



Between two worlds: the British Council and Anglo-Greek literary interactions, 1945-1955

This conference will be held at the British School at Athens, Souedias 52, Athens, on 27 and 28 January 2012. All sessions will take place in the Upper House.

The conference will aim to assess the contribution of the British Council to the development and promotion of Greek literature during this period and to a greater appreciation of Greek culture among Britons, as well as to a greater appreciation of British culture and English literature among Greeks. It will also aim to investigate the cultural, political and ideological background to these activities. Papers will be given by academic researchers from Britain, Greece and the USA. In addition, a number of people who were connected with the Council's activities at the time will talk about their experiences.

The language of the conference will be English, with the exception of one paper in Greek.

Friday, 27 January

10 a.m. Welcome and introductory remarks

Professor Peter Mackridge (University of Oxford and King's College London)

10.30-12.00. Session 1. The political context

Professor Robert Holland (Institute for Commonwealth Studies and King's College London):
"Britain and the civil war in Greece"

Jim Potts, OBE (former British Council Regional Director, Northern Greece): "Cultural relations and the 'non-political' problem: two political novels"

Sir Michael Llewellyn-Smith, KCVO CMG (sometime British Ambassador to Greece):
"Steven Runciman in Athens: letters home"

12.30-2.00. Session 2. The British Council-sponsored periodicals

Professor Dimitris Tziovas (University of Birmingham): "Between propaganda and modernism: the *Anglo-Greek Review* and the rediscovery of Greece"

Dr Avi Sharon (New York): "George Katsimbalis: An Anglo-Greek Colossus"

Professor Theodosios Pylarinos (Ionian University, Corfu): "Το κερκυραϊκό περιοδικό *Πρόσπερος* και το Παράρτημα του Βρετανικού Συμβουλίου της Κέρκυρας"

7.00-8.30. Session 3. Some eyewitness recollections

Speakers will include Geoffrey Graham-Bell and Nanos Valaoritis.

Saturday, 28 January

10.00-11.30. Session 4. Anglo-Greek literary encounters: the role of individuals

Professor David Ricks (King's College London): "MacNeice in Greece"

Professor David Roessel (Richard Stockton College of New Jersey): "Gone native: Francis King at the British Council in Athens, 1949-1956"

Professor David Holton (University of Cambridge): "Kazantzakis in Cambridge"

12.00-1.30. Session 5. Round-table discussion: Archiving the past and future research agendas

Chair: Professor Roderick Beaton (King's College London)



The conference is sponsored by the British School in partnership with the British Council. It will be open to all, without charge and without prior registration.

The organizers of the conference would like to thank Matti and Nicholas Egon for their generous contribution to the expenses of the conference. They are also grateful to the British Council for its support, to the British School at Athens for hosting the conference and for providing financial and organizational support, and to King's College London for further financial support.

For further information contact the organizers:

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The image reproduced at the top of this document is "Tin Olive Oil Can" (1955) by John Craxton.