



The Olympic Flame Lighting Ceremony Lecture and Workshop



Organized and presented

on Thursday, November 9th, 2023, a lecture and workshop delivered and led by Artemis Ignatiou, dance professor and choreographer of the Olympic Flame Lighting Ceremony.

The lecture took place at hall A1, of the Department of Theatre Studies at 7pm, while the workshop preceded the lecture at hall BP of the Department between 5:15 and 6:15pm.

ARTEMIS IGNATIOU

CHOREOGRAPHER

Graduated from the Greek National School of Dance. Studied Theater, Music and Art History. In New York she studied Dance at the Merce Cunningham, Movement Research and the Martha Graham's schools and Acting at the H.B. Studio Drama School (Herbert Berghof - Uta Hagen). She studied Art History at the Athens Archaeological Society and at the Hellenic American Educational Foundation.

Choreographer of the Lighting and Handover Ceremonies of the Olympic Flame, since 2008:

- Beijing 2008
- Vancouver 2010
- London 2012
- Sochi 2014
- Rio 2016
- Pyeongchang 2018
- Tokyo 2020
- Beijing 2022
- 1st Summer Youth Olympic Games "Singapore 2010"
- 1st Winter Youth Olympic Games "Innsbruck 2012"
- 2nd Summer Youth Olympic Games "Nanjing 2014"
- 2nd Winter Youth Olympic Games "*Lillehammer 2016*"
- 3rd Summer Youth Olympic Games "Buenos Aires 2018"

She also choreographed the Lighting Ceremonies for the European Youth Olympic Festivals at the Panathenaic Stadium and Pnyx, Tbilisi 2015, Vorarlberg & Liechtenstein 2015, Utrecht 2013, Brasov 2013, Trabzon 2011, Liberec 2011, Tampere 2009, Belgrade 2007, Lignano 2005, Paris 2003 and Bath 1995 where she participated as High Priestess. She has been a Priestess and choreographer assistant of Maria Hors from 1988 – 2008.

She is a torchbearer for all the Olympic Games since 2006.

From 2010 until 2012 she collaborated with the National Olympic Academy of Greece in the framework of its program "**Olympic Education Day**", as **director of the reviving the history of the first Modern Olympic Games of 1896, in Kallimarmaro Stadium** with the presence of 45,000 students.

Since 2018 she collaborates with the National Olympic Academy of Greece in educational programs which take place at Olympia, at the International Olympic Academy. Since 2016 she collaborates with the International Olympic Truce Center and the British Council in educational programs which take place at Benaki Museum & Acropolis Museum.

2018 - Interactive Lecture on "Olympic Games in Ancient Greece and Lighting Ceremonies in nowadays" for the ZEJO 2018 Sporting Event in support of the Olympic Games Paris 2024 with the participation of 470 French students. In 2019, 2020 and 2022 she directed and choreographed the Opening Ceremony of the 37th, 38th and 39th Marathon the Authentic which took place



in Marathon Tomb. In 2019 she choreographed the Opening Ceremony of the 5th Marathon of Olympia at the Archaeological Museum of Ancient Iliada.

From 2019 she participates in the educational program "The 2004 generation in Greece towards the Olympic Games Paris 2024 ". The program is co-organized by the French Embassy in Greece, the French Institute of Greece, the Hellenic Olympic Committee and the National Olympic Academy. It aims at the dissemination of the Olympic Spirit, the Olympic Education and the French language (duration period 2019-2024).

Artemis Ignatiou has been the choreographer of many theatre plays and operas, while she has worked for the National Opera of Greece, the "Karolos Koun" Art Theatre, the "Orchestra of Colours"- Manos Hadjidakis, the National Theatre of Greece, the National Dance School of Greece, the Benaki Museum, the Athens Concert Hall "Megaron" and the Municipal Theatre of Komotini and Kavala, with the directors D. Ioannou, St. Livathinos, K. Arsenis and others. In 2015 she choreographed *VORTEX 2015* with the DA.GI.PO.LI group (a mixed dance group with and without disabilities) as part of the SDHS / CORD conference. In 2017 & 2018 & 2021 she directed the chorodrama *The Fall of Tripolitsa* as part of the 196th & 197th & 200th anniversaries celebrations.

She has set up the **ART Dance Theater**, of which has directed many performances in various festivals, both in Greece and abroad. ART Dance Theater was the official Greek representative in 2007 at the 10th European Dance Festival of Cyprus (Limassol), in 2008 at the **Opening Ceremony of 6th Cultural Festival of Beijing for Cultural Olympiad China 2008**, in 2014 at the Festival International De Sousse 2014 Tunisia (and tour in other cities), in 2017 at the Year of Cultural Cooperation between Greece and China (Guangzhou & tour in South China) and in 2019 at Acropolis di Cuma in Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli and in Castel dell' Ovo for the 30th Summer Universiade 2019 in Napoli.

As well as they have performed several productions in others Festivals in Cyprus, Germany, Serbia, China, Tunisia, Italy & Greece. Also they have participated in all of the four Contemporary Dance Platform in Athens Concert Hall 'Megaron Mousikis'. They have performed in Roman Agora, Greek National Contemporary Art Museum, Bouboulina Museum-Spetses, Bath of the Winds (Old Hamam)-Plaka, as well in other theaters and festival in Athens, Komotini and elsewhere in Greece.

She is a teacher at the Greek National School of Dance and at the Dance School of the Greek National Opera. She has taught dance and expressive movement at the Drama School of National Theatre of Greece (2014-2015). She has been the Artistic Director of Dance and dance teacher at the Drama School "Iasmos-"(2010-2019). She been dance, improvisation and expressive movement teacher at the Athens Conservatory Drama School (1991-2012).

She has been awarded for her work as Choreographer by the President of the Hellenic Republic and by many organizations municipalities and institutions.

In 2016 she was named an honorary citizen of Ancient Olympia.

In 2020 she was awarded with the Dimitrios Vikelas Higher Excellence Award by the Hellenic Olympic Committee.

Artemis Ignatiou has been:

- President of Dance and Rhythmic Union (1999-2003)
- Vice-President at Greece's Union of Choreographer's (2006-today)
- Secretary of the International Dance Council of Unesco (2011-today)
- President & Member of the Commission of the Greek Ministry of Culture, for the audition and graduation exams in dance (2010-2018)
- Member of the Advisory Committee of the Greek Ministry of Culture on Dance issues (2014-2016)
- Member of the Commission for the Theatrical Student Competitions in the prefecture of Ilia under the auspices of the Greek Ministry and Culture (2017-2018)