

10 Μαρτίου 2014

LAFCADIO HEARN. (1850-1904) | A shadowy Greek

27.03-16.4.2014 at Beton7

INFO

"LAFCADIO HEARN. (1850-1904) | A shadowy Greek Greek shadow", curated by Demosthenes Agrafioti

27.03-16.4.2014

Lectures, workshops, roundtables, performances, films, videos, radio shows

Center for the Arts BETON7: Pydnas 7 (Metro "Kerameikos"), Votatnikos

tel.: 0030 210-7512625

Beton7 presents from **27.03 until 04.16.2014** a tribute to Lafcadio Hearn (1850-1904) curated by **Demosthenes Agrafiotis** and **under the auspices of the Embassy of Japan in Greece.**

"Because I am Greek and therefore I belong to a southern tribe, I leave longer with this than with the Anglo-Saxons" notes Lafkadios Hearn in a letter. Which Greek status is the author claiming; the "biological", being the son of Rosa Kasimati from Kythera, a Greek island which at the time was under British occupation? The "linguistic", since his name, Lafkadios, refers to Lefkada, his birthplace? The "cultural", since he has studied with particular passion texts and images from the ancient Greek world? The "imaginary" as a poet, and a traveller in constant search for cultural differences? The 'psychoanalytic', derived out of lack of maternal tenderness which was replaced, by the strict disciplinary Irish environment of his paternal side? The "civilizational", which Lafcadio Hearn uses the Greek world in conjunction with Japanese Buddhism in order to formulate a proposal for the future of humanity? The above questions are the starting point of a series of events - actions in BETON7, which will take place in late March 2014 as a commemoration for his death.

Lectures, workshops, roundtables, performances, films, videos, radio shows compose the first answers to the above questions. Artists, historians, poets, philosophers, social scientists, japonologists will explore the Greek dimensions seen in the literary works of Japan's "national writer".

The books of L. Hearn, which he wrote in English, during his stay in Japan (1890-1904), refer to the traditions of the Japanese people and their 'mysterious' cultural history. A westerner with eastern sensibilities, who studied with special love the imaginary and the symbolic universe of the "common" Japanese, since up to that point the emphasis was given to the cultural norms of the imperial court, the aristocracy and the samurai.

The inscription on his gravestone, in the temple Komputera, reads:

"To Lafcadio Hearn whose pen was more powerful even from the sword of the glorious nation who he loved, a nation, whose greatest honour was that it embraced him as a citizen and offered him alas, the tomb."

The programme of events is as follows:

Programme

27/03/2014 | Opening

18.30 Greetings by Mr. Masuo Nishibayashi, Ambassador of Japanese to Greece and Mr. Argyrou, director of Beton7

Presentation of publications related to Lafkadios Hearn curated by Takis Efstathiou

Exhibition opening "Calligraphic impressions on parchment: Lafcadio Hearn" by Maria Genitsariou in the gallery space, (1 floor)

For more information/ interviews:

Maria Anesti | press@beton7.com

BETON7 | Pidnas 7, Votatnikos - Athens 11855 | (metro station KERAMIKOS) | t:2107512625 | www.beton7.com

Exhibition opening "Homage on Lafcadio Hearn" in the gallery space, (groundfloor). Artists: Demosthenes Agrafiotis "Non haunting images" (fotos projection) | Magenta (Katerina Sotiriou, Elena Timplalexi), "The gift is only", video art-installation | "Beuys in Japan" (video) | Frédéric Weigel, "40000x8 clouds", (video) | Robin Perrey, "HI NO MARU NO CINEMA (video).

31/03/2014 | 18.30 | Talk by Ms. Shoko Koizumi, great-granddaughter-in-law of L. HEARN

Reception hosted by the Embassy of Japan in Greece

03/04/2014 | 18.30 Talk by Mr. Panagiotis Evangelidis, Works - bio - graphy by Lafcadio Hearn. "An evaluation"

04/04/2014 | 18.30 Talk by Mr. Sotiris Chalikias, "Lafcadio Hearn in Japan"

05/04/2014 | 18.00 Panel discussion with the participation of: Panagiotis Evangelidis, Sotiris Chalikias. Coordinator: Demosthenes Agrafiotis

Thema: "Lafcadio Hearn. A milestone for the future?"

08/04/2014 | 18.30 Lecture - Performance by Demosthenes Agrafiotis, "My first day in Japan"

10/04/2014 | 22.30 Japanese experimental music proposed by Nektarios Papadimitriou: and Poetical (multilingual) performance with the participation of Michele Valley, Panagiotis Evangelides, Demosthenes Agrafiotis

11/04/2014 | 18.30 Lecture by Maria Genitsariou on "the interweaving of Greek - Japanese elements - symbols in the stories by L. Hearn. Hearn as a cultural transcriber", and a talk by Dipl. Psych Euterpi Rizou "The extraordinary life of Lafcadios Hearn: a paradigmatic creative processing of a traumatic childhood"

12/04/2014 | 18.00 Reading of the work "A Living God" by Lafcadio Hearn - The text of Hearn and the real story, by Andriani Psaraki, and

Tety Solou reads the Japanese Fairy Tale «The Old Woman who Lost her Dumbling» and proposes educational activities for children inspired by Japanese Fairy Tales of Lafcadio Hearn.

Demosthenes Agrafiotis is a poet and a visual artist, active in intermedia work involving photography, performance, painting and installation. Agrafiotis has published a number of books, essays and scholarly articles on art, science/technology and health as socio-cultural phenomena. As a curator, he has organized festivals and seminars on performance art, whilst realizing exhibitions, workshops and conferences on photographic art and its policies.

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