

ETUDES HELLENIQUES

HELLENIC STUDIES

**CRISE GRECQUE ET
UNIFICATION EUROPÉENNE**

**THE GREEK CRISIS AND
THE EUROPEAN UNIFICATION**

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Poètes Chyprites/Cypriot Poets

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Poètes Chypriotes/ Cypriot Poets

Thalia Tassou

Mrs. Katina

Mrs Katina
And her naughty
Children
Two huge
Parrots
One thin
And English-speaking
Swearing
The other
Puckish
And religious
Like her
Chanting in Greek
Lord have mercy on us

She made me a gift of
Incense from Mount Athos
Brought by Father Ephraim
to Panagitsa
The small church of Virgin Mary
Where every year
He hears the confessions
Of the Greek
Montreal Women

He offered me coffee
And Cretan rusks
From Picadilly pastry

She works as a saleswoman
At Alaska Leather
At home

She burns incense all day
And has the photo of
Father Ephraim hanging
On the wall

I left with
A garlic recipe
That heals
All diseases
And a branch of a plant
That brings good luck

Mrs Katina
- Ancient Cycladic figurine -
Was out of breath while climbing
The stairs
She called me to read
The electric meter
That she is closing at Spring
And opening at Winter
Her grandchild
That she keeps some days
Is chilling
Her son married
To a french woman,
Divorced,
Keeps a bar
On Saint Laurence Street

Among her furniture
A sewing machine
And huge plants
In metal pots.
Between them
And the plant
That brings
Good luck.