

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Wednesday 20 May 2009 at 20.30**

**Benaki Museum Piraeus Street**

### **CONCERT DEDICATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY**

**Heritage & Museums** organises classical music concert *on the occasion of the celebration of International Museum Day* at the **Benaki Museum Piraeus Street, no. 138, Wednesday 20 May 2009 at 20.30**, with *Tobias String Quartet* from Estonia and the internationally awarded soloist Greek clarinetist **Dionysis Grammenos**.

The event is organised with the support of the **Ministry of Culture of Estonia**, the **Embassy of Estonia in Greece** and the **Association of Estonian Professional Musicians**.

The concert program includes the quintet for clarinet and strings of **Carl Maria von Weber**, **Josef Haydn**, and works of the Estonian composer **Arvo Pärt**.

**The event will present Alexis Kostalas.**

**MEDIA SPONSOR: ERT**

Information: 210 2029 737

Ticket Availability Benaki Museum (street Piraeus): 210 3453 111

Ticket Prices: 20 €, 15 € student & 10 € children

The **Heritage & Museums**, a non-profit organisation based in Athens, aims to promote cultural stock of the world through communication, education and research ([www.heritage-museums.com](http://www.heritage-museums.com)). The actions of Heritage & Museums rely on voluntary cooperation, with particular sensitivity to people with disabilities in general and the cultural excluded, as well as the environment.



### **DIONYSIS GRAMMENOS, clarinet**

Dionysis Grammenos (born in 1989, in Corfu Greece) won the *Eurovision Young Musicians International Competition* in 2008, for his interpretation of the IV movement from the *Concerto pour Clarinette et Orchestre* by Jean Françaix (accompanied by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Aleksandar Markovic, performing live, during the Wiener Festwochen's Opening Ceremony at the City Hall Square - Rathausplatz). In March 2009, Grammenos performed the Mozart Clarinet Concerto at the Auditorio Nacional de Musica de Madrid, in the presence of Queen Sofia of Spain.

In the current season, Grammenos appears as soloist with the Norwegian Radio Orchestra, the Symphony Orchestra of the City of Athens and the Thessaloniki State Orchestra. As chamber musician, Grammenos collaborates with ensembles and soloists from Austria (Mozart Quartett Salzburg), Estonia (Tobias String Quartet), France, Greece and Germany. In December 2009, Grammenos is invited for a tour in Japan, and in 2010 and 2011, for series of concerts with the Nordic Chamber Orchestra and the Swedish Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Christian Lindberg, and the Wiener KammerOrchester at the Wiener Konzerthaus (International Prizewinners series). As chamber musician Grammenos will collaborate with the Berliner Philharmonia Quartet.

Last season, Grammenos appeared as solo clarinet with the Greek - Turkish Youth Orchestra, under the direction of Vladimir Ashkenazy, as soloist with the State Orchestras of Greece (Athens, Thessaloniki and Patras), the Greek Radio Symphony Orchestra (ERT), Sofia Symphony Orchestra, Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra, in Bulgaria and Greece, and, as chamber musician, in England, France, Greece and the Netherlands.

In May 2009, Grammenos will be awarded the *European Leonardo da Vinci* award. In 2008, Grammenos was awarded the Golden Award by the Mayor of the City of Athens, and since then, has been member of the Symphony Orchestra of the City of Athens.



### **TOBIAS STRING QUARTET**

Arvo Leibur – violin  
Kristjan Hallik – violin  
Toomas Nestor – viola  
Aare Tammesalu - cello

The Tobias String Quartet was founded in 2000 by leading musicians of Estonia and was named after Rudolf Tobias, the first Estonian composer who wrote works for a string quartet. Since its foundation the established group has been rich in activities both inside and outside Estonia (in Stockholm, Berlin,

Helsinki, Riga and St. Petersburg) and has recorded with the German company Erdenklang and cooperated with the Estonian Record Production. The repertoire of the quartet includes

masterpieces of the world's quartet literature as well as distinguished pieces from Estonian music, especially works of Arvo Pärt.