest in the region at this time and went into decline when the first palatial settlements developed by ca. 1900 BC. Analyses of the animal bones and botanical remains (such as seeds) will be completed over the winter and we hope to share our results on these studies very soon. The research into the Byzantine period covered a complete review of all clean stratigraphic units in order to assess the function of the buildings in different parts of the site.

Analyses of roof tiles was also undertaken, to give an idea about the diversity and nature of building styles at Priniatikos Pyrgos.

In 2014 we published a collection of papers based on our conference in Athens in 2012 with contributions from the Vrokastro Survey team, the Istron Geoarchaeological Project and the Priniatikos Pyrgos excavation teams.



KEA ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SURVEY (KARS)

Joanne M.A. Murphy, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Last summer between 6th of June and 23th of July, thanks to financial support from INSTAP and the University of North Carolina Greensboro, as well as permission and assistance from the 21st Ephorate and the Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens, our team spent six and a half weeks in Greece conducting the final field season of testing the value of survey data. After a three day tour of Athens and two day trip to the Argolid the KARS team, consisting of 8 students from the US and specialist from Ireland, US, Greece and Qatar, headed to the Cycladic island of Kea for six weeks of work. After three years of field walking and collecting material, we finally got to have our first fullscale study season where the team worked together in the apotheke processing the finds. After having field teams of up to 40 people over the past three summers, it was quite a change to work with a small group this year.

This bowl is the first secure evidence of EB 1 on the



island and changes our perception of the habitation patterns on Kea. To date, most scholars have thought that the island was abandoned after the illustrious Final Neolithic periods when the island produced the earliest metals in

the Mediterranean and before the settlement at Ayia Irini, the largest Bronze Age site on the island. Our discovery will not only change our understanding of the settlement patterns on Kea but will also help us to understand this important transitional phase between the Final Neolithic period and the start of the Bronze Age

Kea is famous for its honey! On that note, also worthy of comment is the distribution of beehives from different time periods that were found throughout the survey region. It is possible that some of these may be

Bronze Age suggesting that beekeeping and honey production has been an industry enjoyed on Kea for millennia.

Our goal for next season is to continue our study of the finds from the survey and to continue our study of the early technologies on the island (metal, ceramic, and stone tool production.

The IIHSA proved to be a tremendous resource in Athens. Several members of our team stayed there on their way to and from the project:

Joanne Murphy (UNCG), Director Shannon Lafayette Hogue (Xavier University), Field School staff and Apotheke Asst. Manager Natalie Abel (University of Cincinnati),

Apotheke Manager Dora Lambert (Mississippi State University), GIS specialist.



The final KARS 2015 dinner on Kea.

KEPHALONIA-LIVATHO VALLEY SURVEY (LVS)

Christina Souyoudzoglou-Haywood (University College Dublin) in collaboration with Andreas Sotiriou (Ephorate of Kephalonia)

Following the violent earthquake in Kephalonia in 2013, which cause significant damage to the structure of the Argostoli museum, the displays and storerooms of the

building have been emptied of their contents. This unexpected event disrupted our plan for long term storage of the material from the Livatho Valley Survey in the Argostoli Museum. Among the tasks for the 2015 season was the reorganization of our material into crates (here shown in their temporary housing), which would be suitable for its storage in the new apotheke of the Ephorate of Kephalonia where all the antiquities will find a temporary home.

Alongside these activities the study and artefact drawing of the material for publication continued for a total of two weeks.

Christina Papoulia, lithics specialist, participated and continued her study and drawings of the lithics, while Christina Haywood finalised the visual examination and

description of the prehistoric and Greek ceramics.







Drawing of a tiny Roman sigillata sherd with the help of AutoCAD.



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The Institute welcomes contributions and donations.

They are vital to us so that we can continue our work of providing support to students and scholars of Greek culture and archaeology, and of promoting cultural and scholarly connections between Ireland and Greece.

Please see www.iihsa.ie Fundraising

To become a Member or a Friend of the IIHSA, visit <u>www.iihsa.ie</u>



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