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PRESS RELEASE

COMPOSERS OPEN CALL RESULTS

The Municipal Conservatory of Pylaia-Chortiatis, the American - Israeli Cultural Foundation (supported by Stavros Niarchos Foundation), and the non-profit company *be active* (Organizers), in collaboration with the Greek Composers Union and the Israeli Chamber Project chamber ensemble organized an open call for young composers

Following yesterday's meeting, the committee unanimously concluded to the result for the 4 successful composers, whose works will be performed by the Israeli Chamber Project in March. Composers will also have the opportunity to work through an online platform with the Israeli Chamber Project music ensemble participating in rehearsals, while the workshop will be open to all composers and musicians who want to attend.

The names of the composers with alphabetical order

Konstantinos Chaliasas, with the work Neptune for flute, clarinet, violin, cello & piano

Christos Ntovas, with the work Aurora for flute, clarinet, violin, cello & piano

Orestis Papaioannou with the work dream | breathe for flute, clarinet, cello & piano

Menelaos Peistikos with the work A glimpse of Autumn for flute, clarinet, violin, cello & piano

The number of nominations was high as well as the level of the compositions, which made the committee very happy.

Seventeen nominations were submitted by Greek and Cypriot composers aged 20-32, who submitted works by selecting a set of three to five performers with the following instruments: flute (or piccolo flute / one performer), clarinet (a clarinet bass), violin, cello, piano.

Open call and workshop entries are FREE in support of Young Creators and Performers.

More information on the website of the Municipal Conservatory of Pylaia-Chortiatis.
<https://www.odio-pilaia-hortiati.com/>



The Jury committee

- α) **Tibi Cziger** (clarinetist, Israeli Chamber Project),
β) **Talia Amar** (Composer, Professor in Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance),
γ) **Erato Alakiozidou** (Pianist, Artistic Director of the Municipal Conservatory Pylaia- Chortiatis)
δ) **Joseph Papadatos** (Composer, Professor in Ionian University, President of the Greek Composers Union.
ε) **Vassilis Kitsos** (composer, musicologist)



Meet the composers

Konstantinos Chaliasas (1992) is a Phd Candidate in Music Composition and Cinema (AUTH). He holds a Bachelor and a Masters in Music Composition by AUTH and a Masters in Film and Theatre Composition by Ionian University. His music compositions had world premieres with state orchestras at Thessaloniki, Athens and his short films premiered at major international Film Festivals (Austin International Film Festival, Athens IFF, Seoul IYSFF, Drama ISFF...) He is a “Sarajevo Talent 2018” alumni.

Christos Ntovas was born in Thessaloniki in 1989. He studied advanced music theory and piano at the Macedonian Conservatory of Thessaloniki and the Athens Conservatory. He is graduated with A Levels from the School of Music Studies at AUTH. and the Composition Class of Christos Samaras. He studied (awarded with scholarship of the John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation) Composition at postgraduate level at Lund University in Sweden with Professor Luca Francesconi. He is writing his doctoral dissertation, awarded with a scholarship from Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation, at the Department of Music Studies of AUTH. (supervising professor, Christos Samaras). His compositions, for which he distinguished himself nationwide and internationally, include music for orchestra, choir, solo instruments, chamber music, electroacoustic music, music for theater and contemporary dance. Plenty of them have been performed by ensembles and orchestras in Greece and abroad such as: Athens Philharmonia Orchestra (GR), Thessaloniki Municipality Symphony Orchestra (GR), Hellenic Contemporary Music Ensemble (GR), L'Anima Quartet (GR), Helsingborg Symphony Orchestra (SE), Uppsala Chamber Orchestra (SE), Aarhus Sinfonieta (DK), Mimitabu (SE), Kreutzer Quartet (UK), Musica Vitae (SE) etc. He has been awarded for his compositions by the Greek Composers' Union in the composition competitions in Memory of D. Dragatakis (7th and 8th: 1st Prize, 4th: 2nd Prize) and in Memory of



Giannis A. Papaioannou (15th: 1st Prize, 12th: Second Prize). In 2013 and 2015 he was distinguished at the Nordic Festival of Young Composers "Ung Nordisk Musik Festival". He was also a finalist in the Scandinavian Composition Competition "Uppsala Composition Competition 2014". His works have been broadcast by the Swedish State Radio "Sveriges Radio P2" and have been published by Lund University Editions. He teaches advanced music theory and piano at the Philippos Nakas Conservatory in Thessaloniki and at the Municipal Conservatory of Pylaia – Chortiatis. Also, he teaches music theory and theatrical song at the Higher Drama School and theatrical workshops of Andreas Voutsinas and directs the AA choir North College. Since 2020 he is a member of the Greek Composers' Union.

Orestis Papaioannou was born in 1993 in Sitia, Greece. He began his early studies at the Edessa Municipality Music School, New Music School of Edessa, and State Conservatory of Thessaloniki with degrees in harmony, counterpoint, clarinet, and chamber music. He continued with academic studies in composition at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Department of Music Studies (class of Christos Samaras), Masters and Concert Exams at the Lübeck University of Music (class of Dieter Mack). From 2019 he is a doctorate candidate at the Hamburg University of Music and Theatre as a scholar of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). He has won several First Prizes in international composition competitions, such as "Penderecki" in Krakow, "Contemporary music days" in Weimar, "Antonin Dvorak" in Prague, "Giorgos Sisilianos" in Athens, "Brahms Festival" in Lübeck and was a finalist at the "Toolbox percussion" in Hong Kong, "TONALI" in Hamburg, "Citta di Udine", etc. His pieces were performed in many European countries by ensembles such as the Athens State Orchestra, Hamburger Symphoniker, Quasars, Praga Sinfonietta, MHLübeck Orchester, MotoContrario, Pre-Art, and have been broadcasted by the German and the Greek National Radio. His new Opera "The Fall of the House of Commons" on the libretto by Alexandros Lountzis and Orpheas Apergis is set to be premiered in 2022 in Hamburg

Menelaos Peistikos (22 August, 1995) is a Greek composer and pianist. He started playing the piano and composing at the age of 15. The past 7 years, he studied composition with Professor Altin Volaj, who he considers a mentor and a significant influence on his artistic career so far. He is a current student at the University of Toronto, pursuing his Master's in Composition under the supervision of his new mentor, composer Christos Hatzis, where he is admitted with a full tuition scholarship. Menelaos is the recipient of Nikos Evdemon Graduate Scholarship and University of Toronto Fellowship. He has also got the Music Theory degrees (Counterpoint and Fugue) with Professor Costas Tsougras -with whom he is pursuing the Diploma in Composition the current year-, and the degree in Piano with Professor Victoria Victoratou from the State Conservatory of Thessaloniki. He has also studied Piano and Alexander technique with Professor Christos Noulis, Chamber music with Professor Erato Alakiozidou and Harmony with Professor Thanos Stathoris. In February 2019,



Menelaos won the 3rd Prize and 1st Prize of Public at the 7th Molinari String Quartet Composition Competition in Montreal, Canada, for his string-quartet composition For Sun's light. In December 2018, he won the 2nd Prize at the 4th Opus Dissonus International Composition Competition for solo piano in Brazil for his composition On the Vision and The Riddle. Beyond Greece, his music has been played in Canada, Portugal, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus and Brazil. Performances of his pieces include artists such as Molinari String Quartet, Hermes Duo, Erato Alakiozidou, Alexis Theophylaktou, Marilena Liakopoulou, Younggun Kim and Artur Cimirro among others. Menelaos has also participated in workshops and composition masterclasses with composers John Psathas and Ana Sokolovic. His music is inspired by an extreme variety of musical genres, ranging from baroque and renaissance music to contemporary classical and cinematic music, as well as from folk Greek to Japanese and especially Gamelan music. A very critical element in most of his compositions is his influence by other disciplines of Art, like fine art, literature, philosophy, poetry and photography, especially by the works of Plato, Albert Camus, Friedrich Nietzsche, Edward Hopper and Claude Monet. Menelaos also holds a BA Honours Degree from the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki