



THE FRIENDS OF MUSIC

IMS Study Group Music and Cultural Studies and
The Friends of Music Society Athens

announce an

Interdisciplinary Conference

*Musicology and Music Librarianship in Cultural Context
in Honour of Stephanie Merakos*

20-21st February 2025

The Friends of Music Society at Megaron – The Athens Concert Hall

Convenors: Tatjana Marković and Alexandros Charkiolakis

Call for Papers

The conference is organized to honour the multifaceted activities of Stephanie Merakos, musicologist, director of the Music Library of Greece “Lilian Voudouri” of the Friends of Music Society in Athens, RILM National Committee of Greece, treasurer of IAML National Branch of Greece, tireless organizer of exhibitions, music, musicological and educational events who has recently retired from service. Merakos lived 14 years in the United States, where she studied musicology and specialized on Byzantine and Western music. Soon after her return to Greece, she started working at the newly-established music library that the Friends of Music Society established in 1995. The library opened in 1997 and at that time there were 70,000 books, scores and audio-visual material. It was very soon after the establishment of the Library the first large archive arrived, the Mikis Theodorakis Archive. Now, after almost 30 years of working in and 20 years since she undertook the direction of the library, there are more than 150,000 titles, books, recordings, scores and 54 archives of Greek composers, musicians, and teachers of the calibre of Manolis Kalomiris, Nikos Skalkottas, Petros Petridis, Antiochos Evangelatos and many others. Moreover, a large part of the archival material has been digitized.

Merakos fulfilled the ideal which already Donald Jay Grout hoped for as early as in 1941, to be a head of a music library and also an active musicologist. She led the library through time, witnessing a rapid development of technology and modernization, which she not only followed with great interest, but also endorsed and applied in one of the largest Music Libraries in Southeast Europe that has been kept and enlarged by the Friends of Music Society. Her own experience in working for RILM enabled her to remain fully updated in actual state of research and technological tools. Stephanie Merakos is an activist in promoting Greek music heritage and providing manuscripts, scores, recording to international performers and scholars thanks to her wide professional network.

Taking Stephanie Merakos's multilayered activities as a departure point, the following areas are suggested:

- biography research of (especially female) music historians and musicologists-librarians or musicologists who contributed to librarianship, their achievements and contributions, such as, for instance, Filippo Bonanni, Athanasius Kircher, Francesco Bianchini, François-Joseph Fétis, Gustave Reese, Jurij Vsevolodovič Keldyš, Barry S. Brook, Nicole Wild, Zoila Mercedes Lapique, Mary Wallace Davidson, Malena Kuss, Koraljka Kos, Ladislav Šaban, Otto Biba, Catherine Massip, Thomas Aigner, Shubha Chaudhuri, Chris Banks;
- cultural heritage and music library/archive;
- databases RILM, RIPM, RISM;
- theories of music archiving and library issues;
- discourses on Greek music after 1830;
- Byzantine musicology.

Keynote: Stephanie Merakos, Music Library of Greece "Lilian Voudouri" of the Friends of Music Society

Submission: Abstracts of maximum 200 words in English with short biography should be sent until 10 November 2024 to the email address of the Friends of Music Society, sfm@megaron.gr

Venue: The Friends of Music Society, Megaron – The Athens Concert Hall, Athens, Greece

Programme Committee:

Tatjana Marković, Austrian Academy of Sciences Vienna

Alexandros Charkiolakis, The Friends of Music Society Athens

Zdravko Blažeković, Executive Director of RILM, City University Graduate Center New York

Leon Stefanija, University of Ljubljana

Katalin Kim, Research Centre of Humanities, Eötvös Loránd Research Network

Thomas Aigner, Music Collection of the Vienna City Library

Evi Nika-Sampson, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Hellenic Musicological Society

Valia Vraka, The Friends of Music Society Athens