THE MYTH REIMAGINED

OCTOBER 8—11

A four-day festival of arts and ideas to inaugurate our newly renovated Onassis Cultural Center NY: music, dance, talks, films, and playful activities for curious minds of all ages.

The myth of Narcissus has fascinated human imagination through time and cultures. With roots lost in antiquity, it first appears in the Homeric Hymn to Demeter, where narcissus is the flower that the virginal Persephone plucks when abducted by Hades, the God of the Underworld. The better-known telling of the myth comes from Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*: a beautiful Greek youth falls in love with his own reflection and wastes away pining for himself; in his place a flower grows, a narcissus or daffodil, which is our signal for spring. This version of the myth is the defining allegory of the post-modern age. From psychoanalysis to selfies, the Narcissus myth serves as an emblematic example of the unparalleled influence of Classical antiquity on our culture.

“Narcissus Now,” a four-day festival, inaugurates the renovated Onassis Cultural Center NY with a kaleidoscopic portrait of the Narcissus myth, through choreography, music, performance, fashion, culinary arts, film, architecture, visual arts, and literature. It will also examine the contemporary imprint of Narcissus on technology, psychology, philosophy, and science. With adventurous performance, engaging conversation, and light-hearted play from the forefront of intellectual and artistic talent around the world, “Narcissus Now” will celebrate the myth and its enduring imprint on our society.
OPENING NIGHT

7—9PM | ATRIUM & GALLERY

TRIPLE ECHO

BY JONAH BOKAER AND STAVROS GASPARATOS

CHOREOGRAPHY BY JONAH BOKAER

COMPOSITION BY STAVROS GASPARATOS

COSTUMES BY NARCISO RODRIGUEZ

LIGHTING DESIGN BY AARON COPP

DANCERS: HRISTOULA HARAKAS, SARA PROCOPIO, MATA SAKKA

MUSICIANS: THE RHYTHM METHOD AND MATT EVANS

VOICE (RECORDED): SAVINA YANNATOU

In an original dance and music creation, Jonah Bokaer, “contemporary dance’s renaissance man” (New York Times), and Stavros Gasparatos, preeminent composer of the new Greek generation, team up to inaugurate the festival with extraordinary collaborators in a performance that will lead the audience to travel across the expanse of the newly renovated center.

TO MAKE A RESERVATION FOR THIS EVENT, VISIT ONASSISFESTIVALNY.ORG

onassisfestivalny.org  @oceNY  #NarcissusNow

917-732-7352  onassisfestival@onassisusa.org

ONASSIS FESTIVAL NY

ONASSIS CULTURAL CENTER NY

615 Fifth Avenue. New York, NY 10022 (Entrances on 51st and 52nd Streets)
THE SEMINAR
11AM—5PM | ATRIUM
School is in session! Join our intimate seminar-style discussions. From Freud to field notes, poetry to pop culture, a diverse speaker roster will delve into the myth between the Narcissus myth and cultural topics.
11AM: FANI PAPAGEORGIOU on the virtues of Self-Reflection
12PM: SEAN CARNEY, ANDREA ARRUBLA, AND JARRET ERNST of the RHQ on self-reflection in digital culture
1PM: JEFF DOLEN on Milton’s “Narcissus” in Paradise Lost
3PM: KRISTIN DOMBEK on narcissistic amnesia
4PM: JAMIESON WEBSTER on Freud’s On Narcissism and Lacan’s Mirror Stage 45-minute sessions.
NARCISSUS & ACTING
1—2PM | GALLERY
WITH PAUL GIAMATTI AND VANESSA GRIGORIDIS
An in-depth discussion on the complex relationship between performer and audience and the mirrors they hold up to each other.
NARCISSUS & LITERATURE
9—11AM | GALLERY
MODERATED BY LORIN STEIN
WITH ANGELOS CHANIOTIS, LAURA KIPNIS, AND JESSICA MOSS
A KEYNOTE IN THREE PARTS from the origins of the myth to its evolution in modern and classic literature.

NARCISSUS & ARCHITECTURE
1—2:30PM | ATRIUM
WITH MATT POSTAL, MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW YORK
Starting at the Olympic Tower, a walking tour explores human self-glorification in the architecture of midtown Manhattan.

NARCISSUS & SPACE: NARCISSUS & ASTROPHYSICS
1—2PM | GALLERY
SUN, OCT 11

FRI, OCT 9
NARCISSUS & ART IN THE WOODS: A LECTURE WITH THE BRUCE HIGH QUALITY FOUNDATION
11AM—12NOON | GALLERY
TRIPLE ECHO
Radical, rather scholarly, and completely unpredictable, the Bruce High Quality Foundation will offer an original lecture on performance of Narcissus in art.

NARCISSUS & ARCHITECTURE
1—2:30PM | ATRIUM
WITH MATT POSTAL, MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

SAT, OCT 10
NARCISSUS & BALLET
11AM—12NOON | GALLERY
WITH HELENE ALEXPOULOS AND JENNIFER HOMAS
Every dancer develops an intimate and complex relationship with the mirror and self-image. The former principal dancer at New York City Ballet and a fellow performing and ballet historian discuss their understanding of the myth as it relates to their experience and the profession at large.

THE PLAYROOM
Come take a class with our expert educators.

MIRROR DANCE
TWO TIMES: 11AM—12PM; 10:15—11AM | ATRIUM
WITH MARIA MANLEY
Dance to your reflection in this creative movement workshop geared to young children and their families.
AGES 3–6

TELL IT AGAIN
TWO TIMES: 11:15AM—12PM; 11:15—1PM | ATRIUM
WITH EFIFI LATSFI
Engage with an interactive and family-friendly retelling of the myth of Narcissus.
AGES 5 AND UP

NARCISSUS & ECHO
TWO TIMES: 11:15AM—1PM; 2:15—3PM | ATRIUM
WITH BENJAMIN WEINER
Create your own soundscape inspired by the Narcissus myth.
AGES 5 AND UP

ALL WEEKEND IN THE AGORA
SAT NOON—5PM & SUN 9AM—5PM
The Olympic Tower Atrium will turn into an ideas marketplace for the day. Take a class, pick a concept, join in a craft.

STRANGERS PROJECT BOOKLET (SAT ONLY)
Experience a collection of personal stories and journal entries, from anonymous handwritten letters. Reflect on your own narrative and explore the idea of collective narcissism through this display.

NARCISSUS FLOWER CRAFT
WITH JEN KELLY
Learn how to make a craft paper daidal and take it home!

THE TRUE MIRROR
WITH DANIELLE HAROUI BROWN
See yourself in the way others do, and learn about the power of mirrors in myth, art, and the metaphysics of self-image.

MEET NARCISSUS
CREATED BY PAPERCROWN AND O&D STUDIO WITH EFIF I LATSFI
Create your own myth with Meet the Greek’s special edition paper cutouts.

THE GREEK, WORDSMITH WITH ANGELOPSI AGA
Do you know there is a plethora of English words that have their origin in the Greek language? Come play with “ideos,” “drama,” “phobos,” “auto-graph,” “dynamis,” and many others.

BOOKSTORE
OCT 9–11 | GALLERY FOYER
MACKNELL JACKSON BOOKS
Our resident bookseller will select titles relating to our theme and sell books written by our festival participants.

VISUAL ARTS
THE ART WALL
IMANNESS
BY ANGELOPSI AGA
An original mural by AngeloPSi offers a post-minimalist, almost hallucinatory visual representation of narcissism today accompanying a website, I-amness.com, the work reflects on our times with technological savvy and a playful interactive platform.

FRI, OCT 9

THU, OCT 8
OPENING NIGHT
7–9PM | ATRIUM & GALLERY
TRIPLE ECHO
See reverse for details.

SAT, OCT 11
FAMILY DAY—FOR ALL AGES
NARCISSUS & SPACE: A SHORT FILM | MOON MIRRORS
10–11AM | GALLERY
CULTURE OF REFLECTOPOLIS
CREATED BY SHARON SHATTUCK AND IAN CHENEY
A SHORT ANIMATED FILM FOR AGES 5 AND UP
A SHORT FILM: MOON MIRRORS
NARCISSUS & SPACE: NARCISSUS & ASTROPHYSICS
11AM—12PM
A SHORT ANIMATED FILM FOR AGES 5 AND UP
Featuring an experiment in which Apollo astronauts left mirror arrays on the moon to study its relation to the earth, this animated short science film offers a cosmic look at the myth. Following each screening, filmmakers and astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman answer questions from the audience.

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