

SASHA CHAITOW

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Cultural historian and artist with a passion for writing, teaching about, and creating culture, and a strong background in public speaking and event management.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ICON Gallery

2015-

Owner-Curator

Coordination and international representation of artist collective specialising in Greek sacred, devotional, and symbolic art.

Phoenix Rising Academy

2010 – 2014

Founding director

Responsible for coordinating international faculty, curriculum development, event organisation, liaising with students, faculty, and academic institutions.

University of Indianapolis, Athens, Greece

2008 – 2013

Visiting Lecturer in Religious Studies, History & Philosophy

Undergraduate teaching in Religious Studies, History & Philosophy

- ▲ History: Integrated new material to broaden students' understanding of the significance of studying history when specialising in mainly business & marketing related degrees.
- ▲ Religious Studies & Philosophy: Integrated material pertaining to Western Esotericism into the existing curriculum

Eleftheros Typos Newspaper, Athens, Greece

2011 – 2014

Columnist for PHENOMENA Cultural Magazine

2 monthly columns on art, education and culture.

Avaton Magazine & Archetypo Publications, Salonica, Greece

2008 - 2012

Article contributor and author

- ▲ Contributed to 3 multi-author volumes on a variety of topics
- ▲ Regular contributor to monthly magazine

Andrioti School of English, Corfu, Greece

2014-

Kontada Language Institute, Athens, Greece

2006-2010

EUROACCESS Language Institute, Athens, Greece

2005-2006

A.Spanou Language Institute, Corfu, Greece

2003

Teacher of English as a Foreign Language

- ▲ Advanced exam preparation for teenagers and adults
- ▲ Curriculum and course development for lifelong-learning adult classes
- ▲ Seminars on EFL through art, myth, and literature

EDUCATION

University of Essex, United Kingdom

PhD Esotericism in Literature & Art History 2014
Research diary available at www.peladan.net
Thesis title: Redemption Through The Arts: Joséphin Péladan's Platonic Legendarium

University of Exeter, United Kingdom

MA Western Esotericism 2008
Honours: MA awarded with Merit, Thesis awarded distinction
Thesis title: The Alchemical Iconography of Michael Maier's *Atalanta Fugiens* as an Initiatory Path

University of Indianapolis, USA

MA English Literature 2004
Honours: Magna cum laude
Thesis title: The Alchemical process and literary analysis

University of Indianapolis, USA

BA Communication Studies 2002
Honours: Cum laude

Vakalo College of Art, Athens, Greece

Fine Art Skills Training 2000

EVENT ORGANISATION

"Art's Revolution"

24-26/1/2014

Three-day arts festival and lecture series in Corfu, Greece.

Mapping the Occult City: Exploring Magick and Esotericism in the Urban Utopia

16/11/2012

Pre-conference symposium for the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religions
DePaul University, Chicago

Demons in the Academy: Renouncing Rejected Knowledge, Again?

19/11/2011

Parallel Session at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Francisco

Western Esotericism in a Brave New World

October 2011

An Open Evening with Phoenix Rising Academy, Treadwells, London,

Phoenix Rising Academy Launch Events

October-November 2010

Athens, Salonica, Alexandroupolis

Death and Rebirth in Philosophy, Literature and Art:

Nov. 6-7 2009

A Dying Society or a Renaissance for the 21st Century?

1st Phoenix Rising International Conference, University of Indianapolis, Athens Campus

Ancient Greek Mysteries and Philosophy

September 2008

Esoteric Quest Conference, hosted by New York Open Center in Samothrace, Greece

Organisation & promotion of live concerts for a variety of Athenian music spaces

2004-2009

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PAPERS

- (forthcoming)* **Saving the Lives of Angels: Redemption through the Arts** 9-10/9/2016
Trans-States Conference, University of Northampton, UK
- Joséphin Péladan's place in the History of Ideas** 26/10/2015
Invited guest lecture, Gothenburg University
- Freemasonry, Sacred Art, and the Orthodox Tradition** 24-26/10/2015
Invited guest lectures at Lund and Gothenburg, Sweden
- Joséphin Péladan's Literary Esotericism: Crossing the Threshold of Modernism** 22-23/10/2015
Conference on Esoteric Modernism, Aarhus University
- Joséphin Péladan's Vision of Ensouled Art** 30/10/2013
Neo-Symbolist Salon, Autonomous University of Madrid
- Ideal, Hierarchy, Tradition: Re-enchanting the Fin-de-siècle** 23-26/08/2012
EASR Annual Conference, Södertörn University, Stockholm
- Neomythology and Mythopoeia: The Esoteric Landscape of Modern Greece** 27-29/08/2012
International Conference on Contemporary Esotericism, Stockholm University
- Hieroglyphs of Nature and the Renaissance Emblematic Worldview** 13-14/10/2011
[ISSRNC Conference on Religion, Art, and Nature](#) Vatican Museums, Vatican City, Rome
- Contemporary Hellenic Paganism and Nationalist Politics in Modern Greece** 19-22/11/2011
[Western Esotericism and Politics Panel, AAR Annual Meeting, San Francisco](#)
- The Hidden and the Visible: symbols and silent languages** 01/10/2011
OuUnPo (Ouvroir d'Univers Potentiel -Vision Forum) symposium, Athens, Greece
- A Babylonian Mage in Fin-de-Siècle Paris** 2-4/07/2011
[3rd ESSWE Conference: Lux in Tenebris, The Visual and Symbolic in Western Esotericism](#)
[University of Szeged, Hungary](#)
- Beware Titans Bearing Gifts: Art, Imagination, and Initiation** 7/11/2009
1st International Phoenix Rising Conference, University of Indianapolis, Athens
- Corfu, Crucible of Change: A Multicultural Island of Masonic Revolutionary Secrets** 2-4/6/2009
2nd ESSWE International Conference: Capitals of European Esotericism and Transcultural Dialogue

Maison Interuniversitaire des Sciences de l'Homme-Alsace (MISHA)

Sacred Fire: Panentheism in the Philosophy and Work of Nikolai Roerich 29/05/2009
University of Indianapolis Athens

Michael Maier's Atalanta Fugiens as an Initiatory Path March 2009
Keystone Philosophical Society Annual Public Lecture

The Eye of the Storm: Promethean Man and the Esoteric Counter-Enlightenment May 2008
International Conference on Literature and the Media in Interfaith Dialogue, University of Indianapolis Athens

Thoughtforms and the Power of the Creative Process Nov. 2004
University of Indianapolis Athens

Synaesthesia and the Colour of Words Nov. 2003
University of Indianapolis Athens

PUBLIC LECTURES:

(forthcoming) **Mages and Fairies: Péladan's Initiatory System** 7/10/2016
Invited guest lecture, Watkins Bookshop, London

(forthcoming) **Sar Péladan, Lucifer, Art and Angels** 7/10/2016
Invited guest lecture, Treadwell's Bookshop, London

Occult Power in Greek Icons 14/07/15
Treadwell's Bookshop, London

The Many Faces of Joséphin Péladan 15/09/2014
Treadwell's Bookshop, London

Art and Symbolism: Making the Invisible Visible 27/02/2013
Public Lecture, Corfu, Greece

Studying Western Esotericism in a World in Crisis 19-20/05/2012
2nd Alternative Research Symposium, Athens, Greece

[Where is] Esoteric Greece? 28/01/2012
Metacon Symposium, Athens, Greece

Aleister Crowley: Works and Days 27/05/2011
[An Evening with the Beast: ALEISTER CROWLEY: His Life and Work](#), Athens, Greece

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS & BOOK CHAPTERS:

(forthcoming) **Redemption Through The Arts: Joséphin Péladan's Platonic Legendarium** (2017)
Brill Academic Press, Leiden, Netherlands

A Babylonian Mage in 19th Century Paris: Joséphin Péladan Dec. 2013
Daedaleos Press, Salonica, Greece

2 chapters on Jacob Boehme and Giordano Bruno in **20 Great Teachers of Civilization** August 2012
Salonica: Archetypo Books (S. Elmazis ed).

4 chapters in **Freemasonry: The Greatest Initiatory System in the World** Dec. 2009
Salonica: Archetypo Books (George Ioannidis ed).

Understanding and Using Intuitive Faculties and Synesthesia in : Leon Chaitow, *Palpation and Assessment Skills*, (3rd edn), Edinburgh: Churchill-Livingstone-Elsevier, Dec. 2009

ARTICLES:

[invited] **Hidden in Plain Sight: Joséphin Péladan's Religion of Art**
Abraxas International Journal of Esoteric Studies #5, 2014

[invited] **Making the Invisible Visible: Péladan's Artistic Revolution meets the 21st Century**
The Fenris Wolf #7, Edda Press, Stockholm, 2014

[invited] **Joséphin Péladan's Vision of Ensouled Art**
Exhibition catalogue: 1st Neo-Symbolist Salon, Corrala Cultural Centre, Madrid, 2013

[in preparation, invited] **The Esoteric Landscape of Modern Greece**
The Pomegranate (International Journal of Pagan Studies)

[invited] **Mages and Fairies: Joséphin Péladan's Initiation for the Masses**
The Pomegranate (International Journal of Pagan Studies), 2013

[invited] **Legends of the Fall Retold: Péladan's Luciferianism**
The Fenris Wolf #6, Edda Press, Stockholm, 2013

[as Alexandros Kalozoides], **Hellenic Pagan Revivalist Movements and Right-Wing Politics in Studies in Esotericism: Esotericism, Religion, and Politics**, 3rd edn, Arthur Versluis ed., MSU, 2012

Building Bridges : Implications and Responsibilities of Studying Esotericism in the 21st Century
Proceedings of the Third International Conference of Mystic and Esoteric Movements in Theory and Practice: Studying Interpretations of Esotericism and Mysticism, Vladimir State University, Russia, 2010.

Corfu, Crucible of Change: A Multicultural Island of Masonic Initiatory Secrets

Proceedings of the 2nd ESSWE Conference: Capitals of European Esotericism and Transcultural Dialogue, Strasbourg, Presses Universitaires de Strasbourg (in press)

Book Reviews for **ARIES** and the **Journal for the Research of Freemasonry and Fraternalism (JRFF)**, 2009-2012.

ART EXHIBITIONS

Solo exhibitions:

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|---|------------------------|
| Saints of the Word
12 icons in the traditional style & specialist lecture on the history and symbolism.
<i>Lund/Gothenburg, Sweden - icon exhibition & artist lecture</i> | Oct. 2015 |
| Occult Power in Greek Icons
Pop-up icon exhibit & artist lecture
<i>Treadwell's Bookshop, London</i> | Jul. 2015 |
| Death and Rebirth in Philosophy, Literature and Art:
A Dying Society or a Renaissance for the 21st Century?
15 original works on the theme of Gnostic Saints
<i>1st Phoenix Rising International Conference, University of Indianapolis, Athens Campus</i> | Nov. 2009 |
| A Child of Earth I am, and of the Starlit Sky
20 original works on the theme of the angelic fall from grace, alongside prose poetry collection.
<i>Corfu Palace Hotel, Corfu</i> | Sept. 2004 |
| Paradise Lost
23 original works on the theme of mythical figures and legends.
<i>Cyprus Cultural Centre, Athens (November); Art Cafe. Municipal Art Gallery of Corfu (August).</i> | Aug. /Nov. 2003 |
| Windows on the World
20 original works on feminine oppression and representation in art and myth.
<i>Art Cafe. Municipal Art Gallery of Corfu</i> | Aug. 2001 |
| Inner Mirrors
21 original works on the theme of mythical figures and legends.
<i>Cyprus Cultural Centre, Athens (November); Art Cafe. Municipal Art Gallery of Corfu (August).</i> | Aug. 2000 |

Group exhibitions:

Exhibition and sale of over 50 works on permanent exhibition

2015-2016

ICON GALLERY, Corfu, Greece

Arts Revolution: Cultural Salon

24-26/1/2014

Participation with 4 works from "The Peladan Project" (2013 concept drawings)

Plus Cultural Space, Corfu, Greece

The City-Metropolis Celebrates Alone

Dec. 2013- Jan. 2014

Participation with 2 original works designed for the exhibition theme

Art in Art Cultural Space, Athens, Greece

1st NeoSymbolist Salon

Oct-Nov. 2013

Participation with 3 works from "The Peladan Project" (2013 concept drawings), an article in the Salon catalogue, and a lecture on Peladan's philosophy of aesthetics.

Corrala Cultural Centre - Autonomous University of Madrid