

Book of a brilliant career

SIXTEEN years following the end of a wonderful 50-year career in theatre, a book about actress Vasso Manoulidou has just been released to show her contribution to this field. The presentation of the book, entitled *Vasso Manoulidou - Memoirs*, has been published by the National Bank Foundation and will be presented at the Ceremonies Hall of Megaron Melas tomorrow.

Special attributes include high-quality texts by important colleagues, directors, theatre critics and other members of the literati who had the opportunity to work with Manoulidou and see her performances at some point in their career. Petros Charis, the late Odysseas Elytis, Tasos Athanasiadis, Dimitris Horn, Marios Ploritis, Costas Georgousopoulos and directors such as Alexis Solomos and Michalis Cacoyiannis are only a few. Her own excerpts detailing some of her greatest memories on stage are outstanding.

A retrospective of her career includes her first steps in theatre at the age of 15 in 1932, when she studied at the National Theatre's Drama School. Several years later, she created her own troupe which travelled around the Mediterranean to places like Alexandria, Cyprus and Constantinople. Manoulidou also had the opportunity to perform with some of the legendary actors of the local theatre scene, including Aimilios Veakis, Katina Paxinou, Alexis Minotis, Eleni Papadaki, Kyveli, Thanos Koutsopoulos, Dimitris Horn and Mary Aroni.

One-hundred-and-forty black and white photographs accompany the texts and show the actress in some of her personal moments as well as on stage. Her career included

over 100 roles (70 of these were classical or neoclassical, 24 were by Greek playwrights). The book includes pictures from her last days in the theatre when she performed at the National Theatre's Samuel Beckett's *Happy Days*, thus closing her theatre cycle with the same theatre she started off with. The book is also accompanied by two CDs of her last performance.

This presentation has been ready for a while now, however the original date of release last summer was postponed at Manoulidou's own request because she wanted the book to be presented during the theatre season.

Begins at 7.30pm tomorrow, with speeches by Georgousopoulos and Ploritis. Costs 10,000 drs.



'Vasso Manoulidou - Memoirs' is being presented at Megaron Melas tomorrow