

## **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 1**

Goodmorning!

Welcome to ELIA! My name is Maria Arvanitaki. I am a librarian and the library supervisor.

Thank you for coming here! I would like to ask, did you choose to come to our library... (περιμένουμε αν απαντήσει κάποιος) Anyone? please, wants to say something? To introduce himself... Ok... thank you lets move on

It's nice having you here! Well after the presentation we will go a tour to the buildings of ELIA, and then we will take coffee and saome snack at the roofgarden of the building.

Before we start let me tell you some things about ELIA, when I came here. I am working at ELIA since 2000 and it's a second home to me. There was only one more librarian and this old building – which has been built in 1925 – was full of boxes and piles of books and other printed material. It took one year to put the material on the shelves. Then we realized that we didn't know what we have, there were some old card catalog, so we started to record the material using the Advance program that ELIA decided to buy at that time. Today, after 19 years the 80 per cent of that material has been recorded. Because of the crisis many things that we had planned, didn't happen, especially those concerning the building. It is an old building, we have many problems, But the last two years some partial renovation was made and will continue aw far aw we know.

(Every day we discover something new through ELIA collections.)

and let the librarians Maria Kokologianni and Margarita Papadoulou show you ELIA, one of the most important libraries and archives of Greece.

## **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 2**

The Hellenic Literary and Historical Archive is also known as ELIA (ΕΛΙΑ), where the acronym is an abbreviation for: Ελληνικό Λογοτεχνικό και Ιστορικό Αρχείο

It's a cultural non-profit organization.

ELIA is the biggest private archive and the third library in Greece, concerning the richness of the collection.

The logo of ELIA is a drawing of a type of greek ancient jar (pottery), called κάνθαρος (kantharos), that the founder of ELIA, Manos Charitatos made himself.

## **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 3**

1960: in the decade of 1960, Manos Charitatos with his best friend, the historian Dimitris Portolos, started to collect archives, printed material and other things about history of Greece since 1800. At the beginning they storaged the material in

apartments all around Athens. Soon researchers started to show interest and it was obvious that those men had created something more than just a personal archive.

1980: In 1980 the Hellenic Literary and Historical Archive was founded by Dimitris Portolos and Manos Charitatos, who became the President of the organization. A group of historians, writers and researchers supported their dream and created a club named the Friends of ELIA.

1990: In 1990, Friends of ELIA managed to gather money, buy and renovate this building, which, along with the building on the opposite site of the street and also with many storages around the area, became the home of ELIA collection.

1997: Few years later, in 1997, the branch of Elia in Thessaloniki was created. A big part of the collections of ELIA that involve the history of Northern Greece is kept there.

2009: Since 2009, ELIA is part of the Cultural Foundation of National Bank of Greece.

2012: Until his death, at December 27, 2012, Manos Charitatos managed with his passion, faith, presistance and μεράκι to create one of the most important cultural foundations in Greece. He traced and preserved precious material which under different circumstances, might have been lost for ever. His dream came true, and he built a home for historical treasures of modern Greece, with open accessibility to researchers and visitors. Manos, was the soul and the motive force of ELIA and remains the source of inspiration for us, his friends and collaborators, his family, as he considered us. We miss him.

#### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 4**

The aim of ELIA is to collect, preserve, organize, study and publish archival and printed material of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries relating to the historical and intellectual development of Greece and to maintain an open cultural foundation for the research community

Elia has also turned to the wider public by organizing exhibitions and research programs and publishing books thus bringing people closer to the history and culture of Greece. It also collaborates with cultural foundations and many libraries in Greece and all over the world.

#### **Collections**

The Elia collection covers in every way the historical and cultural evolution of Greece during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. After forty years of operation ELIA has achieved to preserve archives of important persons, rare books, periodicals and newspapers, photos, postcards, maps, sheets of music, theatrical programs, ephemeral items, in general any kind of printed material and old objects.

#### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 5**

Lets take a look at the collections of ELIA

### At First, the Historical and Literary Archives

The archival collections of Elia consist of more than 1300 archives of historic, economic, literary, industrial content. For example we have the archives of Kolokotronis family (Theodoros Kolokotronis was one of the main leaders in Greek Revolution of 1821). The archive of Charilaos Trikoupis, the prime minister of Greece who connected his name with huge construction works which took place in Greece, after the liberation from Ottoman Empire, like Isthmus of Korinthos. The archive of El. Venizelos, the famous prime minister of Greece, the creator of Great Idea. The Patriarchate of Alexandria 's archive. Also archives of poets and writers like Aristotle Valaoritis, Konstantinos Cavafis, Stratis Tsirkas and others.

You see there, an original poem of Kavafis, and Seferis (the winner of Νομπελ Λογοτεχνίας in 1979), the document της κύρηξης του πολέμου στην..... in 1912, a letter was written by Theod. Kolokotronis

### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 6**

#### Artistic Archive

The artistic collection has more than ..... archives of greek actors and actresses, theatre and cinema directors, and playwrights like Alexis Minotis, Katina Paxinou, Elli Lampeti, Marios Ploritis. The collection also contains movie posters of movies and theatrical programs and similar items concerning Karagiozis, the greek Shadow theatre.

### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 7**

#### Photographic archive

The Photographic archive contains more than 400.000 photos from the middle of 19th until the end of 20th century. It contains vintage prints, portraits of important persons, like politicians, writers, poets, artists, financial figures and unknown persons in their every day life. Also, landscapes and documentary photographs from through out the greek world and pictures from the important historical events like Balkan Wars, Greco-Turkish War of 1921-1922, World wars etc. There are archives of professional and non professional(amateur;; 😊) photographers. The archive also contains the postcards collection, that is considered one of the richest in Greece.

### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 8**

#### The cartographic archive

The cartographic archive holds more than 2000 maps between 1830-1950 focusing on greek land.

#### Ephemerals

The scientific interest of the ephemeral documents is recent, so ELIA, thanks to Manos Charitatos once again (ephemerals were one of his favourite collections) is one of the

first organizations in Greece that cared about the preservation and the optimal use of this material. The collection contains advertisements, receipts, invoices, labels, packaging material and other pictorial and informational material, which were made for certain purpose and without any intention to maintain after use. Now, this material is complementary to the research of economic and social history.

## **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 9**

### Old items

Another interesting collection of Elia is the old items of every day life, professional and industrial use: clothes, hats, cashiers machines, toys, radios, bottles, cameras, household goods, pharmacy items, tin boxes etc.

## **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 10**

### And now lets talk about the

#### Library

The Library of ELIA contains more than 120.000 titles and more than 300.000 volumes. Is considered as one of the most important libraries and in specific parts the most informed libraries of Greece. (That's way is the third library in Greece.)

Digital collection: An important part of the Collection – about 100.000 items (books, press, photos, postcards, archive material, ephemerals etc.) - has been digitized and the digital material is available to the researchers through the website of ELIA, or in other digital libraries, that we collaborate with.

### Donations

The 80% of the material has been gathered through donations. We accept - every year - 20 new archives, 15 additions to already existing archives and 10.000 (72 donations) of printed material.

### Research center

The library is the heart and the main research center of ELIA.

Hundreds of researchers for the human science field, from Greece and all over the world, support their projects to the Archives and Library of ELIA every year.

Every year we have 350 researchers to archival collections (όλα τα αρχεία) and 485 requests of using archives. 800 researchers to the library and 1800 requests of using printed material. The OUTCOME OF THE research is more than 400 studies, researches, dissertations, projects, writing articles and books, documentaries, movies, tv serials etc.

### Librarian and assistants

Two librarians and three assistants compose the staff of the library. The Collections are classified according to international standards and the access is free for the

researchers. Librarians, archivists, historians, philologists, and assistant staff, have the responsibility of the organization, the protection, the study, the development, and the disposal of the material to the research community. We are few, we need more, but we have the passion and love for what we are doing here.

### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 11**

Library contains:

18.000 greek books published in 19<sup>th</sup> century. The 7.600 of them have been digitalized. More than 4.000 are unique. The collection is considered as the most complete in the world and it is the most popular collection of the Library. It includes all kind of subjects (literature, history, physical science, medicine, religion books, books for children etc. ) and it is also the base of the Greek bibliography of 19<sup>th</sup> century, which since 1997 references the printing material that was published in Greece and all over the world. This material is a part of ANEMH, the Digital Library of Modern Greek Studies, which provides simple and quick access to a rich collection of digitalized material related to Modern Greek Studies. Apart from finding bibliographic information, the researcher can also browse the documents themselves in electronic form. There you may find a great number of old and rare documents, as well as recent publications for which their creators allowed the digitilization and free distribution over the Internet.

### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 12**

20.000 literary books of 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Library has unique editions of the first printing works of great Greek poets and writers.

10.000 history books of 20<sup>th</sup> century, that present the Greek history from ancient Greece to now days.

11.000 regional or native books of 20<sup>th</sup> century. This collection is one of the most interesting as contains books which refer to history, folklore, tradition and the culture of specific areas, places, towns, villages of Greece.

### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 13**

4.500 greek school textbooks of 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>th</sup> century -It is also the most complete collection. 1000 of them are unique, and 2000 of them have been digitalised and are the base of the digital Historical Collection of school textbooks of the Institute of Educational Policy. We have planned to expand this digital collection, this coming September.

2.500 greek books for children of 20<sup>th</sup> century. One of the most beloved collections of Manos Charitatos. The collection consists of children's books written by famous greek and foreign authors like Pinelopi Delta, Andreas Karkavitsas, Jules Vern, Enid Blyton... The books of this collection offer unique images made by important greek illustrators and painters and were edited and translated in greek by great greek authors ( like Kazantzakis, Alexiou, Varnalis etc).

#### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 14**

2.500 greek books printed in Egypt of 20<sup>th</sup> century – the most complete collection in the world.

The unique collection of series of literary pocket size books of greek and foreign authors' works, that greek publishers used to published at the first decades of 20<sup>th</sup> century. Those books were very popular then, and very rare to find today. We have more than 2500 titles. They are important because of theirs physical characteristic like size, illustration, typographic characteristics, binding.

20.000 books of various subjects that consider Greece: economy, shipping, bibliographic books, biographies of important greeks, Fine Arts, media, typography, employment, agriculture, education, wine industry, cooking. Some special section like books refering to woman, to greek language and education. There is also a big Olympic Games collection - including books and unique material, like the ticket of..... The catalogues' collection of greek publishers is unique in Greece, as the charters collection, (καταστατικά)

#### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 15**

2.500 annuals, almanacs, annual editions of various content from of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is the most popular collection among the historians and also the most complete in Greece.

10.000 greek titles of periodicals and newspapers of 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>th</sup> century, that were published in Greece or around the world in greek. There are unique titles in this collection that the researchers can find them only here.

#### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 16**

You may find more about the collections, programs, editions, exhibitions and activities of ELIA by visiting: the website [www.elia.org.gr](http://www.elia.org.gr), elia page in Facebook and to ηλεκτρονικό περιοδικό του ΕΛΙΑ Κομμωτής κομητών

You can visit the Shop of ELIA at the web, or across building to find the publications of ELIA and of Cultural Foundation of National Bank of Greece, copies (αναπαραγωγές) of old posters, postcards, photos, old and new objects, old books from doubles copies of our collection and many others things.

And remember ....The ELIA tries to cover in every way the historical and cultural evolution of Greece during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. ELIA operates as archive and library at the same time, providing an open accessibility to all researchers, students, in general to anyone( in order everybody) .....

#### **ΔΙΑΦΑΝΕΙΑ 17**

Manos Charitatos used to say: η χαρά του να μοιράζεσαι (the joy of sharing)

