



Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports
BYZANTINE & CHRISTIAN MUSEUM

PRESS RELEASE

New temporary exhibition

“The religious work of Polykleitos Rengos”

The temporary exhibition “The religious work of Polykleitos Rengos” is inaugurated on Tuesday, 28th of March 2023 at 18:30 at the Byzantine & Christian Museum.

Polykleitos Rengos (Naxos 1903 – Thessalonike 1984) studied painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts (1920–1926), continued his studies in Paris (1930–1934) and then returned to Thessalonike, where he spent the rest of his life. An artist with rich secular oeuvre, he also belonged to a group of painters who re-introduced the historical paradigm of byzantine and post-byzantine tradition into religious painting. Fully respectful of the iconographic tradition of byzantine art, employing traditional techniques and materials, such as egg tempera, Rengos renewed hagiography with his own personal style that conversed with the prevalent European artistic movements of his time.

He decorated monuments of special significance, such as the church of Saint Demetrios in Thessalonike, aiming to establish continuity in the historical tradition of byzantine art.

The exhibition attempts to offer the widest possible range of his religious painting in its entirety displaying works of all painting techniques in which he engaged.

Opening of the exhibition: Tuesday, 28th of March 2023, at 18.30

Duration: 29th of March 2023 until 31st of May 2023

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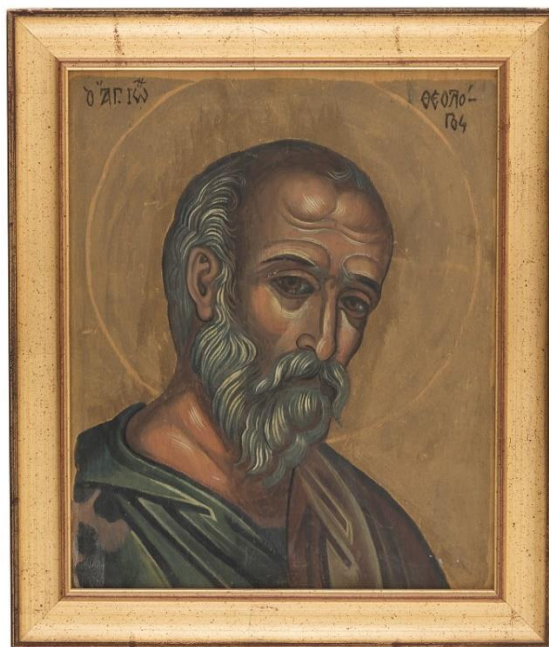
Attachments:

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Polykleitos Rengos, Holy Monastery of Esphigmenou, 1934, oil on industrial wood, Tellogleion Fine Arts Foundation Collection, Aristotle University of Thessalonike



Polykleitos Rengos, Saint John the Theologian, copy of an icon from the Dionysiou Monastery, Mount Athos, 1934, oil on industrial wood, Konstantinos Pol. Rengos Collection



Polykleitos Rengos, Saint George, 1948(?), egg tempera on wood, Konstantinos Pol. Rengos Collection



Polykleitos Rengos, Saint Demetrios, 1935, egg tempera on wood, Museum of Byzantine Culture Thessalonike, donation of Kallisti Darveri (NET 014)



Polykleitos Rengos, *Saint Demetrios* (dressed in bishop's vestments), 1948 - 54, pencil and watercolour on paper, Konstantinos Pol. Rengos Collection