

MAY 23

2025

ACG 150
ANNIVERSARY
FESTIVAL!

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

Between Light and Shadow
Chausson and Respighi

AENAON
string quartet



Soloists:

Violin:
Jannis Georgiadis



Piano:
Christine Tokatlian



Mezzo-soprano:
Maira Milolidaki



Violin:
Antonio Mandylas



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ONE FIVE ZERO

FESTIVAL

Pierce Theater
20:30



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Tonight's program offers a rare pairing of two late-Romantic masters, united by their gift for lyricism and atmosphere. Ernest Chausson's ethereal Poème and his richly textured Concerto for Violin, Piano and String Quartet explore realms of longing, passion, and intimacy. Ottorino Respighi's Il Tramonto ("The Sunset") paints a luminous musical portrait of twilight, love, and loss, setting Percy Bysshe Shelley's poetry to radiant orchestral color.

PROGRAM

Poème, Op.25 (transcription for violin, piano and string quartet)

Violin: Antonis Mandylas

Piano: Christine Tokatlian

E. Chausson

Il Tramonto, P. 101 O. Respighi

Soprano: Maira Milolidaki

O. Respighi

Concert for violin, piano and string quartet, Op. 21

E. Chausson

I. Décidé – Animé

II. Sicilienne: Pas vite

III. Grave

IV. Très animé.

Violin: Jannis Georgiadis

Piano: Christine Tokatlian

With the **AENAON string quartet**

Violin: Giorgos Mandylas

Violin: Vassilis Soukas

Viola: Antilochos Tranos

Cello: Asterios Pouftis

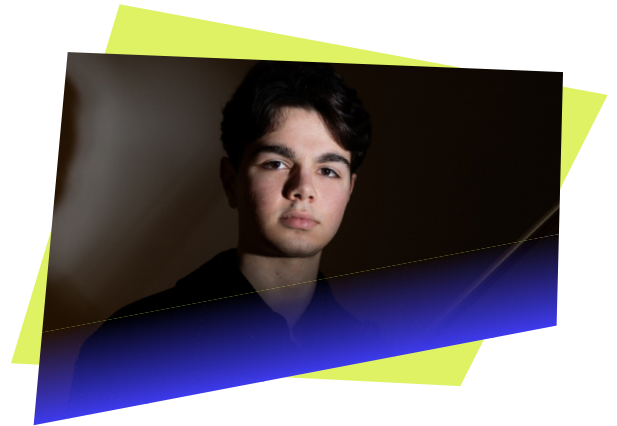
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Antonio Mandylas

Born in Athens in December 2005, violinist Antonios Mandylas began his studies in 2012 and has worked with Nikolaos Mandylas, Giorgos Mandylas, Apollon Grammatikopoulos, and currently, Prof. Hrachya Harutyunyan. A former member of Camerata Junior Athens (2014–2018), he won first prize and a special distinction at the 2023 national music competition O Filon.



He has participated in masterclasses with renowned artists including Leonidas Kavakos, Vadim Repin, Prof. Ingolf Turban, Prof. Boris Garlitsky, Noe Inui, and Georgios Demertzis, among others. His performances include appearances at the Aegina International Music Festival, the Kalolimano Festival, and the Diazoma Association's General Assembly.

As of September 2025, he was selected to practice with internationally acclaimed violinist Leonidas Kavakos in Basel, Switzerland.

Maira Milolidaki

Soprano/performer, vocal coach Scholar of the Onassis Foundation | PhD in semiotics (Sorbonne-Paris IV University) | Law graduate (ΕΚΠΑ) | Faculty in FRSFPA (Deree-The American College of Greece)



A versatile and prominent soprano, Maira Milolidaki studied at the Athens Conservatoire (Diploma in classical singing). As a scholar of the Onassis Foundation, she pursued her vocal studies in Milan, Italy, with Maria Luisa Cioni and in Rome with Renata Scotto, as a member of the Opera Studio in the National Academy of Santa Cecilia. She has also studied theatre and the art of performance (Drama school Empros-Ergastiri and Attis Theater, the Acting Method of Theodoros Terzopoulos).

As a debutante, she has participated in the international young artists program of the Aegean Opera under the artistic direction of the American baritone Sherrill Milnes. Since then, she appears regularly on stage performing a wide repertoire ranging from baroque to contemporary music.

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She is a member of the Baroque Ensemble Canto Soave (their cd *Vita Segreta*, *Musica Segreta* has been recently released by FM Records). As a recording artist, she collaborates with the avant-garde electronic sound designer Constantine Skourlis, creating experimental music for internationally acclaimed theatre and dance performances, such as “Don Quixote” (by Res Ratio Network) and

“Richard II-Requiem for a King” (directed by Marlene Kaminsky). Their latest collaboration includes the performance on the life of Hildegard von Bingen, “Splendidissima Gemma-Recomposing Hildegard” (Megaron-The Athens Concert Hall, March 2020), the recording of the songs for the dance performance “Free at Last” (Theater Rotterdam, June 2019, Festival of Athens and Epidauros, June 2021) and the album “Eternal Recurrence”, released by Bedouin Records. Her appearances in concerts and opera productions include the National Theater of Greece, the Greek National Opera, the Alternative Stage of the GNO, the Accademia di Santa Cecilia (Rome), the Teatro dal Verme (Milan), the Carnegie Hall (New York), the Athens and Epidauros Festival, the Baroque Festival of Siena etc. She has performed roles, such as Violetta (Verdi, *La Traviata*), Madga (Puccini, *La Rondine*), Gilda (Verdi, *Rigoletto*), Queen of the Night (Mozart, *The Magic Flute*), Micaela (Bizet, *Carmen*), Rosina (Rossini, *Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Céphise (Rameau, *Pygmalion*), Godmother (Viardot, *Cendrillon*) and Morgana (Handel, *Alcina*). She has collaborated in various concerts with the Academica Orchestra of Athens, the Athens State Orchestra, the Symphony Orchestra of Cyprus, the Orchestra I Pomeriggi Musicali, the Orchestra Sinfonica Tito Schipa, the Greek Composers’ Union, the string quartet L’Anima, the brass quintet Melos Brass, the organist J. Geffert, the counter tenor Michael Chance. She was the artistic director of the concert cycle “A Museum made of Music” (Museum of Cycladic Art, 2009/11) and of the festival “Music Tones” at Beton 7 (2011/15). In 2018 Subways released her personal cd with the art songs “Grafomena” by I. Valette. She participated in the movies “Matriarchy” and “Canto si tu Cantas” by film director N. Kornilios. In 2021-2022 she has sung the role of Diamanto in the premiere of the opera “Andronica” by Alexander Grec in the fully orchestrated version (Olympia Theatre). In 2024, she interpreted the role of Erofilis, in a new production of “Tri-sevgeni” by Tassos Rossopoulos for the National Opera of Greece. She has been actively involved in vocal pedagogy for the last 12 years. She works as a voice instructor in the Music and Theatre Arts Department at Deree – The American College of Greece and in Philippos Nakas Conservatory. Human voice as a unified whole is her inspirational motivation. Over the years of practice, she keeps moving across disciplines, developing embodied voice research through advanced artistic projects; as a member of the Music Theatre Company Eutopia, she uses the solid grounding of her classical training to explore the dialogue of the singing voice with various art forms, engaging with new ways to encourage vocal improvisation within contemporary performances. Her first collaboration with EUTOPIA dates back to 2016. She joined the Company as a member in 2020. She has participated in the performances: “Pietà” (AndriyivskyFest, Kiev 2018), “Free Besieged” (Protouvoulia ’21)

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and “Shakespeare Electrified” (Torino Fringe Festival 2023). During 2023/24 she has participated in a series of concerts promoting the work of the Collective, an international cooperative of distinguished contemporary composers, in New York. She is also hosting a series of lecture-recitals on classical music in Megaron – the Athens Concert Hall. Since 2022, she works as a program annotator for Olympia City Music Theatre “Maria Callas” and Megaron. She recently started her own radio show about classical music in the National Radio.

Jannis Georgiadis

Born in Athens, Greece, Jannis Georgiadis grew up in a musical family and displayed exceptional talent from an early age. He began his violin studies at the Athens Conservatory with Tatsis Apostolidis and continued with masterclasses under Sandor Vegh at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. As a teenager, he represented Greece in the European Union Youth Orchestra for two consecutive years, performing under renowned conductors such as Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, and Sir Georg Solti.



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After receiving his Diploma from the Athens Conservatory, he was awarded scholarships from both the Alexandros Onassis Foundation and the Austrian Government. He pursued advanced studies with the distinguished professor Franz Samohyl at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, graduating with Highest Distinction.

Georgiadis enjoys an international career as a soloist and recitalist. He has appeared with major orchestras including the London Philharmonia, Berlin Symphony Orchestra, Budapest Philharmonic, Bucharest Radio Orchestra, Vienna United Philharmonic, Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra (SO R), Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba, European Union Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra Kremlin, Monterrey Symphony Orchestra, Jeju Symphony Orchestra, Athens State Orchestra, Athens Camerata, and the Thessaloniki State Orchestra.

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His performances have taken him to some of the world's most prestigious concert venues, including the Vienna Musikverein, Carnegie Hall, Palais de Congrès et de la Musique, Linzer Brucknerhaus, and the Athens Megaron.

He has collaborated with acclaimed artists such as Steven Isserlis, Gary Hoffman, Jeremy Menuhin, Dimitris Sgouros, Dimitris Toufexis, Vassilis Varvaessos, Alexandros Kapelis, and Sam Haywood, and has worked under the baton of conductors including Alun Francis, Enrique Bátiz, Vladimir Válek, Uri Mayer, Horia Andreescu, Hobart Earle, Miltiades and Constantinos Karydis, Michalis Economou, Felix Carrasco, George Petrou, Nikos Athinaios, and Byron Fidetzis.

In 2000, Georgiadis founded the Feminarte Chamber Orchestra, serving as artistic director and conductor, with a focus on innovative and unconventional repertoire. Since 2006, he has held the position of Concertmaster with the City of Athens Symphony Orchestra.

He performs on a rare 1721 violin crafted by Francesco Gobetti.

Christine Tokatlian (AEGEAS CNPC Fellow):

A concert pianist known for her academic achievements and passionate performances, Christine Tokatlian was awarded the prestigious 'Eleni Myconiou' prize for artistic excellence by the Athens Academy in 2008. She received the Soloist's diploma from the National Conservatory of Greece with unanimous first prize under Manolis Kokalis. Her studies continued with renowned pianists including Dimitris Toufexis, Yu Chun Yee, and Bernard Roberts. Christine holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from

Deree-The American College of Greece and a post-graduate diploma in Advanced Piano Performance from the Royal College of Music in London.

She has performed internationally in Greece, the UK, the USA, Italy, Lebanon, Germany, and Armenia, alongside distinguished artists such as the Komitas Quartet. Her repertoire spans classical, romantic, contemporary, and experimental music. In 2010, she premiered Khatchaturian's Piano Concerto with the Thessaloniki State Orchestra at the Thessaloniki Concert Hall.

Since 2000, Tokatlian has been a faculty member at Deree, where she is currently an Associate Professor, teaching courses in Piano Performance, Chamber Music, Modernism, Music Research, Musicianship, World Music, and Music Theory. She also supervises honors theses and has coordinated the Music Forum. She is a piano professor at the Meandrio Conservatory.



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She received her PhD from Chichester University, UK, and her research focus was on contemporary Armenian piano music and its impact on the re(de)construction of Armenian musical identity. Her research has been presented in international conferences in Athens, London, Istanbul, Berlin and Latvia. She recently presented a workshop alongside the distinguished Armenian composer, Tigran Mansurian in collaboration with the Royal College of Music, the Moscow Conservatory, the University of Heidelberg and the British Association of Slavonic and East European Studies.

Christine serves as a jury member in national competitions and gives piano masterclasses in Greece and abroad. Her students have been awarded several prizes and distinctions in international piano competitions.

AENAON String Quartet:

Formed by four distinguished members of the Athens State Orchestra, the AENAON String Quartet explores the rich and diverse repertoire written for string quartet. Through refined counterpoint and interpretive depth, the ensemble highlights the unique voice of each instrument while striving for musical unity—always guided by the composer's vision as they perceive it.



AENAON
string quartet

Founded in 2016, the Quartet has been an integral part of the Athens State Orchestra's social and educational initiatives, while also establishing an independent artistic presence. It has participated in prominent cultural events such as "(Dis)playing Attica," held during the Greek Presidency of the Council of Europe, and the nationwide series "All of Greece, One Culture," under the auspices of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture.

AENAON has appeared at major venues and festivals including the Athens and Thessaloniki Concert Halls, the Delphi Conference Center, the Gyzi and Nafplio Festivals, and the National Theatre of Serbia in Belgrade. In 2024, the Quartet recorded the world premiere of String Quartet No. 2 by Vassilis Kalafatis, in collaboration with the Greek National Opera—a project celebrating modern and contemporary Greek culture.

Dedicated to performing both classical masterworks and works from the Greek repertoire, AENAON comprises violinists Giorgos Mandylas and Vassilis Soukas, violist Antilochos Tranos, and cellist Asterios Pouftis.