

EVANGELOS MOUTSOPOULOS

My grandfather, Socrate



At the beginning of 1984, I met one of the greatest figures of philosophical thought of the 20th century, Evangelos Moutsopoulos.

I met him in the National Archaeological Museum. The meeting scene remains unforgettable to me. The professor was standing in front of the statue "Aphrodite and Pan" and was analyzing the metaphysical properties of Pan to a group of young students with a philosophical exuberance that literally mesmerized me.

I took part in the dialogues of the group, we got to know each other, he showed a special interest in our meeting and we made an appointment at his house in Ypsilantou Street, Kolonaki.

I remember it was evening, it was raining incessantly, when I rang the bell of his apartment and went up the stairs one by one. He opened the door for me and led me into a small room of his overcrowded residence. He sat in his desk chair, I on the other side, the visitor's chair, and we began a conversation concerning Socrates that literally marked my life.

The revered professor of philosophy spoke to me, looking deep into my eyes, with earthly words and heavenly meanings.

- The passage of Socrates, my dear Mr. Pisano, from the Life of Athens left the imprint of a personality dominated by a "demonic essence" from heaven, who, with his living example of everyday life, with his exhortation, with his moral lesson and at the same time with his ethos, awakened in me, in a unique way, the need for a totally new Life.

Moutsopoulos at one point stood up and spoke to the ceiling, as if unaware of my existence in his office.

- My grandfather and the grandfather of all present-day Greeks, Socrates, in fact, passed in indelible letters into history, Greek and universal, for two important reasons: he became the Founder of the Dialectic and the incomparable Protestant, i.e. the preacher, of a truly Moral life.

- Is his Dialectic connected with his Ethics? I asked the Professor.

- Of course! By the method of the Dialectic, Socrates becomes the founder of an autonomous morality based exclusively on Reason. In this way, Ethics is for the first time freed from the monstrous power of habit and from traditional religion, and fortified more securely in the shadow of Proof.

I listened silently, thoughtfully, buried deep in the meanings of his lofty meanings. The professor was unstoppable.

- Socrates, the man of "I saw nothing," hid in the depths of his consciousness, in the occult rhizomes of his soul, the Faith in an Absolute Morality that Good and Evil are both absolute. In this way, the great sage recognizes a Moral Law that extends over all mankind, which is totally independent. This Law is required to be enforced by the punishment of evil.

I remember Evangelos Moutsopoulos pointing out in the conclusion of his report on Socrates:

- Socrates' Ethics, my dear Mr. Pisano, with all its rigor and rigidity, has nothing ascetic about it because it does not neglect, does not ignore the need of human nature. It does not oppress the individual with the fear of unspeakable punishment. Nor does it pervert the tendency towards natural human pleasures. It only directs it, on the basis of Reason, to its true destination.

.....

I spoke to the leading Professor, that evening, about the Vision of Delphi, Heptapolis, describing the aims of being a spiritual City whose sunrise would light the setting of the times. He showed his absolute respect, declared unequivocally his participation in every way in the struggles of the OLYMPOS Association, became a founding member, then joined the Board of Directors, cooperated in an excellent way with all the members of the Councils until the end of his life, leaving behind him the trace of a true Philosopher, who served not only the Academy of Athens or the Kapodistrian University and, subsequently, the Association "OLYMPOS, World Spiritual Center". He served, with all the strength of his soul, the soul of the Greeks with his unrelenting struggle for the understanding of Greek Philosophy.

In the philosophical schools of the world, the name of Evangelos Moutsopoulos has brightened and continues to brighten, today and forever, their Academic Ouija Boards.