



ΒΥΡΩΝΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ ΓΕΡΑΣ ΠΟΛΕΩΣ ΜΕΣΣΟΛΟΓΓΙΟΥ

«Διεθνές Κέντρο Έρευνας & Μελέτης για τον Λόρδο Βύρωνα και τον Φιλελληνισμό»



THE MESSOLONGHI BYRON SOCIETY

«International Research Center for Lord Byron & Philhellenism»



# 12<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BYRON CONFERENCE

19-24 May 2017 Messolonghi, Greece

## *Byron and Nature*

# 12<sup>ο</sup> ΔΙΕΘΝΕΣ ΦΟΙΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΒΥΡΩΝΙΚΟ ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΟ

19-24 Μαΐου 2017 Μεσολόγγι

## *Ο Μπάρον και η Φύση*





The Messolonghi Byron Society is a non-profit organization founded in 1991 in Messolonghi, Greece. Its mission is promoting scholarly and general understanding of Lord Byron's life and poetry as well as cultivating appreciation for other historical figures in the 19th-century international Philhellenic movement, idealists who, like Byron, gave their fortunes, talents, and lives for the cause of Greek Independence.

With gracious cooperation from the local people and authorities, the Greek and the International Byron Societies, and individual Byronists from around the world, the Messolonghi Byron Society has grown in size and prominence by organizing many local, national and international activities dedicated to the memory of the poet. Among these activities have been International Conferences, lectures, one-day sessions, staging of plays inside and outside Greece, participation in British and Greek festivals, competitions, cultural events involving speakers and groups from England and America, exchanges, hospitality to Byronists from around the world, and twinning of Messolonghi and Nottinghamshire schools.

In 2001 the society established a Messolonghi Byron Research Center that now, thanks to the generosity of the Mayor and Town Council, occupies the top floor of Byron House, a handsome stone replica of the house Byron occupied during the last months of his life. The Research Center houses a growing collection of over 3000 books, as well as prints and other artifacts devoted to Byron, Romanticism, and Philhellenism. This collection has been created almost entirely from the contributions of a worldwide community of Byronists, and the Research Center gratefully appreciates the donations that continue to make the collection grow in size and scholarly value.

Rodanthi-Rosa Florou  
President of the Messolonghi Byron Society

Peter W. Graham  
Director of International Relations of the Messolonghi Byron Center



# 12<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BYRON CONFERENCE

19 - 24 May 2017



General theme:

## *Byron and Nature*

### **Academic Programme and Schedule of Events**

Organized by

**The Messolonghi Byron Society**

*International Research Center for Lord Byron & Philhellenism*

Διοργάνωση

**Βυρωνική Εταιρεία Ιεράς Πόλεως Μεσολογγίου**

*Διεθνές Κέντρο Έρευνας & Μελέτης για τον Λόρδο Βύρωνα  
και τον Φιλελληνισμό.*



12th International Student Byron Conference  
19-24 May 2017 • Messolonghi - Greece

General theme: *Byron and Nature*

## GENERAL PROGRAMME

The Organizing and Academic committees would like to give you a general outline of the activities that include the Academic Programme (student papers and lectures by professors) and the Social Activities (receptions, excursions, visits to historic sites, entertainment).

We reserve the right to make changes, if necessary, and will have a final programme handed to you on 19 May 2017.

You will be staying at the Theoxenia Hotel by the Messolonghi lagoonside, Tel: +30 26310 28098.

Please note that due to the constraints of academic and personal schedules, some participants will not be able to attend the entire conference. Accordingly we have grouped the academic sessions tightly on the days when all participants will be in attendance so that even those who are obliged to come late or leave early will experience in full the evolving conversation on "Byron and Nature." To allow the conference to proceed on schedule, the papers must not be longer than 20 minutes.

### ➤ FRIDAY 19 May 2017

- 17:00 - 18:30** Registration at the administrative office of the Messolonghi Byron Society and its Byron Research Center in the Byron House.
- 18:30** Visit to the Gallery of "Christos and Sophia Moschandreu" to see an exhibition of modern paintings and pictures of Byron.
- 19:30** Visit to the Center of Literature & Arts "Diexodos" Museum, for the exhibition of the Ancient treasures found in the excavations of the new Ionian motor way, guided by the Archaeologist Ms. Katerina Leontariti.
- 20:30** Visit to the Municipal Museum of History and Art Municipal Gallery with a welcome ceremony by the Mayor of Messolonghi, Mr. Nikos Karapanos.
- 21:00** Dinner at the fish restaurant "Avgo tou Kokora."

## GENERAL PROGRAMME

### > SATURDAY 20 May 2017

The Academic Programme starts in the Byron House.

**09:30** Welcome addresses.

**09:50** Archival lecture by the Consultant Librarian  
for the Messolonghi Byron Research Center.

**10:15 - 11:45** First Session of 3 lectures.

**11:45 - 12:15** Coffee Break.

**12:15 - 13:45** Second Session of 3 lectures.

**14:00** Lunch at Pelada cafeteria-restaurant, Port of Messolonghi.

**17:00 - 17:30** Following Byron's footsteps in Messolonghi. Wreath-laying ceremony at the monument newly renovated by the Messolonghi Byron Society, at the site where Byron breathed his last on 19 April 1824, and where the University of Athens dedicated a memorial column to Byron to commemorate the centennial of his death.

**17:30 - 18:30** Visit at the House-Museum of the prominent statesman, diplomat, and historiographer of the Greek Revolution of 1821, Spyridon Trikoupis, who delivered Lord Byron's oration. In this house, his son Charilaos Trikoupis, spent his boyhood years. He became one of the greatest statesmen of modern Greece, a dominant figure during the second half of the 19th C., and seven times prime minister of Greece.

**18:30 - 19:30** Visit to the Garden of the Heroes, stretching alongside the defensive walls of Messolonghi. A big memorial garden with many Monuments dedicated to Greek fighters and to Philhellenes who fought or fell during the sieges and the Exodus (sortie). At the center of the Garden of Heroes you will find the grave of Markos Botzaris as well as a statue of Lord Byron, underneath which are buried some of the poet's organs.

Night Free.



### ➤ SUNDAY 21 May 2017

**09:30 - 16:30** Departure by coach for a visit to Thermo the ancient capital of Aetolia 620 b.c, on the slopes of Panaitolikos mountain over looking the Trichonida Lake, the biggest lake in Greece. We'll visit the new Archaeological museum, the site with the Temple of Thermios Apollo, the agora, the Byzantine Monastery of Panagia Myrtias 11th century, and the shore of the Trichonida Lake, to walk along to enjoy the view. The excursion includes lunch and is guided by the Archaeologist Ms. Katerina Leontariti.

Night Free.

### ➤ MONDAY 22 May 2017

Papers in the Conference Room of Theoxenia Hotel.

**10:00 - 12:00** Third Session of 4 lectures.

**12:00 - 12:30** Coffee break

**12:30 - 14:30** Fourth Session of 4 lectures.

**14:30** Lunch on your own.

**19:30** The Official Ceremony at Theoxenia Hotel: Introduced by Professor Peter Graham and the President of the Messolonghi Byron Society, Rodanthe-Rosa Florou.

Two Keynote speakers will deliver lectures related to the conference topic.

- Dr. Christine Kenyon-Jones, King's College London, UK
- Professor Andrew Hubbell, Susquehanna University, USA

The Ceremony will end with a Gala dinner in the Ball Room of the Theoxenia Hotel. The Gala includes also music and Greek traditional dances.

## GENERAL PROGRAMME

### > TUESDAY 23 May 2017

Papers in the Conference Room of Theoxenia Hotel.

**10:00-11:30** Fifth Session of 3 lectures

**11:30- 13:00** Visit to the Salt works and to the Chapel of Panayia Finikias, the island Chapel dedicated to the Virgin of the Palms, where Byron used to ride at sunset from Messolonghi and where he fell ill under the heavy rain on 10 April 1824; to the archaeological site of ancient Plevron, named after the mythical hero Plevron. Plevron actually consists of two Homeric hillside towns with a beautiful view over the Ionian Sea.

Lunch on your own.

**18:00- 20:00** Visit to Aetoliko. Walking tour of the picturesque island town visited twice by Byron in February 1824; to the Church of Archangels inside which there is a well which Byron saw. In the garden outside is the grave of Ali Pasha's wife Kyra Vassiliki. Visit to the Vasso Katraki museum situated at the eastern side of Aetoliko, the only art museum exclusively devoted to engravings in Greece and Europe. It houses over 500 works of Vasso Katraki, a distinguished woman painter, engraver, and political activist.

**20:30** Dinner at Archontiko restaurant.

### > WEDNESDAY 24 May 2017

Last breakfast at the Hotel.

End of the Conference.

**➤ SATURDAY 20 MAY 2017**

Papers in the BYRON HOUSE

**09:30** Welcome addresses

**09:50** David McClay, Consultant Librarian for the Messolonghi Byron Research Center.  
"The Nature of Letters: Byron and the John Murray Archive"

**Session One 10:15 - 11:45**

Chair: Professor Najj Oueijan

1. Professor Young-Ok An, St. Thomas University, USA  
"The Trauma of Unnatural Catastrophe in Byron's Cain"
2. Sharon Choe, York University, UK  
"Dreams of Blindness and Losing the Self: Byron's Authority in 'Darkness'"
3. Madison Chapman, University of Chicago, USA  
"Byron and the Poetics of Decay"

**11:45 - 12:15** Coffee break

**Session Two 12:15-13:45**

Chair: David Mc Clay

1. Dana Harb, Notre Dame University, Lebanon  
"Oriental Women and Mother Nature"
2. Jana Nasr, Notre Dame University, Lebanon  
"Byron's Childe Harold's Pilgrimage and the Motherhood of Nature"
3. Professor Najj Oueijan, Notre Dame University, Lebanon  
"Lord Byron's 'Prayer of Nature'"

**14:00** Lunch at Pelada cafeteria – restaurant, Port of Messolonghi



## SESSIONS OF STUDENT PAPERS AND LECTURES

### > MONDAY 22 MAY 2017

Papers in the Conference Room of Theoxenia Hotel

#### Session Three 10:00-12:00

Chair: Professor Andrew Hubbell

1. Professor Peter Graham, Virginia Tech, USA  
"Byron, Mazeppa, and Horses"
2. Matthew Denton-Edmundson, Virginia Tech, USA  
"The Fire-ringed Scorpion in Byron's The Giaour"
3. Professor Jonathan Gross, DePaul University, USA  
"Nature's Spirits and Freemasonry in Byron's Manfred"
4. Jake Spangler, DePaul University, USA  
"This Visible World: Byron's Avatar in Manfred"

**12:00 - 12:30** Coffee break

#### Session Four 12:30-14:30

Chair: Professor Jonathan Gross

1. Professor Roderick Beaton, King's College London, UK  
"From 'Frangestan' to Frankenstein: Modern Greece as Vampire in the Work of Byron and Mary Shelley"
2. Dr. Stephen Minta, York University, UK  
"Byron and the Politics of Landscape"
3. Professor John Spalding Gatton, Bellarmine University, USA  
"Scenes Sublime": Viewing Nature through Byronic Windows
4. Deirdre Mikolajcik, University of Kentucky, USA  
"A Ruin Amidst Ruins': Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Reframing of Lord Byron's Italy"

**14:30** Lunch on your own

## SESSIONS OF STUDENT PAPERS AND LECTURES

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Two Keynote speakers will deliver their lectures related to the conference topic.

- **Dr. Christine Kenyon-Jones**, King's College London, UK  
"Byron's Response to Animals"
- **Professor Andrew Hubbell**, Susquehanna University, USA  
"In Quest of Cultural Ecology: A Romaunt and a Voyage"

### ➤ TUESDAY 23 MAY 2017

Papers in the Conference Room of Theoxenia Hotel

#### Session Fifth 10:00 - 11:30

Chair: Dr. Stephen Minta

1. Sarah Pavey, St. Thomas University, USA  
"The Nature of Disability: Ableism and the Byronic Hero"
2. Elisa Cozzi, York University, UK  
"In darkness found a dwelling place": The Prisoner of Chillon and Byron's Turn away from Nature
3. Samantha Crain, University of Minnesota, USA  
"Prisons, Nature, and The Prisoner of Chillon"

#### SIGNED

Professor Peter W. Graham, Director of International Relations of the Messolonghi Byron Center

Professor M. Byron Raizis, Director of Studies for the Messolonghi Byron Center

Mrs. Rodanthi-Rosa Florou, President of the Organizing Committee



**Lord Byron's memorial monument:** On this spot was Christos Kapsalis' house in which Byron stayed from 5 of January until 19 of April 1824 when he breathed his last. Christos Kapsalis blew up his house the night of the Exodus of 10 April 1826 including wounded people, women and children in order not to be captured by the Turks. In 1924 the University of Athens honoured the centennial of Byron's death by erecting a commemorative marble column, work of the sculptor Antonios Sochos. The granite pavement, lighting, iron grillwork, gates, and garden have been completely renovated in May 2015 with funds offered by the Messolonghi Byron Society and Byronists from abroad.

## Ευχαριστήριο

Η Βυρωνική Εταιρεία Ιεράς Πόλεως Μεσολογγίου εκφράζει τις θερμές ευχαριστίες της στους κάτωθι υποστηρικτές διότι με την γενναιόδωρη προσφορά τους το 12ο Διεθνές Φοιτητικό Συνέδριο Βύρωνος έγινε πραγματικότητα.

The Messolonghi Byron Society hereby expresses their sincerest thanks to the following institutions whose generous support made the 12th International Student Byron Conference possible.

- The International Association of Byron Societies (IABS)
- The Byron Society, London
- The Municipality of the Sacred Town of Messolonghi





THE MESSOLONGHI BYRON SOCIETY  
*International Research Center for Lord Byron & Philhellenism*

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F: Βυρωνική Εταιρεία Ιεράς Πόλεως Μεσολογγίου