

Pilot Laboratory for Contemporary Music
of the Athens State Orchestra
August 18 – August 28, 2025, Spetses Island, Greece

APPLY TO THE MASTERCLASS: <https://aso-summerlab.eu/>

Application form for composers available from: 13-01-2025

Application form for conductors available from: March 2025 (Update will follow)

Composer's Laboratory with composer Yannis Kyriakides and the
Athens State Orchestra

Composers are invited to submit a piece for 8-15 instruments from the instruments below. The piece should be a new work OR a piece never performed.

In the initial application a 1 to 2-minute sketch of the proposed piece should be submitted. This can be one complete section or different parts of the piece.

[Application deadline: 24th February 2025]

The selection committee will conclude the selection of the participants on the 3rd of March. Successful participants will be contacted via email the following day.

Successful applicants will have 1 week to accept the offer and will be asked to reserve accommodation. There will be 10 places given and 2 places as reserve.

For new works:

The complete work (full score) should be finished by the 30th of June with parts ready by the 14th July.

Instrumentation: flute, oboe, clarinet (bass clarinet), bassoon, trumpet, horn, trombone, percussion (1 player), piano, harp, 2 violins, viola, cello, contrabass.

Duration: 5 to 7 minutes.

Application should include:

- Application form
- 1-2 minute sketch of proposed piece.
- a portfolio of 3 recent works (score and link to audio)
- a motivation letter which includes the proposed idea and instrumentation
- Curriculum vitae
- 2 reference letters

Application is open to all under the age of 40.

Offer

- 10 successful applicants will be offered a total of 120 min. session with the ensemble (incl. conductor).
- Seminars and masterclasses will be held throughout the week with participants and composers Yannis Kyriakides and Michalis Paraskakis.
- All masterclasses, sessions, and rehearsals are open to all other participants.
- All works will be performed at the final concert.
- The Athens State Orchestra will not charge a participation fee. The successful participants will have to cover accommodation fees, airplane and ferry transportation fees. Kindly note that special prices have been secured for accommodation.
- The masterclass will be held in English.
- There will be video recordings offered to the composers for all sessions plus the general rehearsal and the concert.

Orchestral conducting masterclass with maestro Lukas Karytinis and the Athens State Orchestra

Conductors are invited to participate in an orchestral conducting masterclass held by the Artistic Director of the Athens State Orchestra Mtro Lukas Karytinis.

Application form will be available from March 2025

An Athens State Orchestra selection committee will conclude the selection of the participants on 31.03.2025. Successful applicants will be contacted via email the following day and will have 1 week to accept the offer. Kindly note that by accepting, they will be asked to reserve their accommodation. Successful participants will be contacted via email the following day.

Repertoire:

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

Egmont, Op. 84

Ouverture: Sostenuto, ma non troppo – Allegro

Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92 (1812)

I. Poco sostenuto – Vivace

II. Allegretto

III. Scherzo: Presto/Trio: Assai meno presto

IV. Allegro con brio

Georges Bizet (1838 – 1875)

Carmen (1875)

1. *Parle-moi de ma mère* - Don José / Micaëla (Tenor / Soprano)
2. *Près des remparts de Séville (Seguidilla)* - Carmen (Mezzo-Soprano)
3. *La fleur que tu m'avais jetée* - Don José (Tenor)

4. *Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante* – Micaëla (Soprano)
5. *C'est toi C'est moi* – Carmen / Don José (Mezzo-Soprano / Tenor)

Conductors are required to prepare all the above repertoire.

Application should include:

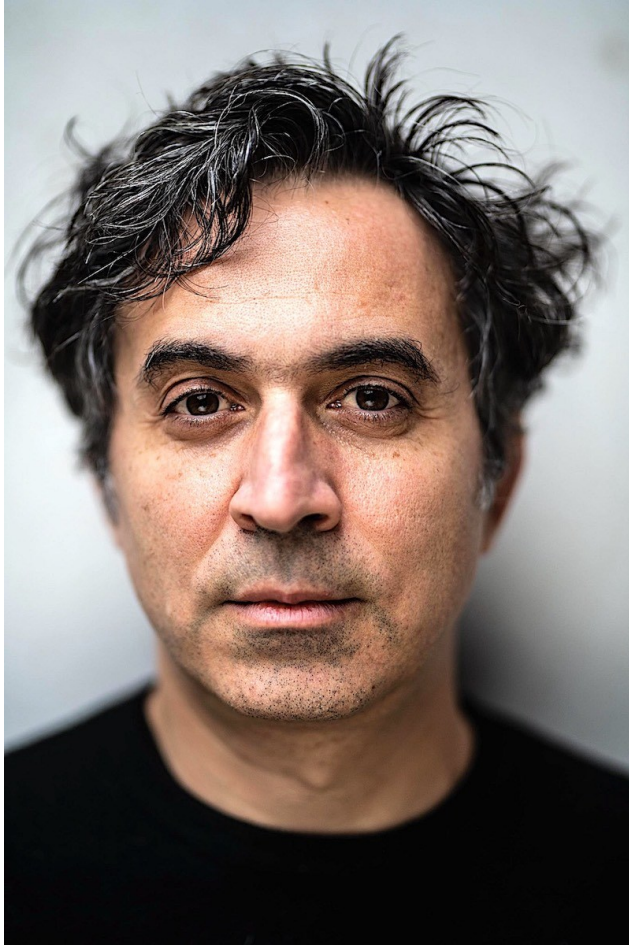
- Application form
- applicant's video recording
- Curriculum vitae
- 2 reference letters

Application is open to all under the age of 40.

Offer

- 10 participants will receive each 120 min. podium time with the orchestra plus 120 min. conducting two pianos.
- Participants attend all rehearsals and lessons
- There will be video recordings offered to the conductors for all the orchestra sessions plus the general rehearsal and the concert.
- All conductors will participate in the dress rehearsal and the final concert.
- The Athens State Orchestra will be covering all costs for each participant. That does NOT include accommodation fees, airplane and ferry transportation fees. Kindly note that special prices have been secured for accommodation.
- The masterclass will be taught in English.
- Each conductor is invited to conduct a new piece in the frame of the composer's laboratory. This work will also be recorded and offered to the conductors.

Yannis Kyriakides- Biography



Yannis Kyriakides was born in Limassol, Cyprus in 1969, emigrated to Britain 1975 and has been living in the Netherlands since 1992. He studied musicology at York University, and later composition with Louis Andriessen and Dick Raaijmakers. He received a PhD from Leiden University on concepts of multimedia composition, *Imagined Voices*.

As a composer and sound artist, he looks for ways of creating new forms and hybrids of media. In much of his work he has been drawn into different relations between words & music, both in concert compositions and installations through the use of systems of encoding information into sound, synthesizing voices and projected text. Recent work has moved into exploring the use of interactive and generative scores.

He has written close to 200 compositions, comprising of works for chamber, large ensembles and orchestra, music theatre, audiovisual installations and electroacoustic pieces. His work has been performed worldwide at many of the prominent music festivals, and by many leading contemporary music ensembles. He has been the featured composer at festivals such as Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival (2007), November Music (2011), and Gaida Festival (2018), and has shown work in both the Venice Music and Art biennales.

Prizes have included the Gaudeamus prize in 2000 for '*a consPIracy cantata*', a French Qwartz award for the CD '*Antichamber*', the Dutch Toonzetters prize for '*Paramyth*', the Willem Pijper prize for '*Dreams of the Blind*', an honorary mention at the Prix Ars Electronica for the CD '*Wordless*', the first prize in the International Rostrum of Composers for '*Words and Song Without Words*' and recently the Johan Wagenaar prize for his oeuvre in general.

Together with Andy Moor (The Ex), with whom he regularly collaborates with, and Isabelle Vigier he founded and runs the CD label for new electronic music 'Unsounds'. He is a founding member of the electro-acoustic ensemble Maze and is co-head of the composition department at the Royal Conservatoire, Den Haag.



Lukas Karytinios - Biography

Lukas Karytinios is the Artistic Director of the Athens State Orchestra since October 2020.

He was born in Athens and studied Music and Law at the Athens Conservatory and the University of Athens respectively. From 1976 to 1981, he continued his studies with a specialization in orchestral conducting at the University of the Arts in West Berlin under Herbert Allendorf, while simultaneously attending conducting seminars at the Mozarteum University Salzburg led by Otmar Suitner and Walter Weller.

From 1981 to 1985, he worked in Germany (Koblenz, Cologne, Berlin). During his time in Berlin, he served as artistic director of the "Piccolo Teatro Berolino". In 1985, he was appointed a regular conductor at the Greek

National Opera (GNO), whose Music Director he became in 1992. From 1999 until 2005, he served as Artistic Director of the same institution.

The GNO's repertoire expanded significantly during his tenure. A total of 17 new operas and 4 operettas were added, covering repertoire from the Baroque, which he cultivated systematically (Orlando Furioso by Vivaldi, Alcina by Handel), through to the 20th century (Le Grand Macabre by Ligeti, Peter Grimes by Britten). He also continued and expanded the practice of co-productions/partnerships with theatres abroad and started touring both in Greece and internationally. In parallel, in 2000/01, both the New Stage and the Children's Stage began staging productions at the Acropol Theatre, with a respective focus on Greek operettas and operas for children. Performances of opera for children were also introduced at the Herodeion in that same season. The Experimental Stage was inaugurated in 2003/4, and the Greek National Opera Higher Ballet School was founded in 2004/05. Throughout his tenure, he strove to convince the Greek State of the necessity of providing the Opera with new premises.

Lukas Karytinios has conducted every major orchestra in Greece on multiple occasions and performed at the festivals of Athens & Epidaurus, the Arena di Verona, the Caracalla in Rome, the Festival Puccini Torre del Lago, the Kulturforum Witten in Germany, Las Palmas, Antibes et al. He has collaborated as a conductor with symphony orchestras including the London Philharmonia, RSO-Berlin, Suisse Romande, WDR, Bruckner Orchester Linz, Philomusica Oxford, Orchestre Philharmonique de Nice and the Hungarian

Radio Symphony Orchestra, as well as with opera houses including the German Opera of Berlin, the Gran Teatre del Lice in Barcelona, the Teatro Ariaga Bilbao, and the operas of Cologne, Monte Carlo, Detroit, Rome, Catania, Cagliari, Modena, Livorno, Pisa, Bern, Salzburg et al.

He has worked with directors including P.L. Pizzi, G. Vick, G.C. del Monaco and H. De Ana, and collaborated with artists including G. Dimitrova, R. Bruson, M. Devia, J. Cura, D. Voigt, M. Guleghina, A.R. Antonacci, A. Rachvelishvili, L. Oropesa, K. Opolais, J. Starker and V. Tretjakov. Outside Greece, he has conducted in most of Europe as well as in Korea, the US, Australia, Turkey, Egypt, Tunisia and elsewhere.

He has recorded for BMG, WEA, CBS, ETERNA and DYNAMIC. In addition to his vast symphonic repertoire, he also conducts over 70 operas. He has also conducted the world premières of three operas by Mikis Theodorakis: K. Karyotakis with the Greek National Opera directed by Sp. Evangelatou, Medea with the Bilbao opera, and Antigone an Athens Megaron Concert Hall production. He collaborated with M. Karydis on the Greek première of Mozart's La clemenza di Tito [The clemency of Titus] and conducted the Greek premières of Verdi's Il corsaro [The Corsair], Janáček's Jenůfa, and Massenet's Manon. The international critics count him among the finest interpreters of Italian opera.

The City of Athens awarded him its Gold Medal of Honour in 1989 for his "exceptional service" in the field of music. In 2001, he was awarded the "Dimitris Mitropoulos" prize by the Third Program of Greek state radio. In 2006, he was appointed by the P. Mascagni Foundation, which is based in Livorno, the composer's birthplace, to take charge of raising the profile of his oeuvre. His efforts culminated in a hugely successful grand tour with performances of Mascagni's opera Iris throughout Italy. The President of the Italian Republic bestowed on him the title of "Commendatore dell 'Ordine della Solidarieta' Italiana" for his contributions to promoting the work of P. Mascagni and to Italian opera in general around the world.

In 2008, the Union of Greek Theatre and Music Critics awarded him its Great Music Award for his performances of La Traviata with the Thessaloniki Opera and Turandot with the Greek National Opera at the Herodeion as part of the Greek Festival, as well as for his overall contributions to opera. In 2010, the Society of Friends of the Greek National Opera awarded him its Apollo prize for his contributions to the GNO. In 2016, the Academy of Athens awarded him the Spyros Moutsenigos Prize (for Music).

Today, in addition to his musical activities, Lukas Karytinis is the Director of the Athens State Orchestra and teaches Conducting at the Athens Conservatory.

Athens State Orchestra



The Athens State Orchestra is the oldest orchestral ensemble in Greece. Founded in the late 19th century as the Athens Conservatory Symphony Orchestra, it went through various names as well as forms of operation. Its first concert as the Athens State Orchestra was held on February 28th, 1943.

Ever since its foundation, the Athens State Orchestra has been offering to the Greek audience the opportunity to get acquainted with the masterpieces of the world's repertoire, while it's the main interpreter of the local music. It has achieved a consistent presence on the Greek cultural scene, performing more than fifty concerts per year. Besides Athens, the Athens State Orchestra regularly appears in many Greek cities, as well as in prestigious venues and festivals abroad. Its social and educational program throughout Greece is quite significant.

Over its long history, the Athens State Orchestra has performed under the direction of eminent conductors such as Richard Strauss, Felix Weingartner, Hans Knappertsbusch, Bruno Walter, Dimitri Mitropoulos, Eugen Jochum, Igor Markevitch, Lorin Maazel, Clemens Krauss, Yuri Temirkanov, Michel Plasson, Vladimir Ashkenazy and Vladimir Fedoseyef and has accompanied outstanding soloists, among whom Arthur Rubenstein, Wilhelm Kempff, Alfred Cortot, Fritz Kreisler, Jacques Thibaud, Pablo Casals, Vadim Repin, Gidon Kremer, Mstislav Rostropovich, Alfred Brendel, Daniel Barenboim, Martha Argerich, Elisabeth Leonskaya and Leonidas Kavakos.

Former Artistic Directors of the Orchestra have been Filoktitis Oikonomidis, Theodoros Vavagiannis, Andreas Paridis, Manos Hadjidakis, Giannis Ioannidis, Alexandros

Symeonidis, Aris Garoufalis, Byron Fidetzis, Vassilis Christopoulos and Stefanos Tsiialis.
Since October 2020, Loukas Karytinis is the Artistic Director of the Athens State Orchestra.