

## **Hambis Printmaking Museum**

Hambis Printmaking Museum – the first of its kind in Cyprus – was inaugurated on 30 August 2008. It is situated in a small traditional stone-built village called Platanisteia half an hour drive from Limassol.

Museum visitors get to know the history of printmaking, the techniques and materials involved, the etching presses and prints and their creators. More than 200 prints are exhibited dating back in the 16th century and onwards. Amongst those are prints from Japan, China, France, Russia, Switzerland, Serbia, Australia, Germany, England, Italy, Greece, Belgium, Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, U.S.A, Peru, Turkey and Cyprus. Special windows display old and contemporary books with genuine prints, tools used in all printmaking techniques, engraved plates depicting various printmaking techniques, photographic and other items.

In addition to the Printmaking Museum, there is an exhibition hosting the works of school students and another one that hosts works of the printmaker Hambis and a new open-air semi-circular theatre hosting various events.

## **Hambis Printmaking School**

Hambis Printmaking School has been operating in Platanisteia since 1995. All throughout August the school offers free lessons in the memory of the great Greek printmaker A. Tassos. The school at Platanisteia comprises workshops with five presses, one aquatint box and screens for screenprint, exhibition rooms and two gardens with greenery and until now it has educated hundreds of students. From August 2011 the school offers free lessons in different villages of Cyprus (Anogyra in 2011, Lemba and Platres in 2012).

A lot of events are organised every year by Hambis Printmaking School: Documentary and Cartoon Festival, Theatre Performances, Concerts, Poetry Nights, Lectures, Printmaking and general Art Exhibitions. Awards are also given every August to new printmakers who attend the lessons. The main purpose of the awards is

the encouragement of new printmakers. The sponsor of the annual awards is the Hellenic Bank.

## **Hambis Printmaking Centre**

In November 2007, the non-profit Company named *Hambis Printmaking School-Museum* was set up and in 2008 the school was converted into a big Printmaking Centre. The *Hambis Printmaking School-Museum* is supported since 2008 by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Educational programs and workshops are organised and operate for students and other interested persons. It hosts students and artists from other countries and generally it develops activities in compliance with the aims set by government policy on culture.

The School has been offering lessons for various printmaking techniques since 2008. The lessons are offered from visitor teachers both Cypriot and Foreigners. The special workshops are taking place in Hambis Printmaking Centre at Platanisteia throughout the year.