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PRESS RELEASE

From Minoan Art to the Modern Era: New Exhibition at the Museum of Casts, Aristotle University

Thessaloniki, 11/11/2025

The Museum of Casts of the Aristotle University is organizing an exhibition titled “The Museum of Casts of A.U.Th and the Gilliéron Workshop: A Century of Creative Collaboration.” The exhibition will take place in Rooms A and B, in the basement of the new building of the Faculty of Philosophy. The opening ceremony will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., in the Amphitheatre of the Museum of Casts (Room B).

The exhibition is organized as part of the centennial celebration of the founding and operation of the Aristotle University.

According to the organizers, the exhibition is an original endeavor that emerged from the creative collaboration between the Museum of Casts of Aristotle University and the Gilliéron Archive of the French School at Athens (École française d’Athènes.). At its core are sets of objects exhibited in the Museum of Casts, which were acquired at the time of its establishment (1928–1930) from the workshop of the artists Émile Gilliéron, father and son, in Athens, through the initiative of Konstantinos Romaïos, the first Professor of Classical Archaeology at Aristotle University.

These include painted reproductions of famous frescoes and galvanoplastic replicas of Mycenaean and Minoan artworks—one of the very few complete collections of this kind in existence today worldwide. At the same time, many casts of archaic sculptures (Korai, Kouroi, and reliefs) were also acquired, among the first produced by the Plaster Workshop of the National Archaeological Museum.

The exhibition features numerous copies and casts of ancient artworks, as well as previously unpublished archival and workshop materials and educational displays

(workshop remnants, publications, photographs, drawings, projections) from the fields of Archaeology (Prehistoric, Classical, and Byzantine), Art History, Modern History, and Digital Applications. The exhibits are displayed throughout the Museum of Casts and cover a wide chronological range—from Mycenaean and Minoan times through the Roman and Byzantine periods, and into the Modern Era, up to the first half of the 20th century.

The exhibition will run until June 25, 2026. Admission is free to the public.

More information is available at the following link:

<https://www.efa.gr/events/exposition-gillieron/>

The exhibition poster is attached.

We kindly request that this event be published, broadcast, and covered by the media.