

3rd Meeting of Greek and Arab Poets

"Women in Greek and Arabic Poetry"

Short Biographical Details of the Participating Poetesses

Lina Nikolakopoulou



Lina Nikolakopoulou, poet and one of the most important lyricists of the Greek music scene. Her speech is complex, with critical social issues, she uses metaphors, neologisms and intense images, often surreal. Nikolakopoulou's lyrics reflect a different need for expression from the hitherto lyrical, with themes that go beyond the ordinary, become more psychographic, more personal, touching the modern concerns of people in today's world. In 2004, he was honored with the Silver Cross of the Order of the Phoenix by the President of the Republic, Kostas Stefanopoulos.

Athina Papadaki



Athina Papadaki studied Political Science and worked as a journalist; she was the producer of the radio show "Our Tales", where the children were the creators of the stories. She is a member of the Greek Writers' Society. She has published twelve collections of poetry, two books of poetry and seven books for children. Her book "With Lamp and Wolves" was awarded by the Greek Academy.

Lili Michailidou



Lili Michailidou lives and works in Nicosia. She has published 6 poetry collections. Her poems have been translated into many languages and have been published in literary magazines, newspapers, and anthologies in Cyprus and abroad. She directs the *Ideogramma* Cultural Organization, organizing literary festivals and poetry meetings.
www.lilymichaelides.com

Aisha al-Saifi



Aisha al-Saifi was born in Nizwa, Oman in 1987 and studied Civil Engineering at Sultan Qaboos University. In 2005, she began publishing literary works in Omani and Arabic newspapers. She has participated in Arab and international literary festivals across Asia, Europe, and Africa, and was the first female poet to win the Omani Poetry Festival. She has published three poetry collections: *The Sea Changes its Gown*, *The Dreams of the Tenth Girl*, and *I Don't Love My Father*. Al-Saifi publishes articles on local Omani affairs.

Nujoom Al Ghanem



Nujoom Alghanem is an Emirati poet, artist, scriptwriter, and film director. She was born in Dubai, UAE, 1962 and has published eight poetry collections in the Arabic language. Her work has been translated to English, French, Spanish, Turkish, Hindi and more. Her newest poetry collection, *"He Weaves the Air and Rain"*, is forthcoming. Nujoom is also a renowned screenwriter and filmmaker. Her films have won over 25 regional and international prizes. Her achievements in the arts have been recognized both nationally and internationally. In 2019, she was the solo artist of the UAE National Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. Alghanem started her professional career as a journalist. She was one of the founding members of the Emirates Writers' Union in 1984.

Lamia Makaddam



Lamia Makaddam was born in 1971 in Sousse, Tunisia. She began writing poetry at an early age and, despite having no female mentors in poetry, was encouraged by her family and teachers in her writing. She has written two books of poetry, and her work has been translated into English, French, Dutch, and Kurdish. She was awarded the al-Hijara Literary Prize in the Netherlands in 2000. She has an MA in Arabic language and literature and, in addition to writing, works as a translator. She has lived in the Netherlands for 20 years and currently lives in Amsterdam.

Translation of Speeches and Poems: **Persa Koumoutsis** (Arabic-Greek) and **Khaled Raouf** (Greek-Arabic)

Khaled Raouf



Khaled Raouf born in Alexandria, Egypt, studied History and Archeology at the University of Athens and theater in Greece and the USA. He holds a PhD in History from the University of Chicago and works as a researcher. He translates Greek Literature (Kazantzaki, D. Dimitriadis, K. Politis, Ritsos, Tsirkas, Grigoriadis, Koumoutsis, Sotiropoulou etc.). From English he has translated into Arabic George Bernard Shaw, Tennessee William, Samuel Beckett) and a book on African Theater and Performance of "Kene Igweonu". He collaborates with the National Translation Center, the Book Organization of Egypt and the EIP annex Alexandria.

Persa Koumoutsis



Persa Koumoutsis, is a novelist and literary translator, came to Greece after completing her studies at the University of Cairo. Since 1993 she has been engaged in the literary translation of Arabic literature. Among works translated are 15 novels of Egyptian Nobel Prize-winning writer Naguib Mahfouz, as well as numerous works of other prominent Arab writers and poets. Among others, her bibliography includes the first Anthology of Contemporary Arabic Poetry in Greek, for which she received the Hellenic Society of Literary Translators Prize. She has also been awarded the Cavafy International Prize and special honors from the Department of Greek and Italian Studies at Al-Azhar University for her overall work that amounts to over 35 titles. She has also been distinguished for promoting the intercultural dialogue between Greek and Arabic culture through her overall work. Currently she is directing the Centre of Greek and Arabic Literature and Culture.

Persa Koumoutsis Website [HERE](#)