

Katerine Avgoustakis: A New Euro Star is Born

Katerine Avgoustakis wants to participate in the Eurovision Song Contest, but for which country she hasn't decided yet. The Greek fans want the singer who took part in Eurosong in Belgium twice to represent Greece, but also Katerine's Polish record company wants to subscribe Katerine for the Polish Eurovision selections.

Who is this new Euro Star?

She was born in Belgium from a Greek father and a Belgian mother. Avgoustakis made her singing debut as a member of the band Indiana in 2002, with whom she participated with in the national final to represent Belgium in the Eurovision Song Contest 2002 with the song "Imitation Love". Indiana failed to make it through the selection's semi-final round.

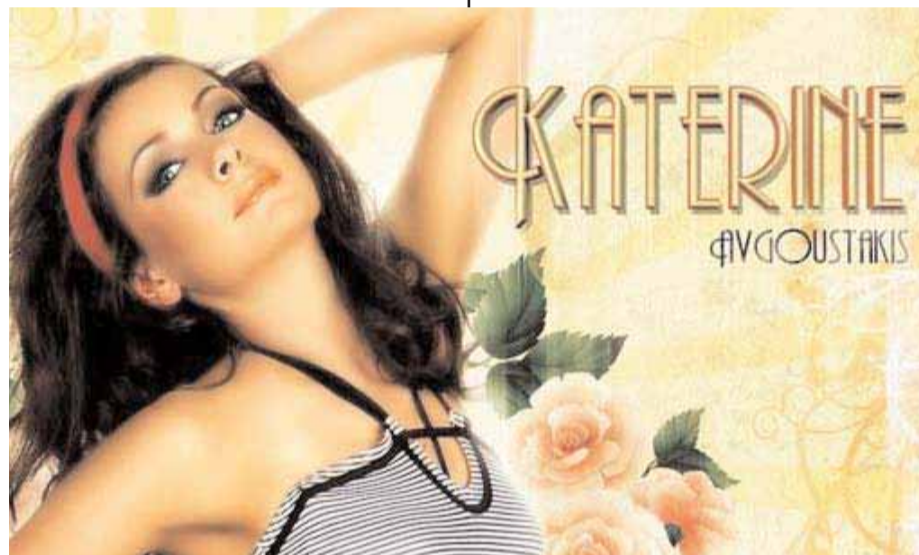
After leaving Indiana, she entered Star Academy in Flanders in 2005. She worked her way to the finale and won the contest and a record contract with Universal Music Belgium. Avgoustakis's debut single "New Day", released in July 2005 in Belgium, peaked at #2 in the Belgian UltraTop 50 chart. Three months later, she received the TMF Flanders award for Best New National Artist for the song. Also the song was certified gold in Belgium. Her self-named debut album Katerine was released on November 14, 2005 in Belgium.

In 2006 Katerine was nominated for 3 TMF Awards: Best pop music national, best female artist national and best music video national. She won best pop music and best female

artist, the award best musicvideo national was going to Nailpin, a Belgium rock band.

Katerine also won the first Belgian pre-selection for Eurosong 2006 on January 8, 2006 with the song "Watch Me Move". Because of this, she was sure to have a place in the pre-finale rounds, however the judges thought her voice wasn't powerful enough to win.

In 2007, Katerine was asked for the Belgian TV Program "Sterren op het Ijs" (a Belgian version of Stars on



Ice), an opportunity she gladly accepted. She even made it to the final, but came in second. After Dean Delannoit, the Winner of 'Idol 2007' of that year.

In May 2007, she released "Live Wire", the first single from her upcoming second album and the song's music video was her first 'computer animated' video. A couple of months later she released "Don't Put It on Me" and then she and her Record Label reached a 'hiatus' and wanted to go in different directions which they did. Avgoustakis soon

agreed to a new recording contract with Mostiko, which led to the single "Shut Your Mouth", with music different from her normal sounds.

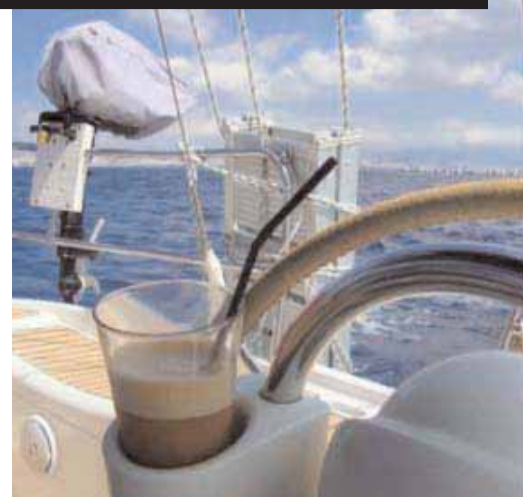
Avgoustakis and Mostiko have been approached by several international labels over the last months that showed interest in her new album for which negotiations are in progress to release internationally. Avgoustakis said in an interview that an international career "would be fabulous" and that she is "currently negotiating with [...] contact persons in Greece

and [that] there have been releases in Spain, South Africa and Poland.

In a recent interview, Avgoustakis stated that she would like to represent Greece at the 2010 Eurovision Song Contest, as she is not very well known there.

Katerine is heading for a busy summer. Her record will be released in the UK, the United States, Germany and Italy. She's already scoring in Bulgaria, Turkey and Russia and also in Spain and France her version of Ayo Technology is becoming a real hit.

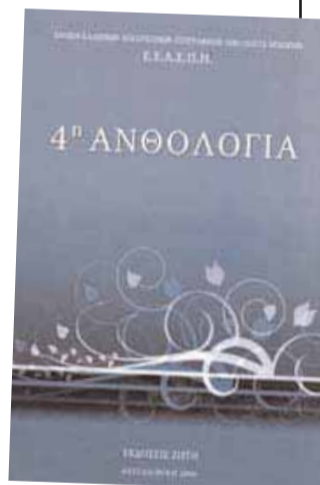
Photo of the week



Fourth anthology of expatriate Greek writers

The 4th Anthology of Expatriate Greek Writers from Five Continents, funded by the Alexander Onassis Public Benefit Foundation has been published. It contains works by 42 Greek authors from all over the world, including numerous writers from the United States. The foundation's president, Antonis Papadimitriou, noted that the funding was approved for the project without any hesitation.

He said the effort was a worthy one, as it was the only way works could be promoted, which would otherwise not be available to the average reader. In addition, the recognition of the anthology's national importance constituted yet another bond among Hellenes throughout the globe.



NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NSW BOARD OF STUDIES, MR TOM ALEGOUNARIAS:

"The Australian National Curriculum has many merits in NSW Quality Education"

The new President of the NSW Board of Studies (BOS), Greek background of Lemnian descent, Mr Tom (Anastasios) Alegounarias since his initiation a few weeks ago into the highest position within the Board, gave the opportunity to presidents and members of many educational committees, including primary and secondary levels of education as well as from a variety of disciplines and curriculum to listen to him first hand, in his first contact with such bodies on matters concerning the BOS. Mr Alegounarias spoke at the PTC headquarters (Professional Teachers' Council) at Leichhardt within the Primary school last Wednesday night. The new president men-

tioned his vision of the curriculum as the NSW Board of Studies perceives it, in view of the National Curriculum which is emanating from the Federal Government to be implemented in the not so distant future, putting an end to the vast differences of education systems in the Australian states and territories. The new president spoke for thirty minutes on how the National Curriculum means a new approach to Quality Teaching and Learning and this philosophy, as he said, is embraced and embedded by NSW pedagogues. However as he noted, this educational drive will not mean that NSW will not be consulted on crucial matters in its implementation and evaluation. At the end of his

presentation, the speaker accepted questions by many people who were seeking answers pertaining to the imminent changes and new structures in the Australian education scene. The Australian Hellenic Educators' Association (AHEA) of NSW was represented by its Vice President, Mr Dimitrios Kametopoulos, Head Teacher of Marrickville Intensive English Centre and Assistant Supervisor of the Saturday School of Community Languages-Liverpool Boys' High School Centre whilst the Modern Languages' Teachers Association (MLTA) of NSW was represented by its committee member, Ms Gina (Gregoria) Doukas, Head Teacher Mentor at Auburn Girls High School.