

2nd Olympus Greek Dance and Culture Seminar 2012

17-26 August 2012

The seminar will be held in Pieria (the land of the ancient Thracian tribe 'Pieres' and the Muses), on the flanks of Mount Olympus, the mythological residence of the ancient Greek pantheon, and close to the coasts of the blue Aegean Sea. The seminar will take place from 17 to 26th August 2012, when most traditional feasts ('glendia' or 'panegyria') take place in the area, as well as famous festivals of traditional 'gaida' (bagpipe), and ancient Greek drama festivals in the theatre of Dion, the sacred town of the ancient Macedonians.

The seminar program will offer courses of traditional Greek dances and customs, including women's ritual dances, from different regions (Pontus, Black Sea, Serres, Drama, Pieria and Olympus) as well as lessons in traditional Greek culture, philosophy, language, music and singing from well-known teachers, researchers and musicians (Yvonne Hunt, Laura Shamon, Giorgos Pavlos, Kostas Nikolaidis, Katerina Asteriou-Kavazi, Vassilis Komatas, Panayotis Pagonidis, Vassilis Gerovasileiou, Lefteris Pavlou, Yannis Kakaras, Panayotis Pavlos, Panos Zikidis). There will also be special nights of traditional music at the seminar venue or in villages, where we will have the chance to dance with local people. Various scenic excursions and cultural tours will give the chance to admire the natural wonders of the sacred Mount Olympus, the legendary burial place of Orpheus and great examples of ancient Greek civilization, music and technology.

We are expecting you for a unique cultural experience!!!



PLACE: Pieria, Mt Olympus, Greece – around 90 km from Thessaloniki airport (easily reached by train and bus). Participants can also be transferred from the airport to the seminar venue for a small charge.

ACCOMMODATION: to be confirmed soon (half board) – *close to the beach!*

PRICE: 880 € for early registration (300 € deposit has to be paid by 30 April 2012); and 980 € for late registration from 1st May up to 30 June 2012 (final deadline) - ***THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IS LIMITED!***

GENERAL SCHEDULE:

- **17 August 2012** – Arrival after 2 pm. Registration after 6 pm. Dinner followed by informal dancing
- **18-25 August 2012** – Cultural courses, tours and ‘glendia’
- **25 August 2012** – Closing of the seminar at the famous 4th Gaida Festival of Central Macedonia
- **26 August 2012** – Departure after breakfast

DANCE COURSES: Pontos (Maten), Black Sea Coast of North Thrace (Bana, special focus on the women's ritual tradition ‘Babo’ with old women from the village of Kitros), East Macedonia (villages of the regions Drama and Serres), Central Macedonia (villages of Rachi at Pieria Mountais and Palios Panteleimon at Mount Olympus).

SPECIAL COURSES: Greek language through traditional songs, philosophy and role of dance in the Greek society, original costumes, demonstrations of musical instruments, handcrafting of traditional dolls, women's ritual dances of Greece, the Balkans and the Near East and their roots in prehistory, different rhythms of three-measure dances

TOURS: archaeological sites, traditional villages, sacred sites and places of natural beauty

MUSICAL NIGHTS: traditional ‘panegyria’ & ‘glendia’, festivals and live music

SEMINAR LANGUAGE: the formal languages of the seminar are English and Greek

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ORGANIZATION: “*Propantos*” Seminar Organization Centre & Thrace Treasury - International Academy of Culture and Communication

WEBSITES: <http://www.propantos.net/> ; www.laurashannon.net ; <http://www.tamieion.gr/>

BANK TRANSFER of 300 Euros (per person) to:

Account Name: CHATZICHIDIROGLOU, EFROSYNI

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