

CONTRADICTION AND  
CHANGE IN A FORMER  
METROPOLIS

Angelica Sachini

E. Theodoridou 8, 546 42 Thessaloniki Greece

## GREECE: CONTRADICTION AND CHANGE IN A FORMER METROPOLIS

The paper proposes to examine several aspects of cultural activity and production in present day Greece and discuss possible ways of promoting modern Greek art outside the national borders. Greece, once a metropolis and now occupying only a marginal position on the cultural map of Europe is on the crossroads between East and West and this has always been a decisive factor in shaping its cultural identity. Among the many problems Greek art historians are faced with and which will be discussed, are those concerning the relationship of ancient Greek with modern Greek art and its influence on the latter, the relationship of contemporary Greek art with international art and the need to overcome the language barrier by translating art history and criticism texts from Greek into one of the languages used in artistic "centres" such as English or German. Finally, the recent developments in the Balkans often forcing the emphasis on ethnological and national art, will also be touched upon.