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## Villa Galini: The writers' retreat by the sea

Villa Galini, a magnificent 19th century Victorian villa in Poros, on the Saronic Gulf, was the retreat of many noted writers and artists in its glorious history.

The 'Kokkino Spiti' (Red House), as it is known by the locals because of its crimson color, enjoys a majestic view of the tranquil (galini, in Greek, thus its name) lagoon between Poros and Galatas. Built on the peak of a pine studded hill in 1894, designed by one of the most prominent architects



of the time, Anastasios Metaxas, Villa Galini was the family home of Amaryllis Dragoumi, mother of the poetess Ioulia Dragoumi and the sister of Nobel poetry laureate and di-

arist George Seferis' wife, Maro, and was always brimming with friends, while the Greek statesman

Eleftherios Venizelos was a guest there once.

Ioulia Dragoumi frequently lent the villa to newlywed couples, children of friends and relatives, for



their honeymoon.

Villa Galini was a favoured retreat of Seferis, recipient of the 1963 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Other famous visitors include American writer Henry Miller, who was a visitor just before the Second World War, and the writer Lawrence Durrell, as well as the reclusive movie star Greta Garbo in her later years and painter Marc Chagall.

## The Bank of Cyprus Australia Managing Director honoured with recent appointment to the Council of the Australian Bankers' Association

The Bank of Cyprus Australia is delighted to announce Mr George Tacticos Managing Director has been appointed as a Council Member of The Australian Bankers' Association (ABA).

The ABA is an incorporated association under the provisions of the NSW Associations Incorporation Act 1984, led by Mr David Bell, Chief Execu-

tive Officer.

The ABA works with its members to provide analysis, advice and advocacy And contributes to the development of public policy on banking and other financial services. The ABA works to ensure the banking system can continue to deliver the benefits of competition to Australian banking customers.

There are 15 members of

the ABA Council. The Council is led by the Chairman, Ralph Norris, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Bank, and the Deputy Chairman, David Liddy, the Chief Executive Officer of Bank of Queensland. The ABA's Council provides guidance And leadership to the ABA on policy issues which affect the banking and financial

sector.

"This is the first time in the history of the ABA that a Hellenic Bank has been represented on the council," said George Tacticos. "I look forward to representing our customers and our community on the council and working with the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments to ensure a fair banking system for all Australians."



## Theater Review: Trojan Women

Bottom Line: Extraordinary direction of Trojan Women by Leonidas Loizides

The theatergoers had a unique experience at the Cultural Center of New York on 18th of September. Loizides directed a masterpiece that none will ever forget. He managed to transform "Trojan Women" of Euripides into a unique performance that felt as if it was written in our times, even though the script was written 2500 years ago.

Leonidas Loizides sets the play with an imaginative and forward thinking manner. His approach is minimalistic and while he remains loyal to the ancient script and the basic theme of war and despair we can see his signature from the very first second to the last. The speech and the moving were extremely precise giving out the feeling that not a single breath was coming out without it being part of a well organized direction.

Loizides succeeds on getting the best out of each actor, like every great director should be. The cast is young but very promising. The performances of the main roles are captivating. Their grief, their despair is not expressed through exaggerations but through a rather sustained sorrow that reaches immense depth. The audience can feel the darkness in the atmosphere when the silence is sharp as knife. The chorus was a very important element of the performance, something that is often not followed on directions of classical drama. Loizides deserves applause for managing to realize such a modern adjustment through the way he uses it. The costumes made by Georgia Koniaviti were designed with respect to every role. Minimalistic but not cheap, enlightened the traits of each character. The music of Mikis Theodorakis lifted the artistic result as high as possible. Altogether the different components were a great match under the mastery of Leonidas Loizides. It is a lifetime chance for theatergoers and a proof that touring productions of difficult content can be of the highest quality if it's supported by people with passion and persistence, even if it originates from a non-profit theatre organization. I anticipate his next project, he sure is a talent to be followed at the peak of his inspiration, he sets the limit as high as it gets.

Joanna Kris, Professor

## Wog Boy II Films in Mykonos



It may not be a household name to the rest of the world, but Australian fan favorite "The Wog Boy" has generated a sequel: which is filming on the island right now. It stars Greek-Australian actor Nick Giannopoulos, who co-wrote the script with Chris Anastassiades, and is directed by Peter Andrikidis. The "Wog Boy" inherits a beach on Mykonos from an uncle he's never met - and comedic chaos ensues.

Only time will tell if "Wog Boy II" becomes the moment for Mykonos, which was previously featured in "Shirley Valentine" and, more recently, in the closing sequence of "The Bourne Identity".

## THE SMILE SPOT

...ένα υγιές χαμόγελο

είναι πάντα όμορφο και λαμπερό.

Σε αυτό πολλές φορές συμβάλει

και ο οδοντίατρος, ο οποίος

είναι δίπλα σας για να σας δώσει

λύσεις και τεχνικές για να αποκτήσετε

το χαμόγελο που πάντα επιθυμούσατε



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