

Inaugural Global Women and Hellenism Conference

Poem: "WE MUST STAND TOGETHER"

The performance by Christina Tzialla is based on the poem "We Must Stand Together" by **Varvara Athanasiou-Ioannou AM**, Founder and Chair of the Food For Thought Network (FFTN) and Greek Women and Friends Global Forum. Specifically written for the Inaugural Global Women and Hellenism Conference, this poem is a hymn to womanhood, pledging for understanding, support, and unity. During the performance, a recording of the author reciting the poem is played, emphasizing the shared commitment to the cause and artistic collaboration among all participants.


Production

The presentation, encompassing direction, set design, costume (a wedding dress), makeup, and sound design, draws inspiration from KALLIERGON syn's activities and the artistry of Vasiliki Kateri. These elements collectively convey a powerful message, raising awareness about femicides and gender-based violence. FFTN began these actions in 2004, with KALLIERGON syn continuing in January 2023, paying tribute to the victims of femicides of yesterday and today, particularly the women drowned in Lake Pamvotis in Ioannina by Ali Pasha's order, the so-called "Kallimartyrs". This tragic event is memorialized in the Pamvotis Lake Project in an innovative way.

Significance of Silver Jewellery (Koufeta)

The silver jewellery, as well as the decorative elements (embroidery) on the dress, featured in the performance is crafted from silver-coated candies, traditionally used at memorials in Orthodox Christian ceremonies. This unique practice, deeply rooted in Greek culture, is part of the country's intangible heritage. The silver colour also evokes Ioannina's renowned silversmithing. Every element of the performance is highly symbolic. Created by artist **Vasiliki Kateri** and inspired by an idea from **Christina Tzialla**, these pieces connect to Tzialla's upcoming fiction work "OUYI," which explores the theme of femicides through an epic fantasy narrative.

About KALLIERGON syn

 KALLIERGON syn is committed to social responsibility, focusing on raising awareness against gender-based violence and femicides. Central to their mission of social change and cultural preservation are initiatives like the Pamvotis Lake Project and the International Campaign Against Femicides, launched on November 25th, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. This campaign takes a zero-tolerance stance on femicides, striving to eliminate this ongoing scourge.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.kalliergon.com/projects/tributes>

<https://www.kalliergon.com/international-campaign-against-femicides>

or scan qr codes below:



Food For Thought Network
www.fftn.org.au