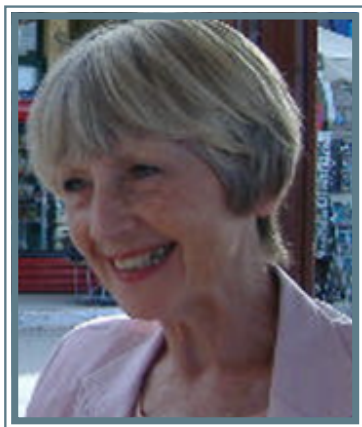


Celebrating the Life of
Patti Slavin Gialerakis



23 October 1939 - 12 March 2016



South London Crematorium, 24 March 2016

Arrival

Music: Mozart - Sinfonia Concertante in E Flat Major, K. 364,
Second Movement

A much loved piece of Patti and Andrew's.

Welcome

Gerardine welcomed friends and family and gave a brief account of Patti's life. Patti was well-known and highly respected in the theatre for her marvellous work as a scenographer and costume designer. She worked for the then Cape, Transvaal and Natal performing arts councils. She lectured in theatre arts at Witwatersrand and Natal universities. After marrying Andrew, they retired to Crete where she continued to share her creativity and enthusiasm through her involvement in a variety of theatrical productions.

Reading

John Donne - The Good-morrow

*I wonder, by my troth, what thou and I
Did, till we loved? Were we not weaned till then?
But sucked on country pleasures, childishly?
Or snorted we in the Seven Sleepers' den?
'Twas so; but this, all pleasures fancies be.
If ever any beauty I did see,
Which I desired, and got, 'twas but a dream of thee.
And now good-morrow to our waking souls,*



*Which watch not one another out of fear;
For love, all love of other sights controls,
And makes one little room an everywhere.
Let sea-discoverers to new worlds have gone,
Let maps to other, worlds on worlds have shown,
Let us possess one world, each hath one, and is one.
My face in thine eye, thine in mine appears,
And true plain hearts do in the faces rest;
Where can we find two better hemispheres,
Without sharp north, without declining west?
Whatever dies, was not mixed equally;
If our two loves be one, or, thou and I
Love so alike, that none do slacken, none can die.*

Music

Alexiou - Nepheli's Tango

Patti was sometimes homesick in her early days on Crete and she took great comfort from this track as she acclimatised to her new life.

Appreciation of Patti's life

Liza Miers told how Patti and her had kept in touch over the years because of their shared birthdays. She recalled her days at Napac with Patti and wonderful lunches at The Tropicale in Durban, filled with fun and laughter.



Angie Macdonald spoke of doing her drama honours degree with Patti. She told of Patti's arrivals at the University in her little yellow car called Matilda, which she drove using plenty of colourful language. She shared the touching story of doing tai-chi with Patti, conjuring up an image of the energy of the sun transforming into a bird that flies away.

Patti's cousin Colleen Allis began by reading a tribute from Patti's brother Mike Slavin in Johannesburg. He wrote lovingly of the joy of being able to share so many years of his life in her company, of her generosity and of being inspired by her love of art and music. Colleen recalled fun-filled childhood days in the company of Patti and the family. She remembered particularly spending many New Year's Eve celebrations in Patti's family home where Patti and her sister Maureen (R.I.P.) did traditional Scottish dancing, swords and all.

Departure

Mike Slavin on guitar - Floating Bridge

Patti adored her brother and was immensely proud of his music so it was fitting that he played her out on her final journey.





*“I Love you.
I can say nothing deeper,
more simple or greater.”*

Greek poetess, Myrriotissa (1883 - 1967)

Andrew would like to express his sincere thanks to everyone who has supported him in this time of sadness and loss. He would also like to thank those who helped and comforted Patti and him throughout her illness. Thanks to one and all for your care, compassion and generosity.

Memory sharing continued afterwards at:

The Rookery Café

Streatham Common South Side, SW16 3BZ

