



IARPS NEWS

February – March 2022

Link:

https://greekcitytimes.com/2022/02/14/the-greek-gods-are-coming-home/?fbclid=IwAR3bIUvGcRgnZsdr85IgdUcE_-HVe3ZRhuELWkcO3fc0FASaFg0c72XpceE

14 February 2022

The Greek gods are coming home

George Vardas, co-vice president of the Australian Parthenon Committee, on the long-term loan exchange between the Acropolis Museum and the Antonino Salinas Museum in Palermo. He also comments on the meeting between the Ministers of Culture of Italy and Greece.

Source: Greek City Times

16 February 2022

Why Parthenon replicas should go to Greece

In a letter to the Guardian Michael Daley, the Director of ArtWatch UK, writes that it would make more sense to send facsimiles of the sculptures to Athens and that the offer of the Institute for Digital Archaeology in Oxford is short-sighted.

Link:

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2022/feb/16/why-parthenon-replicas-should-go-to-greece>

According to him it would be much more beneficial to make two sets of all the surviving Parthenon sculptures: one to be installed on the Parthenon building itself and another in the Acropolis Museum which was unwisely constructed on stilts above a major archaeological site in an earthquake zone.

He continues that such a project would retain the inestimable benefits of large culturally comparative museums like the British Museum and the Louvre. It would help deflate regressive nationalistic calls for a kind of cultural cleansing in which all works of art are returned to their (geographical) countries of origin.

Source: The Guardian

27 February 2022

Restoration of the Parthenon should be celebrated

Alf Dubs, British Parliament – House of Lords, replies to the letter by Michael Daley in The Guardian of February 16:

“It was with some surprise that I read the reunification of parts of one of the greatest works of classic antiquity described as a herald of ‘cultural

Link:

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2022/feb/27/restoration-of-the-parthenon-should-be-celebrated>

cleansing' in a letter (16 February) on the question of the return of the Parthenon sculptures.

Setting legal questions aside, the Parthenon stands as one of the wonders of ancient antiquity. Crafted by Phidias, commissioned by Pericles, it stood as a celebration of the city of Athens, its democracy, and its goddess Athena. It is one integral work of art, reunifying the remaining parts of which would be an act of extraordinary reverence for and appreciation of our shared human heritage."

Source: The Guardian

2 March 2022

The Parthenon Sculptures and the day of their return

George Vardas, co-vice president of the Australian Parthenon Committee, reporting on the repatriation of Greek antiquities from New York to Greece. The antiquities were retrieved thanks to the excellent cooperation between the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports and the Manhattan district Attorney's Office Antiquities Trafficking Unit.

The event took place in the presence of the Hellenic Minister of Culture and Sports Dr Lina Mendoni who repeated, once more, that the Parthenon Sculptures belong to Greece and must be reunited with the mutilated monument. She pointedly added that the international climate is extremely positive for Greece's legal and moral request that the Parthenon, the symbol of Western civilisation and democracy, must have its integrity finally restored.

Source: Greek City Times

Link:

<https://greekcitytimes.com/2022/03/02/the-parthenon-sculptures-and-the-day-of-their-return/?fbclid=IwAR1b81yOXfRckguGYpoiYUQkZ3tVETNKidpcx4yivnJm2euuhjq4mrx0U8w>

Link:

https://www.greeknewsagenda.gr/topics/culture-society/7633-a-new-era-for-the-restitution-of-the-parthenon-marbles?fbclid=IwAR0nggsGvYh4pUyLQHP4bg4rcfLAPsF_qaMxoT1POKBoxUfKC3ulJijl3E

2 March 2022

A new era for the restitution of the Parthenon Marbles

An overview of all recent developments, during 2021 and upon today. Numerous quite breaking news moments!

Source: Greek News Agenda

Link:

https://cultura.gov.it/comunicato/22375?fbclid=IwAR3UYazE9WQGftWPw60AH0BQRBDY_TbZnyKBkW7J86Bpw7WrOCGbBPV_UJg

3 March 2022

Franceschini: giornata storica per tutela e protezione del patrimonio culturale

A historic day, a big step forward in the protection of the cultural heritage and the struggle against the illicit traffic of artefacts, as the Italian Parliament voted unanimously a new law.

Source: Ministry of Culture – Italy

5 March 2022

Europe's museums, big and small, grapple with cultural restitution

Link:

<https://www.euronews.com/culture/2022/03/05/europe-s-museums-big-and-small-grapple-with-cultural-restitution>

Museums across Europe are taking a critical look at their collections with a view to returning them to their places of origin.

So what does cultural restitution mean in practice? According to Dan Hicks, professor of Contemporary Archaeology at the University of Oxford, and the author of the recent book *British Museums* which explores issues around cultural restitution, repatriation, and the decolonisation of museums, there is a lot of misreporting of what the restitution question is about.

Source: Euronews Culture

8 March 2022

Tom Flynn's keynote speech on International Women's Day at the Acropolis Museum

Link:

<https://www.parthenonuk.com/news/articles-and-research/26-articles-and-research/625-tom-flynn-s-keynote-speech-on-international-women-s-day-at-the-acropolis-museum?fbclid=IwAR1-B2Z1jvPqDpREdZxPH4ZcYIzQYwo8OuLEbsQ9DbQv0iqQfq91VICrO40>

"But now that we have this beautiful museum with its purpose-built Parthenon Galleries, there is surely no more appropriate moment at which to return the London specimens to Athens. What a deeply symbolic gesture it would be to unify a group of objects that until now have been a source of controversy and division. Would that gesture not resonate around the world?"

Source: British Committee for the Reunification of the Parthenon Marbles (BCRPM) website

9 March 2022

The expatriate goddesses of the Parthenon – International Women's Day, 8 March 2022 at the Acropolis Museum

Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/parthenonsculpturesreunitediarps>

On the occasion of the event *The expatriate goddesses of the Parthenon, The Silents' Fragments*, composed by Lena Platonos and performed by Maria Farantouri, was presented in the Parthenon Gallery, in collaboration with the Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation.

General Director of the Acropolis Museum, Prof. Nikos Stampolidis:
... "Ancient goddesses, female substances with name and identity, molded by imagination, faith and the beliefs of a human centred culture, like the ancient Greek, carved in marble by hands that infuse spirit in matter, Athena, Demeter, Iris, Artemis, Aphrodite, Dione, Hestia, violently taken, mutilated, figures that cannot rest but under the Attic sun, being for years far away from their native land, the Parthenon, where they belong, longing their *nostos* (homecoming), the expatriates."
...

Source: Facebook Acropolis Museum (@theacropolismuseum)

Link:

<https://greekherald.com.au/politics/federal-labor-calls-british-museum-return-parthenon-marbles-greece/?fbclid=IwAR2IXQbbNCr5YQ-IA9vPduQUQi-vqhxIjE4ulDwu5EAnxx0uEBE uDes bN1M>

10 March 2022

Federal Labor calls on the British Museum to return the Parthenon Marbles to Greece

Federal Shadow Minister for the Arts, Tony Burke, has tabled an official motion in the Australian Parliament calling for the Parthenon Marbles to be returned to their rightful home in Greece.

Source: The Greek Herald Australia



11 March 2022

The Acropolis Museum abroad: Toronto, Canada, Royal Ontario Museum

Kore 670, one of the most beautiful Korai of the Acropolis, travelled to Canada sending a message of friendship, cooperation and trust between Canadians and Greeks. It will be on display at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto until September 25, 2022, introducing to the Canadian public important aspects of ancient Greek culture, the Acropolis and its Museum.

Source: Facebook Acropolis Museum (@theacropolismuseum)

18 March 2022

Στη Δικαιοσύνη κατά του Βρετανικού Μουσείου για τα Γλυπτά προσφεύγει το Ινστιτούτο Ψηφιακής Αρχαιολογίας [The Institute of Digital Archaeology takes the British Museum to court for the Parthenon Sculptures]

The Institute of Digital Archaeology in Oxford takes the British Museum to court after its request to scan the Parthenon Sculptures on display in Room 18 of the Museum was denied without any explanation. Scanning the Sculptures would make it possible to create exact replicas of the Sculptures, as the Director of the IDA proposed some weeks ago.

Source: TA NEA

Link:

<https://www.tanea.gr/print/2022/03/18/lifearts/institutou-psifiakis-arxaiologias-egkalei-vretaniko-mouseio/>

23 March 2022

British Museum to face court after rejecting request for 3D scan of Parthenon Marbles

The Institute of Digital Archaeology's request was to deliver a "proof-of-concept" to copy of the marbles and ultimately to allow the originals to return to Greece.

It was a proposal that was praised in a 14 February editorial by influential English newspaper *The Times* which said the 3 D printing "could allow the marbles to return to Athens".

Link:

<https://neoskosmos.com/en/2022/03/23/news/greece/british-museum-to-face-court-after-rejecting-request-for-3d-scan-of-parthenon-marbles/>

Source: Neos Kosmos

24 March 2022

Link:

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/03/24/stealth-3d-scans-elgin-marbles-could-support-call-return-greece/>

Stealth 3D scans of Elgin Marbles could support the call for their return to Greece

Source: The Telegraph

28 March 2022

Link:

<https://www.tanea.gr/print/2022/03/28/lifearts/to-skandarisma-ton-glypton-kai-o-neos-polemos/>

**Το σκανάρισμα των Γλυπτών και ο νέος «πόλεμος»
[The scanning of the Sculptures and the new “war”]**

The Institute of Digital Archaeology in Oxford rejects the accusation by the British Museum that it violated the rules concerning the scanning of the exhibits.

Yannis Andritsopoulos reporting from London.

Source: TA NEA

28 March 2022

Link:

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/british-museum-accused-of-gross-distortion-by-elgin-marbles-scanner-xgphnswvb>

British Museum accused of ‘gross distortion’ by Elgin Marbles scanner

A team from the Institute of Digital Archaeology in Oxford scanned the ancient sculptures and intends to make exact replicas in an effort to break a “200-year logjam” and allow the originals to be returned to Greece. The Institute rejects the accusation by the British Museum that the unauthorised 3D scans had breached its rules concerning.

Source: The Times

29 March 2022

Link:

https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2022/mar/29/british-museum-facing-legal-action-parthenon-marbles-3d-scan-refusal?CMP=Share_AndroidApp_Other&fbclid=IwAR2Vy_uJJZs6mgGFnGIGqLzj_YaG2dywmum1TIXwgTtFqGmL1apoSwTQ3s

British Museum facing legal action over Parthenon marbles 3D scan refusal

The British Museum is facing legal action from one of the UK’s leading heritage preservation organisations over its refusal to allow the 3D scanning of a piece in its Parthenon marbles collection.

The Institute for Digital Archaeology (IDA) said it would serve an injunction against the museum imminently, raising the stakes in the dispute between the two.

Peter Higgs, the museum’s acting keeper of Greek and Roman antiquities, conceded that digital scanning of the 5th century BC sculptures could “unlock new discoveries”, but the IDA was told by email that its request could not be facilitated, five weeks after it was made.

Source: The Guardian

Upcoming events

6 April 2022

Conference “The Reunification of the Monuments of the Acropolis”

ΠΡΟΣΚΛΗΣΗ

Ο Πειραιϊκός Σύνδεσμος
σε συνεργασία με το Αρχείο Πολιτισμού
σας προσκαλούν
στην επιστημονική εκδήλωση με θέμα:

«Η Επανάωση των Μνημείων της Ακρόπολης»

Τετάρτη 6 Απριλίου 2022, ώρα 17:30.

Μέγαρο Πειραιϊκού Συνδέσμου
Αίθουσα Βαρόνου Κίμωνος Ράλλη



ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ

- 17:45 Χαιρετισμοί
- 18:00 **Δρ Πολυξένη Αδάμ –Βελένη**, Αρχαιολόγος, Θεατρολόγος, Γεν. Διευθύντρια Αρχαιοτήτων και Πολιτιστικής Κληρονομιάς, Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού
«Επαναπατρισμοί και Διεκδικήσεις Αρχαιοτήτων του Υπουργείου Πολιτισμού. Τα Μάρμαρα του Παρθενώνα»
- 18:20 **Δρ Έλενα Κόρκα**, Επίτιμη Γεν. Διευθύντρια Αρχαιοτήτων και Πολιτιστικής Κληρονομιάς, Υπ. Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού
«Οι Αρχαιϊκές μαρτυρίες για την αφάρωση των Γλυπτών του Παρθενώνα από τον Α. Έλγιν»
- 18:40 **Geoffrey Robertson**, Νομικός, εντεταλμένος συνήγορος της Βασιλίσσας της Αγγλίας, ειδικευμένος στα ανθρώπινα δικαιώματα, ιδρυτής της μεγαλύτερης νομικής κοινοπραξίας στην Ευρώπη που ασχολείται με ανθρώπινα δικαιώματα "Doughty Street Chambers", επισκέπτης καθηγητής στο Queen Mary Πανεπιστήμιο στο Λονδίνο, συγγραφέας του βιβλίου «Σε ποιον ανήκει η ιστορία;», φιλέλληνας
"How to get the marbles back", "Πώς να πάρουμε πίσω τα μάρμαρα"
- 19:00 **Ειρήνη Σταματούδη, LL.M, Ph.D.** Καθηγήτρια Νομικής Πανεπιστήμιο Λευκωσίας
«Η Εξέλιξη της επιχειρηματολογίας Ελλάδας και Βρετανίας για τα Μάρμαρα του Παρθενώνα»
- 19:20 **Γεώργιος Βάρδας**, τ. Γραμ. Διεθνούς Επιτροπής για την Επανάωση των Γλυπτών του Παρθενώνα. Γραμ. του Αυστραλοελληνικού Συμβουλίου
«Fighting for the Marbles: recent developments in the campaign for the reunification of the Parthenon Sculptures»
- 19:40 **Δρ Άγγελος Νακάσης - Δρ Αθανάσιος Νακάσης**, Πρόεδρος Ελληνικού ICOMOS
«Μάρμαρα Παρθενώνας - Ελληνικές και Διεθνείς Θέσεις για την επιστροφή τους»
- 20:00 **Μαρία Α. Βέργου**, Πάρεδρος του Νομικού Συμβουλίου του Κράτους, Υ.Δ. ΜΔΕ
«Η Επανάωση των Μνημείων της Ακρόπολης υπό το πρίσμα του Διεθνούς Δικαίου»

Θα ακολουθήσει μικρή δεξίωση

28 April 2022

Conference “The Parthenon Marbles Case and the Universal Museum Myth: Policies and Politics”

For the programme and registration: follow the link.

https://go.yu.edu/youre-invited-to-the-parthenon-marbles-case-and-the-universal-museum-myth-policies-and-politics?hs_preview=odrCwptk-69106455343

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