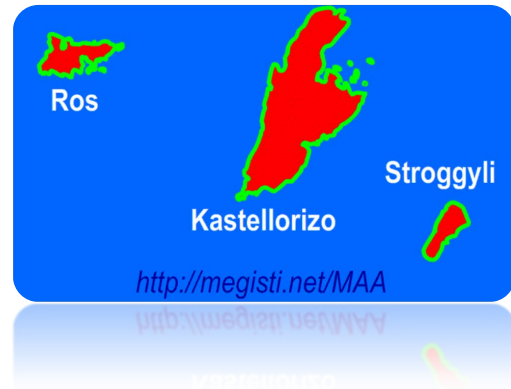


1st MEGISTIAN AENIGMA AGON
1st-3rd September 2017



The **Megistian Aenigma Agon** is a **Triple International Puzzle Competition** (Interaction, Inscription/Illusion and Invention). The word Megistian comes from one of the island's names (Megisti), Aenigma means puzzle, and Agon stands for competition. It is a celebration of toys and word-games for children from 0 to 150 years old, presenting to the world Greece's leading role in puzzles. As a definition, a Puzzle, an Aenigma or a Brainteaser, is anything which trains our mind.



At the top, the puzzles for the red competition. At the bottom, the three prizes (Wreath of Megisti) for the three competitions (green, blue and red).

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EVENTS WHICH MARKED THE 1ST MAA

KOTSANAS MUSEUM:

A tour to the wonderful mechanisms made by the Ancient Greeks
(was open daily at the Municipal Hall, from 28/8/17 to 3/9/17 in Kastellorizo).



The Antikythera mechanism, a pouring wine robot, ancient automated theatres, and more, had kids and adults engaged into an adventure through time.

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LECTURES:

1. “Mathematical Magic Tricks and Other Puzzles” by Prof Michael Lambrou.



2. “Ostomachion: An encounter with the oldest puzzle in human history” by Dr Pantazis Houlis. Pantazis presented for the first time new results classifying different solutions, and provided a “mystical” *Archimedean solution*.



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KASTELLORIZO ENIGMA CONGRESS (KEC, since 2008):

A celebration of puzzles for all ages, for experiencing the logic and movement of mechanical puzzles, to exchange ideas and to ignite creativity.



ART EXHIBITION EVENT:

“Megisti: Light, Word and Stone” by sculptor Alexandros Zygouris – Atelier Zygouris



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PUZZLE COMPETITIONS (BLUE, GREEN, AND RED AGON):



BLUE AGON

Here, the best scientific and /or mechanical 3d puzzle (in the form of a toy or a gadget), is awarded.

“MEGISTEUS” BEST OF THE BEST PUZZLE AWARD (BLUE AGON):

CYLIMAZE (by Kyrill Grebnev)

(Winner receives a small copy of the island’s precious treasure, the Wreath of Megisti)



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OTHER 2017 AWARDS:



"Apollo" Attractive Puzzle Award: MINIMATCH-I (by Kate Jones)



"Archimedes" Logical Puzzle Award: ONE IN A ROW (by Patrick Timmerman)



"Euclid" Geometrical Puzzle Award: KISSEL (by Vaclav Obsivac)



"Hephaestus" Quality Puzzle Award: EKANS (by Dimitris Pettas)



"Odysseus" Creative Puzzle Award: CYLIMAZE (by Kirill Grebnev)



"Pandora" Unpredictable Puzzle Award: OMPIC (by Vaclav Obsivac)



"Prometheus" Well Thought Puzzle Award: TUNNEL EFFECT (by Kirill Grebnev)

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ALL COMPETING PUZZLES (8 entries):

CYLIMAZE

Manufactured and designed in 2017
by Kirill Grebnev.
Made of acrylic, stainless steel.



Goal: Guide the small piece from the top to the bottom of the cylinder.

<http://puzzle.palyn.ru/>

EKANS

Manufactured and designed in 2016
by Dimitris Pettas.
Made of plum tree.



Goal: Put together the pieces to form a cube.

KISSEL

Manufactured and designed in 2016 by Vaclav
Obsivac.
Made of plum tree.



Goal: Make an icosahedral form from four identical pieces. <http://www.vinco.cz/>

MINIMATCH-I

Manufactured by Kadon Enterprises and
designed in 2015 by Kate Jones.
Made of laser acrylic.



Goal: Match the pieces. <http://www.gamepuzzles.com/>

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OMPIC

Manufactured and designed in 2016
by Vaclav Obsivac.
Made of wood.



Goal: Construct a cube inside the cage.
<http://www.vinco.cz/>

ONE IN A ROW

Manufactured by Philos in 2017 and designed
by Patrick Timmerman in 2013.
Made of wood.



Goal: The nine cubes need to be put inside the
frame so that no more than a coloured square is
visible on each horizontal, vertical and diagonal
line. <https://www.one-in-a-row.eu>

SLIDING MAZE

Manufactured and designed in 2017
by Kirill Grebnev.
Made of acrylic.



Goal: Slide the pieces through a maze.
<http://puzzle.palyn.ru/>

TUNNEL EFFECT

Manufactured and designed in 2013
by Kirill Grebnev.
Made of plywood, nylon.



Goal: Bring the rod to the other side.
<http://puzzle.palyn.ru/>

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GREEN AGON

Here, a smart problem (expressed mainly in words and/or numbers), or a puzzling picture will be awarded a prize.

“MEGISTEUS” BEST OF THE BEST PUZZLE AWARD (GREEN AGON):

Emrehan Halici

(Winner receives a small copy of the island’s precious treasure, the Wreath of Megisti)



OTHER 2017 AWARDS:



“Sphinx” Award (1D): Emrehan Halici



“Daedalus” Award (2D): Giannis Psihos

1st MEGISTIAN AENIGMA AGON
1st-3rd September 2017

ALL COMPETING PUZZLES (7 entries):



How many ghostly faces are hidden inside the photo? (by Giannis Psihos).



How many boats are there in the photo? (by Michael Kalafatas).

Spot the ten differences



How was this photo made? (by Oskar van Deventer).

<http://oskarvandeventer.nl/>

“Self-discipline is an important ZXXXXX according to the famous XXXXX”

Find the words XXXXX and ZXXXXX which differ by only one letter (by Michael Stoukas).

“A blast of XXX messed up her ZXXX”

Find the words XXX and ZXXX which differ by only one letter (by Michael Stoukas).

TWO DIGITS

Touch only two digits, and make the equation correct.

$$1234 = 33$$

Puzzle by Emrehan Halici, Turkey

Change the position of two digits to correct the equation (by Emrehan Halici).

<http://www.puzzleup.com>

“Last XXXXX, I saw a ZXXXXX riding a white horse”

Find the words XXXXX and ZXXXXX which differ by only one letter (by Michael Stoukas).

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RED AGON

This is a speed solving competition. The Red Agon took place at the Agora on the 3rd of September.

“MEGISTEUS” BEST OF THE BEST PUZZLE AWARD (RED AGON):

Stamatia Achladioti

(Winner receives a small copy of the island’s precious treasure, the Wreath of Megisti)



OTHER 2017 AWARDS:



“Hermes” Fastest Solver Award: Stamatia Achladioti (9.69 seconds)

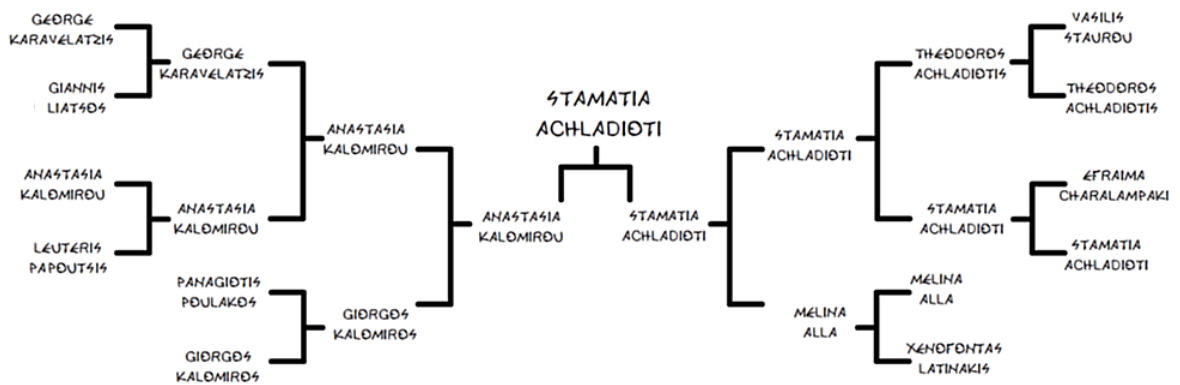


“Achilles” Hero Solver Award (Finalist): Anastasia Kalomirou

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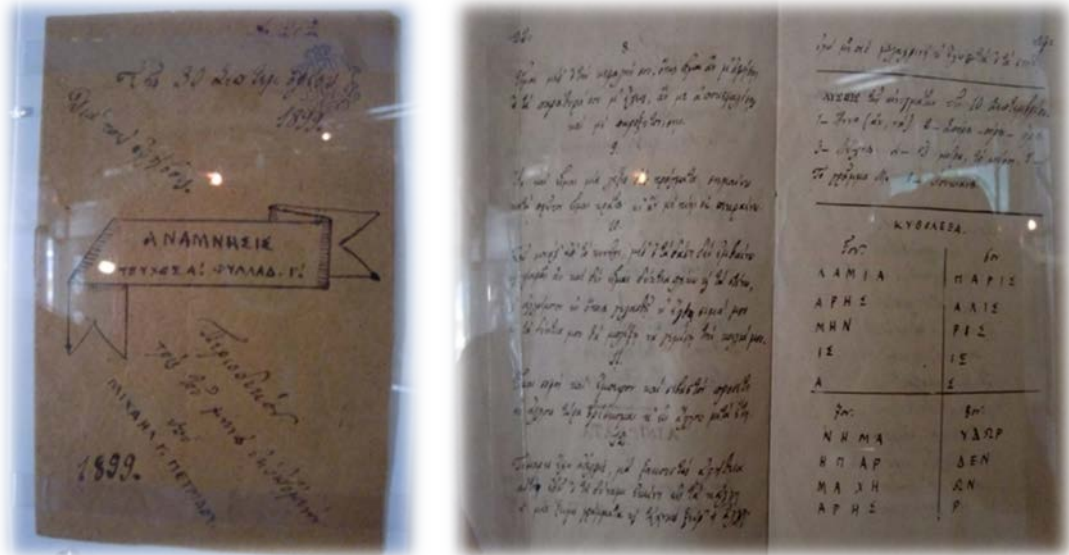


ALL COMPETITORS (RED AGON):



WHY KASTELLORIZO? The reasons for the existence of the MAA:

1. Kastellorizo has a **long history** in puzzles. In the past, there were plenty of puzzle magazines circulated on the island. A good example is the 19th century magazine **"Anamniseis"** by **Michael Petridou**, which can be found at the Megisti museum.



2. Two of the three internationally known Greek mechanical puzzle designers (**Michael Toulouzas** and **Pantazis Houlis**) have origins from Kastellorizo Island.



3. Kastellorizo's isolated geographical position and beautiful landscape provides the perfect place for mind concentration and inspiration, especially for puzzles.

The 2017 MEGISTIAN AENIGMA AGON would like to thank:

1. The Festival “*Beyond the Borders*” (<http://www.beyondtheborders.gr>), which happened at the same time, as it is the largest current yearly happening in Kastellorizo, with a variety of movies, concerts and other events to attend and watch, lasting for an entire week.
2. The help of the *Hellenic History Foundation* (<http://www.idisme.gr>) especially *Panagiotis Poulakos, Irini Sarioglou, Pavlina Georgiadou, Alexandros Makris, Xenofon Latinakis, Fani Voudouri, Margarita Kannis, Stathis Galazoulas, Angelos Kovotsos, Kozet Mamakou, Maria Konstantopoulou*, and *Agisilaos Zotos* who assisted the MAA in many vital ways.
3. The *Municipality of Megisti* and *Drasi* for providing to us the usage of key areas.
4. *Pantazis Houlis* for exhibiting and providing hands-on his prototypes and vast puzzle collection (which contains expensive, impressive, rare, and one of a kind designs).
5. *Gabriel Fernandes'* Puzzle Collection blog (<http://mypuzzlecollection.blogspot.com>), the *Midlands Puzzle Party* (<https://web.facebook.com/groups/306368582822017>), <http://www.kastellorizo.com> and <http://www.kastellorizo.net> for promoting the MAA.
6. The support of people related to the prestigious International Puzzle Party.
7. The participation of world famous puzzle designers (who also provided extremely positive and encouraging feedback) and the unexpected high quality of the competition puzzles.
8. The visit of Professor *Michael Lambrou* from the University of Crete, the main organiser in Greece of the international Kangaroo competition (<http://www.kangaroo.gr>).
9. The existence of judges with immense experience in puzzles (collecting and designing) and puzzle competitions (Australia, Greece, Singapore).
10. The presence of representatives *Giannis Liatsos* and *Vassilis Staurou* of the Greek escape rooms “*Great Escape*” (<http://www.greatescape.gr>).
11. The effort of the organisers to minimize the cost for participating to almost zero (that is, except just for the postage of physical puzzles in the blue competition).
12. The hospitality of the local people nicely combined with Kastellorizo’s puzzle tradition.
13. The presence of the impressive *Kotsanas Museum* (<http://www.kotsanas.com>) with the Ancient Greek Mechanisms, which blended perfectly with all the puzzle events.
14. The puzzle lectures with new puzzle research and world premiere in Kastellorizo.
15. The organisers’ choice of the beautiful surroundings and location of Kastellorizo, with so much to offer to anyone who stayed for a few days (crystal clear water, mountain paths with amazing views, the blue cave, the excellent local food and sweets, etc).
16. And most importantly, the... *Puzzle Ninja*, who helped us to protect the puzzles and stop people from cheating at the competitions (<http://www.puzzleninja.com>).



Prof. Lambrou being chased by puzzle-thirsty kids



The Puzzle Ninja protects the MAA from above