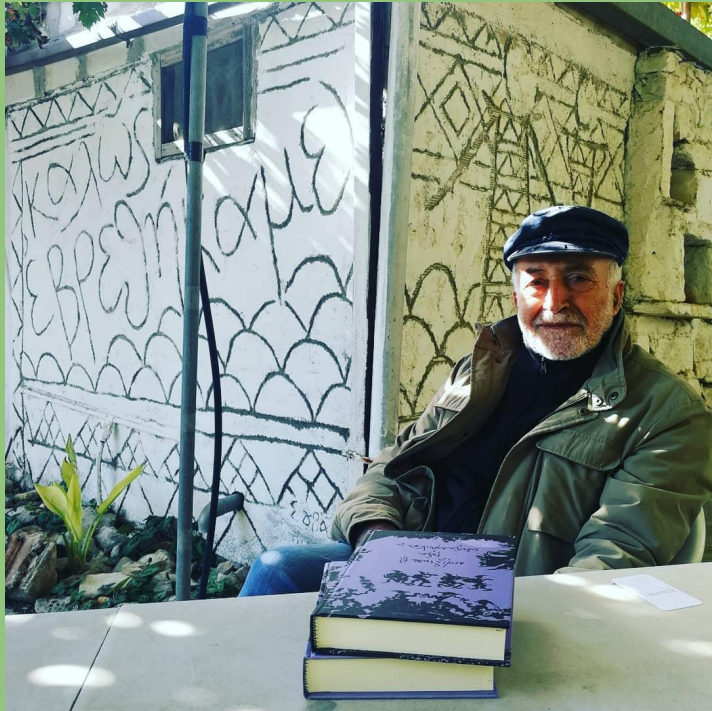


Hambis Tsangaris

The art of engraving



I see, I explore, I create!
2023-2024



Hambis Tsangaris <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcqzJil42cM&t=69s>

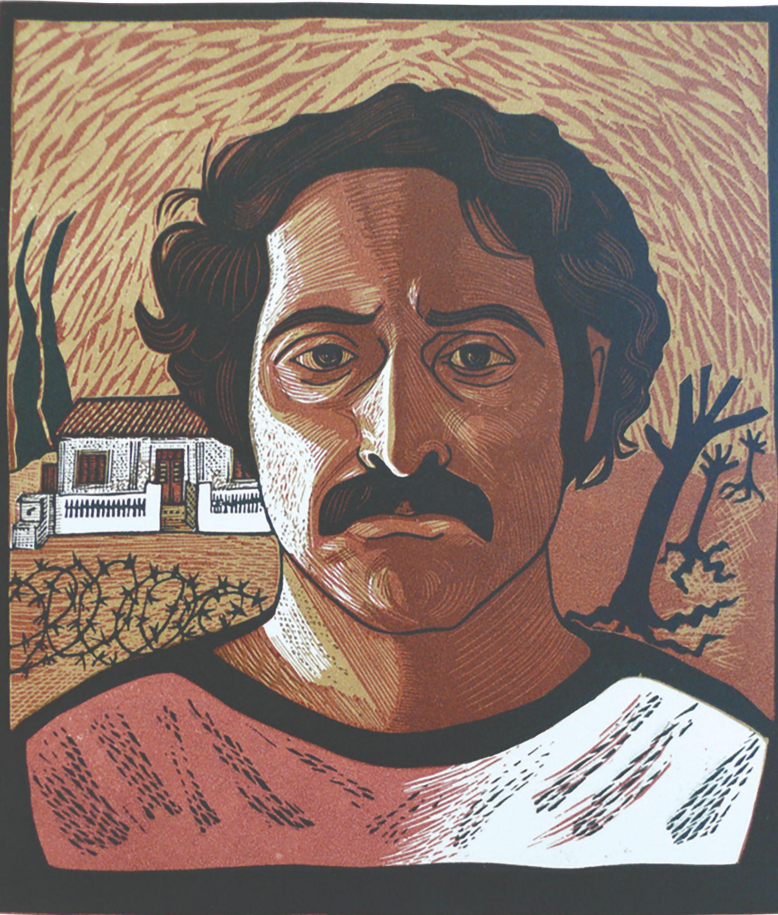


He was born in 1947 in the village of Kontea, Cyprus currently occupied , in the province of Famagusta. He was involved in art from an early age and organized his first solo exhibition in Famagusta in 1968.

When he was a primary school student he used to carve potatoes with a knife, put ink and constantly printed potato patterns. Today, he is the most famous engraver in Cyprus - and not only.



In 1971 he went to Athens, following the invitation of the famous Greek engraver A. Tassos, in whose workshop he took his first lessons in engraving. In 1976 he went to Moscow where for a number of years (1976-1982) he studied at the State Art Institute "Surikov" where he studied graphic arts and graduated with honors.



Self- portrait



Park Kuzminki - Moscow 1981-1982



After graduating in 1982, Hambis Tsagaris returned to Cyprus where he still lives and works. In his museum and workshop he offers free engraving lessons in the summer.



in 2008, he further expanded the reach of this heritage by establishing the Hambis Museum of Printmaking in the countryside. In 2019, the Hambis Municipal Museum of Printmaking in Nicosia was inaugurated. These milestones represent Hambis' relentless pursuit to broaden the horizons of his students and introduce them to diverse cultures through the expressive medium of printmaking, thus fostering intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity.



At the root of his activities is the belief that culture, heritage and art should be accessible to everyone, regardless of their background. To this end, Hambis Tsangaris travelled throughout Cyprus, visiting numerous villages, in every region, to provide free printmaking lessons and share folk traditions in parallel. In this way, he demonstrates that art is a remarkable resource for highlighting and preserving Europe's shared culture.



His engravings tell the story of the vibrant world of Cypriot folk culture, its captivating myths and cherished traditions.



In addition, Hambis Tsangaris has also created illustrated publications of Cypriot folktales. He has studied, recorded and illustrated the Cypriot legends and traditions about the kalikangiaris (Cypriot goblins) in a series of books.



Hambis engravings have been used to create postage stamps.



PEACE 2017

European Heritage awards- Europa Nostra 2023



[Hambis Tsangaris- Europa Nostra 2023](#))- video (click on the blue letters)

Through the art of printmaking, Hambis Tsangaris and the community of printmakers he has created have effectively safeguarded this invaluable part of Cyprus' intangible heritage. *"Hambis Tsangaris is remarkable for his achievements in fostering connections and understanding among communities in Cyprus through his work with heritage. With a passionate and inclusive approach, he has dedicated himself to the transmission of knowledge both locally and internationally, integrating traditional Cypriot storytelling into his efforts. He has reached an impressive number of people, including schoolchildren. His innovative ideas and commitment to art as a medium for delivering meaningful messages is an inspiration to other European citizens"*, the Awards' Jury stated.



The art of engraving (video click on blue letters)- [Engraving on linolenium](#)



**Tools
needed to
engrave**

Materials needed:



linoleum

Engraving on various materials and tools:

For small children it is not advisable to do engraving on linoleum, because of the sharp tools.

There are other alternative engraving for our small children:

Scratch art: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=8j6t7xnpPi0>



Using oil pastels
and a wooden
skewer to
engrave .

Styrofoam engraving and printing:

Easy to use pieces of styrofoam and the children use a pencil to engrave their picture and after with a roller and water based ink and paper print their picture.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2cCpfTOGp6w>



Engraving on polymer clay, clay or plasticine:

Using wooden tool or pencil or wooden skewer and paint or water based ink:

For children : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4fbifkDn4ik>



Craft Foam engraving and printing:

Using craft foam, pencil and printing ink:

<https://arteascuola.com/2017/01/flowers-printed-with-craft-foam/>

