

# TheLandmark*News*



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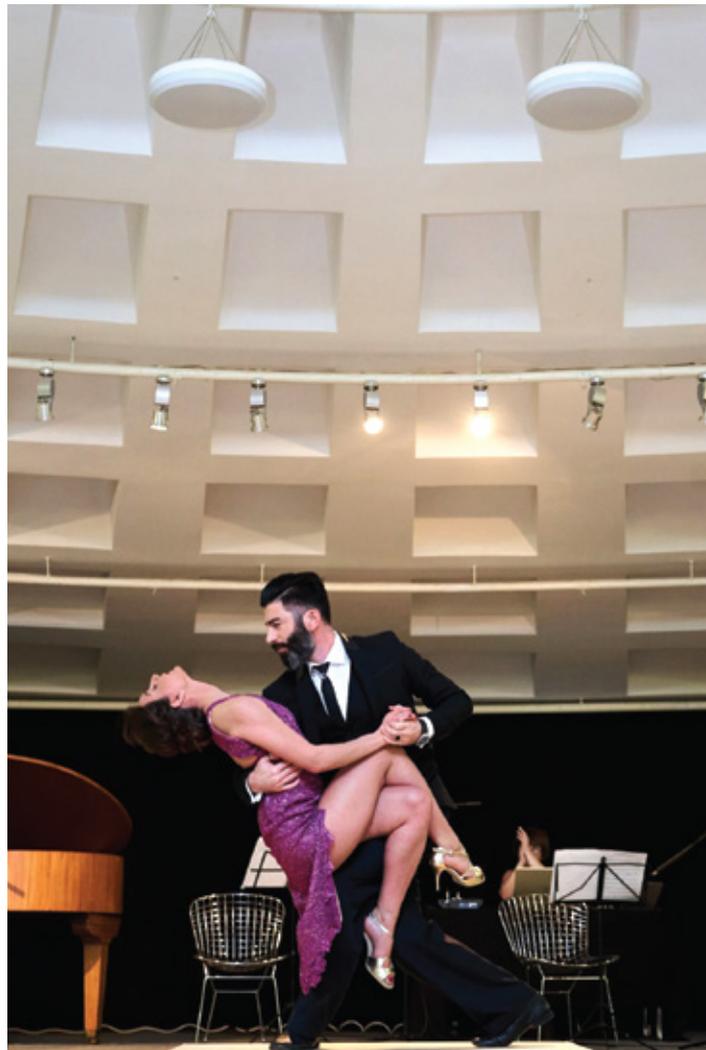
# TANGO FESTIVAL

On 16-19 November with the support of Argentine Embassy in Azerbaijan was held second Tango festival. The aim of the event was to raise interest in Tango.

Within the framework of the festival was organized 3 days master classes for beginners as well as for professional dancers. Almost 200 people joined and danced tango for the first time. Meanwhile 300 people assisted to the Gala Milonga Show.

On the second day of the festival was held Gala Milonga Show with participation of professional tango masters from Argentina, Georgia, Turkey and Azerbaijan.

At the Argentine Tango night - talented dancers showcased all the beauty of the beautiful dance. From Azerbaijan tango performance was demonstrated by Ilham Osmanov and Elfiya Sultanova, Emil and Lala Gozalov, Zaur Ramazanov and Lenay Seyidalizade. The enthusiastic performance of dancer caused great



interest and pleasure. The festival was held at Rotunda Jazz hall and Caspian Hall of the Landmark Hotel.

It is known that the capital of tango is Argentina. Tango was born among immigrants thus, many different cultures has been mixed in it: Cuba, Africa, European countries and Argentina itself.

From the local tango academies I N - Tango Baku, TanGo ON and E.L. CLUB de TANGO were participated in this festival.



# POLISH & GREEK FILM DAYS

## WISLA POLISH FILM FESTIVAL, 3RD EDITION



On November 22-28, **the 3rd Polish Wisla Film Festival was held** at The Landmark Rotunda Jazz Club with (-1st floor). The Club provided a unique opportunity to see Polish films on the big screen.

This year the festival featured 6 Polish films such as "Battle of Warsaw, 1920", "The Righteous", "City 44", "80 mln", "Taxing Love", "Breaking the Limits", "The Night Talks".

The festival has opened with the historical drama - the film "Warsaw Battle. 1920" directed by Jerzy Hoffman.

The history of Polish cinema is almost as long as history of cinematography, and it has universal achievements. A number of Polish filmmakers have influenced the development of the world cinema.

The festival was held for the first time in 2008 at the Moscow "KHUDOZHESTVENNY" cinema.

Today the festival covers more than 30 cities in 8 countries.

Polish Wisla Film Festival managed to catch the fancy of viewers in many other countries around the world.

Every year, the festival brings the best of Polish cinema to Azerbaijan, Russia, Croatia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.

The festival program traditionally includes the best feature films, documentaries, as well as the works by students and graduates of the leading Polish film schools.



## GREEK FILM DAYS

On November 26-28, at Cine Club was held "Greek Movie Days" in the framework of Second Greek Experience at The Landmark Center.

Movies like "1968", "10 fragments from movies that can explain the Greeks", "La Sindrome di Antonio" were welcomed by the audience with great enthusiasm.

# DISCOVERING ATHENS AND LEROS

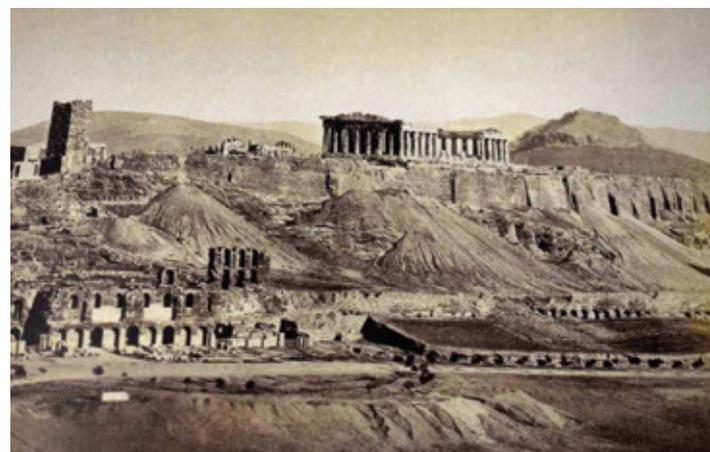
On Thursday, November 29 in the framework of Second Greek experience at the Landmark's Cine Club was held the following session of the Traveler's club Baku.

This event was dedicated to one of the oldest cities in Europe, Athens and its different layers of history. A city that has seen moments off glory, decay, love and hate. A city that has rebranded itself becoming a dynamic, innovative, multi-cultural modern city and proud of its past.

The event also featured one of the least known, however the most beautiful and intriguing Greek islands, Leros.

As always great adventurer and experienced traveler, guide of the event- Denis Daniilidis caught everyone's attention with interesting stories, useful information and facts related to Athens.

He also shared with the traveler's club fans his own captured photos and filmed videos representing attractive Leros.



As always handicrafts, maps, rare books and artifacts describing the area were on display for viewers.

During the event was screened several promo videos dedicated ancient and modern life, culture, architecture and food style of city of Athens. Also, promo videos describing undiscovered beautiful nature and lifestyle of the island Leros.

At the end was displayed short documentary film about Greek history.

Furthermore, guests of the event got opportunity to degustate delicious, organic olive oil and olives came from Greece.

**Interesting facts about Leros:** Idyllic Leros is a tiny member of the Dodecanese island group, closer in proximity to Turkey than to the Greek mainland. It is this strategic location that has made it hot property for centuries – taking turns in the hands of the Byzantine empire, Ottomans, Italians, and the British. Life in Leros is uncomplicated. With its intimate population, everyone went to school together, are neighbors, or are related. This means they are very aware of who is a visitor to the island, and if you engage them in conversation, they're all ears. Rules are very lax, time is not adhered to, and it's a place where anything can happen.



# PIANO CONCERT BY MEXICAN MUSICIAN

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On November 28th, for the first time was performed a solo concert by the famous Mexican pianist, Jesus Lepe Rico.

The pianist performed masterpieces of the famous composers Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, as well as some masterpieces of the important Mexican composers. The purpose of the event was to achieve a closer relationship between both peoples and contribute to the knowledge of national culture and art.

Jesús Lepe Rico was born in Tampico, Tamaulipas. He studied music at the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas and at the Universidad of Veracruz. He was awarded at the national level as a Tamaulipan artist of the year 2012 and has been a scholar on several occasions by the Universidad of Veracruz and the International Institute for Young Musicians during his career. He has performed as a soloist in numerous stages in Mexico. He is a founder and general director of the Papantla International Piano Festival. In addition, he acts as a performer and director of the piano class of the Municipal Culture House.

As a piano promoter he is founder and general director of the **PAPANTLA** International Piano Festival 2017



The concert was organized by the Embassy of Mexico in Azerbaijan with the organizational support of The Landmark Baku.



# GREEK CONCERT BY MONOPATIA

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Two nights, on November 24-25 at the Landmark's "Caspian Room" (22th floor) was held mesmerizing Greek concerts **Cretan** by best-known Greek musical group "**REMBETIKA MONOPATIA**" in the framework of **2nd Greek Landmark Experience**. It was the first visit and performance of Greek musicians- Vangelis, Yorgos, Theofanis and Nikos in Azerbaijan.

Guests of the event enjoy the classical Greek music and were delighted with the fascinating performance of the musicians.

**Cretan** music is wild and unpredictable. Quite a different thing to the disciplined **bouzouki** music of the Greek mainland. Endless melodies, one after the other in complicated 7/8 or 9/8 time, sometimes monotonous and archaic, sometimes almost ecstatic.

The main role is taken by the lyra, the traditional three-stringed instrument made of mulberry wood, supported on the knee. It resembles a violin, but is played by grazing the strings with a fingernail and plays the main melody. The laouto (a type of lute, double strung,) and the tambouras (bouzouki) serve as accompanying instruments.

There is often singing, too, with the singer and the lyra leading the melody alternately. The verses mostly consist of Mantinades which are 15-syllable couplets with a lot of humor and spirit. They are often created

spontaneously and deal with love, nature or worldly affairs, sometimes spoofing members of the audience. There are Mantinades for every occasion, and even children practice them.

Cretan traditional music is very complex due to the fact that many civilizations, at various periods of time, have intruded and inhabited the island: Venetians, Saracens, Turks...Moreover, after 330 B.C.



# FERNANDO & LUIS COSTA:

## INTERNATIONAL DUO BY THE PORTUGUESE TWINS

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Witness to the magical fusion of mugham and classical music (cello and piano), the newest level of classical music performed by the twins- **LUIS and FERNANDO COSTA brothers** at the Landmark's Rotunda Jazz Club on December 15.



Twins, originally from Portugal, have been impressing the critics for their powerful and intimate-connected music. Their concerts always range from solo works to chamber music works enabling a dynamic experience. They have developed a great synchronization marked by a strong stage presence always linked to the simplicity of the natural fluency of their music.

This time they will enrich their performance with the Azerbaijani National Music – Mugham – with the special participation of Sahib Pashazada's Mugham Trio!

Fernando Costa has been claimed as "a safe value of the new generation of performers in Portugal" (Casa da Música, Oporto). A young cellist whose recognition and prestigious awards are the result of his emotional resonant performances, marked by a strong presence on stage and an expressive and musical sensitivity combined with a dynamic and impulsive style.

Luis Costa took his first piano lessons from Zhuang Xiao Hua when he was 8 years old. A few years later he started studying with Alvaro Teixeira Lopes, who is still his professor and has always been a great inspiration to him. In 2012 he studied under the guidance of Friedemann Rieger at the HFM Stuttgart.

Do not miss the chance to take part to a wonderful and magnificent musical experiment!

# STAY FIT & HEALTHY WITH SWIMMING

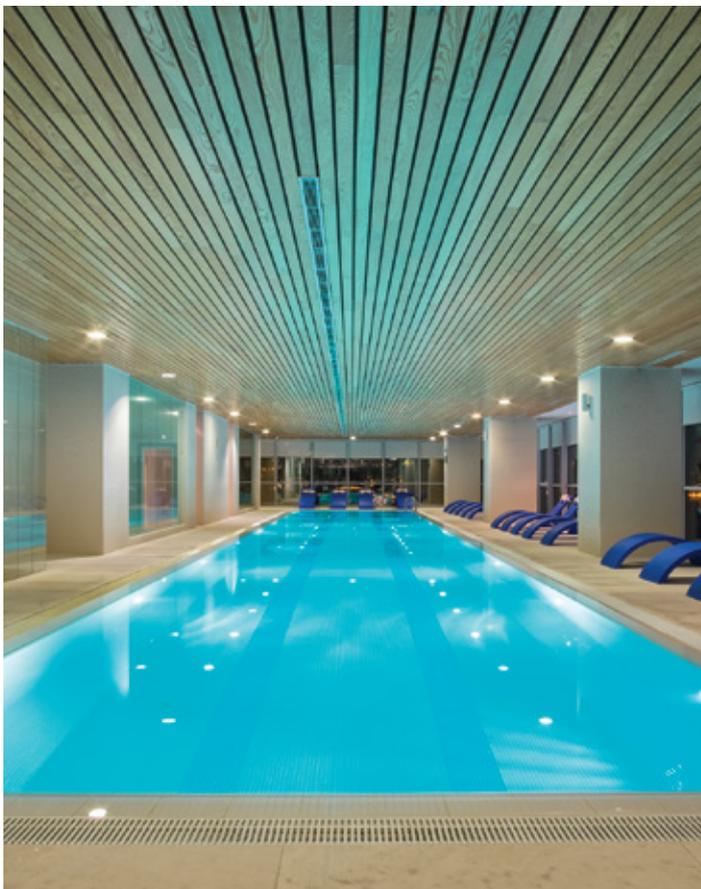
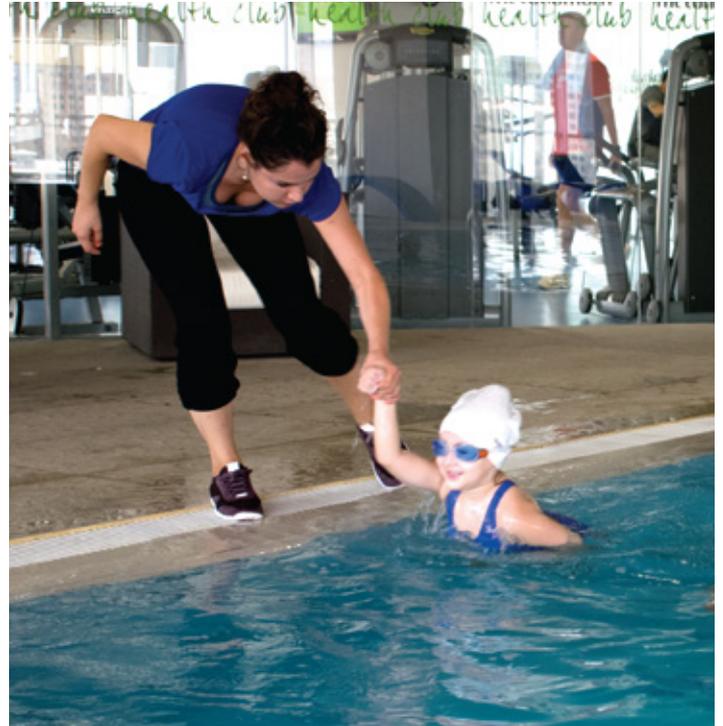
Do you love spending time in the water, also learn swimming properly and professionally? In this case we invite you to join our swimming classes at the Landmark Health Club.

Landmark Health Club offers a range of swimming classes (free style, butterfly, etc.) for kids starting from the age 3+ and adults.

Classes led by our professional fitness and swim instructor Afag Rustemova, who works at the Landmark Health Club since 2011.

The classes take place between 7 am to 5pm, for one hour duration, allowing to choose between classes in the mornings or afternoons.

Our beautiful swimming pool is located on the 10th floor with an amazing view of the city of Baku. The pool is 28 m in length and 160sm in depth.



## 10 HIDDEN BENEFITS OF SWIMMING

1. Swimming improves social well being
2. Teaches goal orientation
3. Kids who swim become active adults
4. Makes you smarter
5. Teaches team-building skills
6. Burns more calories than jogging
7. Slows down aging
8. Good for asthma
9. Swimmers are more confident
10. Minimal gear

## INTERVIEW WITH MAURIZIO FERRI, DIRECTOR OF ITALIN TRADE AGENCY



**ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY**

**ICE - Italian Trade Commission**

**Trade Promotion Office of the Italian Embassy**

### **When ITC was based in the Landmark premises and what is your main experience here?**

The Italian Trade Agency's offices are in landmark since 2007. So far, the experience is very positive. Landmark complex is well organized, and the management is very attentive to our needs.

We have also organized here various cultural and business events.

### **What are the main facilities you like in the Landmark?**

The hotel price is correct, we often use the landmark for our delegations. As a participant to some cultural events organized here, I also think that the rotunda complex is very nice.

### **What is the main activity of your company in Azerbaijan?**

ITA - Italian Trade Agency is the Governmental agency that supports the business development of our companies abroad and promotes the attraction of foreign investment in Italy. ITA provides information, assistance, consulting, promotion and training to Italian small and medium-sized businesses. The Baku office is a part of a network of 79 overseas offices in 65 countries. We work closely with the Italian Embassy

### **What is/are latest achievement (s) of the company and future plans in Azerbaijan?**

The official visit of Italian President Sergio Mattarella, with a delegation of more than 40 Italian companies is by far the biggest events we (ITA and Embassy) organized here in Baku in the last years.

Our plans for the future are to enhance cooperation with the local government and business to develop the non-oil sector, starting with agriculture and agro-industry development and environment protection project. Of course, the oil & gas sector remains the central sector for our business strategies.



# GREEK DINNER

## AT THE CASPIAN GRILL & TERRACE

On November 24/25, in the framework of Second Greek Experience at the Caspian Grill and Terrace (20th floor) of the Landmark Hotel was held delicious event dedicated to Greek cuisine. Two professional chefs from Greece Marinakis Georgies and Somarakis Michalis came to Baku for the first time to prepare some key dishes of one the healthiest cuisines of the world, the Cretan Cuisine.

Michalis Somarakis the chef and owner of a dream fish tavern on the wild Southern coast of Crete prepared special Cretan buffets for the lucky guests of the Landmark.



Buffet was included appetizer like Tzatziki, Tarama, Octopus, famous dishes like Greek Salad, Saganaki Shrimp with Feta Cheese, Kritharaki with Seafood, Squid in Red Wine, Lasagna with Fish, Fish with fresh tomatoes and some traditional desserts.

### **The history of Cretan cuisine.**

Cretan cuisine is the traditional cuisine of the Mediterranean island of Crete.

The core of the Cretan cuisine consists of food derived from natural sources, whereas food of animal origin was more peripheral in nature. In general, people consumed seasonal products, available in the wider local area, which underwent minimal processing or none at all. The traditional cuisine was widespread in the island until the 1960s when, with improving living standards, alimentary patterns changed towards more meat and other animal-derived produce.

Fresh fruit and dried fruits, pulses, endemic wild herbs and aromatic plants, and rough cereals, whose cultivation was favored by the regional climate, were consumed in great amounts and constituted the base of the Cretan cuisine during that period. Dairy products were consumed on a daily basis in low to moderate quantities. Poultry and fish were consumed on a weekly basis in moderate quantities, whereas red meat was consumed only a few times a month. The main supply of fat was effectuated by olive oil, which was used not only in salads but also in cooking, unlike the northern European countries which primarily used animal fat. Another essential feature of the Cretan cuisine was the moderate use of alcohol, mainly red wine which accompanied meals. Finally, the most common dessert was yogurt and fresh fruits, while traditional pastry based on honey had been consumed a few times a week.



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