

Statement to be presented at the IWD Celebration for its approval

To the Hon Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.

We the participants of the IWD Celebration held at the Greek Orthodox Community of NSW on March 8, 2009 wish to express our heartfelt solidarity and support for the Palestinian women, children and people in their just struggle for their homeland and for their human rights.

We express our strong condemnation of the long held policy of successive Israeli government aimed at the genocide and the dispossession of the Palestinian peoples of their land and their rights.

We publicly state that we are saddened and appalled by the recent aggression of Israel in the Gaza Strip based on the pretext of a vastly exaggerated fear for the security of its people. We wholeheartedly condemn Israel's recent military invasion of



The president of the Greek Festival Mrs Nia Karteris with the choir "Orfeas". at the International Women's Day which was celebrated at the Greek Community Club.

Gaza and the wholesale destruction it caused, including the huge loss of innocent lives many of which were women and children.

We demand the Australian Government condemn Israel's aggressive and unjust actions towards the Palestinian people and instead actively

support all UN Resolutions on the Palestinian issue, including the right of return of the Palestinian refugees to their homes from which they were forced in 1948.

We demand the Australian Government take a strong, independent and leading role in the International Community condemning the policy of Israel towards the Palestinian people and their homeland and call Israel to account for its actions through the demand that it recompense the people of Gaza for their recent losses and assist with the reconstruction of Gaza.

We also demand that the Australian Government contribute to creating a united international community to put pressure on Israel to prevent any future aggression against the Palestinian people and their land.

Art objects from recyclable materials on display at Thessaloniki's Institut Francais

Recyclable objects such as empty soda cans, screws, coins, cutlery and metal parts of old cars that have been transformed into works of art that will be on display at the Institut Francais in Thessaloniki on March 11-24.

A total of 50 works by 10 artists will be presented in a special exhibition by the company UBU (abbr. for "Used But Useful"), involved in turning recyclable objects into art while raising public awareness to make recycling a way of life.

UBU S.A. was established in 2006, by the owners of Archimedes Neonakis S.A, Metal Recycling.

Savina Yannatou & Primavera en Salonico

Since 1993, singer Savina Yannatou and Kostas Vomvolos (qanun, accordion, musical direction) have stood at creative core of Primavera en Salonico (nay, oud, guitar, violin, viola, double bass, percussion). While rooted artistically in Thessalonica, for Yannatou and Primavera, their Greek and Sephardic roots are only a jumping-off point in a project that covers the Mediterranean waterfront and ranges far beyond.

Manifesting the spare sonic acuity



English-language summary translations). With respect to dramatic effect, these matter far less than the sheer vocal poetics of each unique individual performance.

Yannatou's is a voice that haunts the paradoxical terrain between beauty and terror. Behold the call-and response between her haunting ululations, the nay-string exchange, and the percussive drive of "Za lioubih maimo tri momi," from Macedonian Bulgaria; the spiraling ascent and ghostly Greek exhala-

Savina Yannatou has been one of the most consistently interesting Greek artists of the last few years. Her choice of material is always intriguing, her voice superb and her live performances always worth attending.

FAMILY VIOLENCE BEST PRACTICE PRINCIPLES ADOPTED BY FAMILY COURT

The Family Court of Australia launched the final piece of its suite of initiatives introduced to combat family violence. The Attorney-General Robert McClelland formally introduced the Family Violence Best Practice Principles and commended them to the Family Court judiciary. "The Australian Government recognises the critical importance of reducing violence directed towards women and children and is pleased to see the ongoing commitment of the Court to tackling this issue.

"I commend these Best Practice Principles to all members of the Family Court judiciary and am confident they will be of significant assistance to you in your decision making," the Attorney-General said.

The Best Practice Principles are the last part of the Family Violence Strategy to be implemented and are the result of extensive work by a committee within the Court.

Chief Justice Diana Bryant said that the principles had been developed to provide decision makers with practical guidance when dealing with matters where family violence, or the risk of it, had been alleged. "Family violence, or the threat of it, has devastating effects not only on the victims of the abuse but also on those who witness it.

so characteristic of the Manfred Eichner-ECM production aesthetic and the arranging talents of Vomvolos, Yannatou and company are equally versed in Ashkenazi tradition; folk songs from Italy, Greece, the Balkans, Armenia, and Kazakhstan; the historic and contemporary Levant; European early and classical music; and jazz improvisation.

Recorded in Athens, Songs of an Other comprises a dozen varied settings for Yannatou to conjure her delicate yet commanding vocal instrument, confirming the power and primacy of the human voice throughout her work. With a mournful, pensive yearning, this music transcends the particulars of native language and text (notes include

tions, cries, and whispers of "O Yannis kai o drakos"; the soothing balm of "Albanian Lullaby"; or the evocative Armenian strains of "Sareri hovin mermen." - Michael Stone

