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# TWICE A STRANGER

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## Forced Displacement and Population Exchange in the 20th Century

[www.twiceastranger.net](http://www.twiceastranger.net)

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### BENAKI MUSEUM

Main Building - 1 Koumbari Str. & Vas. Sofias

Opening: September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 20.00

Dates: September 19<sup>th</sup> - November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Opening Hours: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 09.00-17.00, Thursday 09.00-24.00, Sunday 9.00-15.00

Monday, Tuesday: closed

In Greek and English

[www.benaki.gr](http://www.benaki.gr)

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‘**Twice a Stranger**’ is an exhibition about the greatest forced migrations and population exchanges of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when millions of people were uprooted and forced to move to new homelands.

Personal testimonies and rare archive footage are combined in multimedia video installations that bring visitors face-to-face with the survivors of these traumatic events. Through four themes (history, journey, home and trauma), the exhibition travels from the Greek-Turkish exchange in 1922-24 to the German-Polish forced migration at the end of World War II, the Partition of India and the Cyprus crisis’ in the 1960’s and 1970’s.

These personal testimonies reveal a common experience of lost homelands and communities dissolved: the story of people who will always feel ‘Twice a Stranger’.

The exhibition has been created by the Greek production company Anemon, with the support of the Culture Programme of the EU. It is co-organized by the University of Oxford, the Benaki Museum, the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, the Istanbul-Bilgi University and the *Tolle Idee!* The exhibition is supported by ERT, the A.G. Leventis Foundation, the Goethe Institut, the British Council, the Athens Concert Hall (Megaron), the Greek Council for Refugees and the Centre for Asia Minor Studies (Athens).

The exhibition has already been shown in Istanbul and Nicosia. It will open in Athens on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September at the Benaki Museum, 90 years after the Asia Minor Catastrophe. In March 2013, the exhibition will travel to the Army Museum in Stockholm, before opening in Luxembourg and other European destinations.



## EVENTS AT THE BENAKI MUSEUM

The exhibition “Twice a Stranger” at the Benaki Museum includes the following parallel events:

### > LIVE STORYTELLING and CHILDREN’S BOOK

Every Sunday, from September 23<sup>rd</sup> - November 25<sup>th</sup> 2012, children and adults can attend a live performance of ‘The Promise’ at the Benaki Museum. ‘The Promise’ is inspired by the historical events that happened during the exchange of populations between Greece and Turkey, as a result of the Greek Catastrophe in the Asia Minor expedition (1922-23).

The story is written by UK Storyteller Anna Conomos, in collaboration with *Storyspinner*, a creative storytelling team based in London. It is also screened within the exhibition in Greek, performed by actress and educator Efi Vlahogianni.



‘The Promise’ is also available on DVD and as a children’s book based on rare archive photos, which have been illustrated in color by artist Daniela Stamatiadis. The book is accompanied by lesson plans for history and English language classes, which have been written by Christina Koulouri (Professor of Political Science and Modern History, Panteion University) and Katerina Vlahou (educationalist and storytelling teacher).

‘The Promise’ has been produced with the support of the British Council under its “Our Shared Europe” programme ([www.britishcouncil.gr](http://www.britishcouncil.gr)), which seeks to find common ground and build shared values, that are based on mutual respect, understanding and trust. In particular, it looks at how we can acknowledge the contribution of diverse communities and cultures - both in the past but also in the present - to the shaping of contemporary European civilisation and society

*Information and booking, Benaki Museum: Monday -Thursday 10.00-14.00, tel 210 3671015  
“The Promise” is sold at the Benaki Museum shop and at bookstores from mid-September 2012 (Potamos Editions).*

*The video and lesson plans can be found on the exhibition website [www.twiceastranger.net](http://www.twiceastranger.net)  
To order or to organise a live telling of the story, please contact Electra Peppas tel. 210 7211073.  
[info@anemon.gr](mailto:info@anemon.gr)*

### > THE MEMORY TREE

Throughout the duration of the exhibition, visitors of all ages can write and add their thoughts, experiences or memories and attach their notes on a “Memory Tree”. This installation, in the form of a tree, develops with the continuous participation of the public.



Schools and educational organisations can also take active part in the “Memory Tree”. Children collect family photos or memories and other materials from home or their neighbourhood, prior to visiting the museum or write short narratives and thoughts about the experience of being “Twice A Stranger”. These notes are hung on the memory tree.

Teachers can also develop the idea of a Memory Tree as an independent project in the classroom (in collaboration with the Kypseli Oral History Group).



## DOCUMENTARY FILM SCREENINGS IN THE BENAKI MUSEUM AUDITORIUM

Documentaries about Asia Minor and Cyprus are screened throughout the day on Saturdays and Sundays, from 22/9 to 25/11/2012 (apart from Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October). The screenings take place in the Benaki Museum Auditorium (Koumbari 1 & Vas. Sofias) during the museum's opening hours. The films aim to help the general public gain a deeper understanding of the social, political and cultural consequences of population exchanges in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The films include:



### TWICE A STRANGER

Directed by Andreas Apostolidis & Yuri Averof, 52' - 2011 (Greece, ERT/Anemon)  
In Greek, English, & Turkish with Greek subtitles.

The film examines the historical background that led to the Treaty of Lausanne in 1923, and in parallel gives voice to surviving refugees on both sides of the border. The enormous consequences of population transfer, told through the common ground of human experience.



### WOMEN OF CYPRUS

Directed by Vasiliki Katrivanou, 70' - 2011 (USA-Cyprus)  
In Greek & Turkish with Greek subtitles.

In the spring of 2004, Maria, a Greek Cypriot, and Zehra, a Turkish Cypriot, cross the green line dividing Cyprus since the war of 1974, to visit family homes they have not seen for thirty years. The film follows them through their past, haunted by war and pain, to their present search for reconciliation and common ground.



### MY SWEET CANARY

Directed by Roy Sher, 60' (Israel, Greece, France)  
In Greek, Hebrew, Turkish and English with Greek subtitles.

The story of three young musicians from Greece, Turkey and Israel that embark on an exciting musical journey, to reveal the story of the first and most famous Greek-Jewish Rebetiko singer, Roza Eskenazi. From Istanbul to Thessaloniki and Athens, the film brings to life a forgotten world in which different ethnic and religious groups peacefully co-existed.



### MUSICAL JOURNEY WITH DOMNA SAMIOY/ CAPPADOCIA-FARASA

Directed by Fotos Lamprinos, 36' - 1977 (Greece, ERT)  
In Greek

The documentary explores the musical traditions of Farasa in Cappadocia. Domna Samiou talks with refugees from Farasa, who resettled in the village of Platy in Thrace. There are extensive references to the history, geography and cultural traditions of Farasa, as well as to the lives of its inhabitants. In parallel, the documentary includes songs and dances from the region.



### TRIBUTE TO DOMNA SAMIOY

Directed by Dafne Tzaferi - 56' - 1977 (Greece, EPT). In Greek

George Papastefanou's programme follows Domna Samiou as she collects and records Greek traditional songs. It reveals her invaluable contribution to preserving the musical traditions of Greece. Domna Samiou performs «Tzivaeri», «Georgitsa», «Armenaki» and «Samarina» and sings with Dionysis Savvopoulos.



### THE DIVISION OF CYPRUS

Directed by Andreas Apostolidis & Yuri Averof, 52' - 2011 (Greece, ERT/Anemon).  
In Greek, English, & Turkish with Greek subtitles.

From the outbreak of community violence in 1963/4, to the Greek Cypriot military coup in 1974 and the subsequent Turkish invasion, 180 000 Greek Cypriots were forcibly displaced to the south of the island and 50.000 Turkish Cypriots were forcibly displaced to the north.

## SCREENING HOURS

Saturday	09.15 - 10.07	TWICE A STRANGER
	10.30 - 11.40	WOMEN OF CYPRUS
	12.00 - 13.20	MY SWEET CANARY
	13.40 - 14.15	MUSICAL JOURNEY WITH DOMNA SAMIOY/ CAPPADOCIA
	14.35 - 15.30	TRIBUTE TO DOMNA SAMIOY
	15.50 - 16.35	THE DIVISION OF CYPRUS
Sunday	09.15 - 10.00	THE DIVISION OF CYPRUS
	10.20 - 11.10	TWICE A STRANGER
	11.30 - 12.50	MY SWEET CANARY
	13.10 - 13.40	MUSICAL JOURNEY WITH DOMNA SAMIOY/ CAPPADOCIA
	14.00 - 14.56	TRIBUTE TO DOMNA SAMIOY

*Information and reservations: Benaki Museum, Mon.-Thur. 10.00 -14.00, tel. 210 3671 015*

Documentary screenings for school classes and other educational groups visiting the museum can be arranged. After the screenings, students are encouraged to develop opinions and arguments about historical events and explore the meaning of identity: how in the past, multi-ethnic societies permitted different ethnic and religious groups to peacefully co-exist.

*Information and reservations:*

*Benaki Museum educational department, Mon.-Thur. 10.00 -15.00, tel. 210 3671 067-070*

### > 'CULINARY JOURNEYS ACROSS THE WORLD' AT THE BENAKI MUSEUM

On Thursdays, during the exhibition duration, the Benaki Museum Restaurant organises gastronomic nights. Visitors can taste specially designed menus with wine and ingredients from different regions.

More specifically, these events include: India (20/9), the Pontus (27/9) and Asia Minor (11, 18 and 25/10). On Thursday 11/10 visitors can listen to music from Asia Minor performed by Vivi Voutsela and the group "Dithen".



*For more information about the culinary journeys: Benaki Museum, opening hours, central building (Koumbari 1), tel. 210 36 71 084*

## PARALLEL EVENTS

### > "TWICE A STRANGER" AT THE MEGARON ATHENS CONCERT HALL

The Megaron Athens Concert Hall presents an educational performance dedicated to "Twice a Stranger" on October 21, 2012 at 11:30am. Through music, dance, storytelling, food and video, the event explores the wealth and diversity of the musical traditions brought to Greece by refugees from Turkey in 1922-24.

*Information: ANEMON Productions, Elektra Peppas, tel. 210 7211 073, info@anemon.gr*

### > DOCUMENTARY SCREENING "THE DIVISION OF CYPRUS" AT THE FRENCH INSTITUTE

Screening of "The Division of Cyprus" on Wednesday, September 19th at 20.00, at the French Institute in Athens (31 Sina Str). The screening is part of the documentary festival CineDoc, in collaboration with the Department of Political Science and History of the Panteion University. A panel discussion will follow, with academics Sia Anagnostopoulou (Panteion University), Ayhan Aktar (Istanbul-Bilgi University) and Harry Tzimitras (Head of PRIO in Cyprus). The discussion will be moderated by Christina Koulouri (Panteion University).

*The film and discussion will be in Greek.*

## FURTHER INFORMATION

ANEMON productions, t: +30 210 7211073 e: [info@anemon.gr](mailto:info@anemon.gr)

## PRESS KIT/PHOTOGRAPHS

<https://docs.google.com/folder/d/0B4MuB-svbee5Mm1KbGVSWDMzTFk/edit>

# TWICE A STRANGER

Forced Displacement and Population  
Exchange in the 20th Century

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with the support of  
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