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## State Museum of Contemporary Art

The **State Museum of Contemporary Art** was founded in 1997 and has been steadily and dynamically developing, since then.

Today, it is one of the most prominent foundations that hosts and projects works of modern and contemporary art, using planning tactics implemented in **six basic thematic actions**:

- the administration of the most significant Russian Avant-Garde Collection outside Russia, [the Costakis Collection](#), by organizing original productions, co-productions and scientific research programmes in Greece and abroad,
- the record and promotion of the contemporary Greek art as well as the creation and support of common grounds for effective dialogue between Greek artists and artists from Europe and all over the world,
- the support of the synthesis of arts as well as the reinforcement of innovative and alternative artistic suggestions,
- the substantial cooperation and netting with cultural institutions in Greece, Europe and abroad,
- the usage of the most modern digital technologies in all its communication fields, the development of web applications as well as the creation of a web portal,
- the implementation of innovative educational programmes as well as access programmes for all social groups.

### [Collections](#)

Apart from the [Costakis Collection](#), which includes 1.275 masterpieces of prominent Russian Avant Garde artists, the State Museum of Contemporary Art has in its possession a significant amount of paintings and sculptures of Greek and foreign artists (about 200), which were donated by the Thessaloniki Cultural Capital of Europe 1997 Organization.

Furthermore, the Museum possesses [contemporary art works of distinguished artists](#), who wished to donate their works to the museum, mostly on the occasion of an exhibition, such as Chris Gianakos, Stylianos Antonakos but also independently of any event, such as works of G. Vacalo, donated by Cathleen Vacalo.

### [Education](#)

The State Museum of Contemporary Art particularly emphasizes on its educational role. Organized educational programmes follow the contemporary museum educational methods and aim at bringing students of all ages in contact with its permanent collections as well as with the museum's periodically organized exhibitions for children. Educational programs are designed and conducted by the personnel of the museum or by expert museum pedagogues who collaborate with the museum. The programs are adjusted to the age and the respective interests of each group in order to activate individual participation and initiative, so that the visit to the museums turns to a creative and pleasant experience.

The Museum also addresses to any social groups, to which it offers, after a contact with the

administration, organized guided tours in English and Greek language.

Besides, within the framework of educational activities, the museum addresses to groups that have higher standards and specialized requirements. It organizes annual cycles of lectures in collaboration with Greek and foreign specialists on topics related to modern art as well as conducts scientific conferences with the participation of professors and students of Art history departments of Greek and foreign universities in order to exchange knowledge and experience, to examine closely specific scientific issues and to forward research.

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