

# PARTHENON MARBLES BICENTENARY COMMEMORATIVE EVENT



*Fragmented, the Parthenon Marbles are mainly divided between the Acropolis Museum in Athens and the British Museum in London. Such a peerless work of art deserves our respect. Join the British campaign to reunify these Sculptures in the Acropolis Museum.*

## LONDON, 07 JUNE 2016

Jointly Presented By



British Committee for the Reunification of the Parthenon Marbles  
[www.parthenonuk.com](http://www.parthenonuk.com)



SINCE 1981

International Organising Committee  
-AUSTRALIA-  
For the Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles Inc.

*This event on 07 June 2016, marks 200 years from the date in 1816 when the British Parliament voted to purchase from Lord Elgin his collection of sculpted marbles collected from the Parthenon and elsewhere on the Athenian Acropolis.*

## The Speakers

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**Eddie O'Hara (UK)**  
Chairman  
BCRP M



**Emanuel J. Comino  
AM (AUS)**  
Chairman  
IOC-A-RPM



**George Bizos SC (RSA)**  
Human Rights Advocate &  
Author, founder of the South African Committee



**Tristram Besterman**  
Freelance adviser and  
writer on museums and  
culture



**Prof. Paul  
Cartledge (UK)**  
Vice Chair  
BCRPM



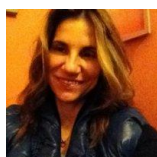
**William St Clair**  
Senior Research Fellow Institute of English Studies, School  
of advanced Study, University of London



**Russell Darnley OAM  
(AUS)**  
International Officer  
IOC-A-RPM



**Prof. Constantine  
Sandis (UK)**  
Communications  
BCRPM



**Artemis Papathanasiou (GR)**  
Chairperson, of the Committee of the 2nd Protocol to the  
Hague Convention of 1954, member of the Hellenic Committee  
for the Reunification of the Parthenon Sculptures.



**Victoria Solomonidis**  
UK representative,  
Hellenic Foundation for  
Culture



Melina Mercouri in London

# The Program

	9:15	<b>Registration</b>
<b>SESSION I</b>	9:30 - 11:00	Paul Cartledge, Deputy Chairman BCRPM (UK) <i>Chairman's Welcome</i>
		Tristram Besterman keynote speaker <b><i>Museums: letting the genie out of the bottle</i></b>  Placing the debate around the contested Parthenon sculptures in the context of the 21 <sup>st</sup> century museum, Tristram will reflect on the democratically accountable museum, his own involvement in repatriation and how we should open up the museum as a space where other voices are heard. Far from a betrayal of Enlightenment values, museums are true to their roots when they challenge orthodoxy and reframe authenticity.
		Artemis Papatthanasiou (Greece): <b><i>Requesting the return of the Parthenon Sculptures through alternative means of dispute resolution: the course of a recent request for mediation</i></b>
		William St Clair (UK) <b>'The future had need of them'</b> William St Clair presents for the first time a discovery included in his book, <i>Looking at the Acropolis from modern times to antiquity</i> , due to be published later this year.  Making use of many manuscript documents hitherto unknown, including intercepted letters, firmans, reports of secret negotiations, and correspondence with Ottoman commanders, as well as unfamiliar pictures, William St Clair tells for the first time the story of how and why the Parthenon and the other ancient monuments of Athens unexpectedly survived, almost unscathed, from the Greek Revolution of 1821-1833. During that war the Acropolis was bombarded with artillery for nearly a year, and both the Ottomans and the Greeks at different times announced their intention of deliberately destroying the monuments. The new discoveries, that transform our understanding of the history of the Acropolis, and of its symbolic power, carry direct implications for current questions about the future of the marbles.
	11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>SESSION II</b>	11:15 - 13:00	Prof. Paul Cartledge (UK): <i>Musing on Mouseia: from Alexandria to the B.M. via Oxford</i> (25 mins)
		Victoria Solomonidis (UK) <i>Melina Mercouri</i>
		George Bizos/Richard Moultrie (SA) <i>Supporting the cause from South Africa</i>
		Emanuel J. Comino AM, Chairman IOC-A-RPM (Australia): <i>Reflecting on 200 years, a Perspective from the IOC-A-RPM</i>
		Russell Darnley (UK): <i>Education: opportunities for multi-faceted local and global initiatives</i>
		Paul Cartledge, Deputy Chairman BCRPM (UK) <i>Chairman's Closing Remark</i>

# The Organisers

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## The British Committee for the Reunification of the Parthenon Marbles (BCRPM)

A group of British people who having considered the case for the reunification of the Parthenon Marbles, strongly support it and wish to campaign to achieve it. **James Cubitt**, a distinguished British architect, met with Melina Mercouri to suggest forming a British Committee to appeal for the return of the Parthenon Marbles to their rightful home in Athens. The Committee was set up in 1983 under the chairmanship of **Robert Browning**, Emeritus Professor of Greek at the University of London, an eminent scholar and polymath, internationally renowned and universally respected. James Cubitt was the first honorary member for the Committee. For more information visit [www.parthenonuk.com](http://www.parthenonuk.com)

## The South African Committee for the Reunification of the Parthenon Marbles (SACRPM)

Human rights lawyer **George Bizos** and **Richard Moultrie** attended the Athens Colloquy in July 2015, where George Bizos was the keynote speaker. George founded the South African Committee for the Reunification of the Parthenon Marbles in November 2009. George has been a senior member of the Johannesburg Bar since 1978 and member of the National Council of Lawyers for Human Rights, which he helped found in 1979. He was also Senior Counsel at the Legal Resources Centre in Johannesburg in the Constitutional Litigation Unit. In 1990 he became a member of the African National Congress' (ANC) Legal and Constitutional Committee, and at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) he served as advisor to the negotiating teams and participated in drawing up the Interim Constitution, guaranteeing fundamental human rights to all citizens of South Africa. This January he was given the Freedom of the City of London in recognition of his fight for freedom and racial equality. Richard Moultrie is an advocate at the Johannesburg Bar and a supporter of the cause for the Reunification of the Parthenon Marbles.



## The International Organizing Committee - Australia - for the Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles Inc. (IOC-A-RPM)

Formerly known as the AHEPA (Australia) Committee for the Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles the committee was formed in **1981** under the chairmanship of **Emanuel John Comino AM**. It was the first committee in the world set up for restitution. The Committee aims to bring pressure to bear on governments and influences public opinion to ensure the return of the Parthenon Marbles to Greece. Russell Darnley is the Committees International Officer. [www.parthenonmarblesaustralia.org.au](http://www.parthenonmarblesaustralia.org.au)

# The Venue

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## Senate House

Senate House is part of the University of London and offers a prime location in London's Bloomsbury area for the 07 June 2016 Parthenon Marbles, Bicentenary Commemorative Event. Senate House is also where the late Melina Mercouri spoke so passionately in 1990. (<http://www.senatehouseevents.co.uk>)