

ALEXANDROS KAROZAS
THE KAVAFIS PROJECT
CLASSICAL GREEK MUSIC

GEORGE DALARAS

WIENER KAMMERORCHESTER

WIENER SINGAKADEMIE

THE KAVAFIS PROJECT

ALWAYS KEEP ITHACA IN YOUR MIND - TO ARRIVE THERE IS YOUR DESTINATION

IN TIMES OF ALL-PERVADING, MEDIOCRE ACOUSTIC MUSH, WHICH REDUCES HUMAN BEINGS TO THE LEVEL OF PRIMITIVE BEINGS, WHILE INSULTING THEIR SENSES AND THEIR SOULS, THE DESIRE FOR DEPTH, INSIGHT AND INTUITION INCREASES.

ALEXANDROS KAROZAS HAS TAKEN UP THIS LONGING, THIS PREDICAMENT, WITH INCREDIBLE EMPATHY. KONSTANTIN KAVAFIS PRESENTED HIM WITH AN IDEAL PARAGON. AS A CONSTANT ENQUIRER ALL HIS LIFE, KAVAFIS UNDERSTOOD THE CONTRADICTIONS OF HUMAN EXISTENCE, THE DECADENCE OF BOURGEOIS MORALITY AND THE DUBIOUSNESS OF PREVAILING HISTORIOGRAPHY. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT HIS BRILLIANT WORK ONLY POSTHUMOUSLY RECEIVED A FITTING APPRECIATION, WHICH NONETHELESS SHOWS HIS EPOCH-TRANSCENDING RELEVANCE.

FINALLY, A SIGNIFICANT, MUSICAL HONOUR HAS BEEN CONFERRED ON THE OEUVRE OF THIS REVOLUTIONARY OF GREEK LITERATURE. THE POET, JUST LIKE THE COMPOSER, HAS THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE EMIGRANT, WHO NEITHER DENIES NOR GLORIFIES HIS ORIGINS. THIS DETACHMENT HAS ENABLED ALEXANDROS KAROZAS TO CREATE HIS INTERPRETATION OF KAVAFIS IN THE STYLE OF WESTERN, CLASSICAL MUSIC, WITHOUT ENTIRELY CUTTING HIMSELF OFF FROM THE ROOTS OF THE GREEK MUSICAL TRADITION.

THE “KAVAFIS PROJECT” IS AN ELEMENTAL WORK, WHICH COMBINES THE WISDOM OF PHILOSOPHY WITH THE INTUITION OF MUSIC

KONSTANTINOS KAVAFIS



THROUGH THE AGES

THE GREEK POET CONSTANTINE CAVAFY LIVED FROM 1863 TO 1933, MAINLY IN ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT. WORLDWIDE, HE IS ONLY KNOWN TO A SMALL CIRCLE OF PEOPLE. THE THEMES OF HIS POETRY WERE PHILOSOPHY, HISTORY AND THE EROTIC - SUBJECTS WHICH HE COMBINES IN HIS POEMS IN A FASCINATING WAY. CAVAFY WAS A POET IN A TIME OF TRANSITION BETWEEN HELLENIC IDEALS AND A MODERN, SPIRITUAL NEW BEGINNING. A NEW BEGINNING, WHICH IS ALSO ATTRIBUTED TO HIM.

PICTURE: RINALDO HOPF

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ALEXANDROS KAROZAS



ALEXANDROS KAROZAS, WHO WAS BORN IN GREECE, LIVES IN FRANKFURT AM MAIN, CONSTANTINOPLE AND ATHENS. HE ENJOYS THESE COSMOPOLITAN SURROUNDINGS AND HAS, MOREOVER, BECOME A PART OF THEM. HIS MUSIC IS THEREFORE ALL THE MORE SURPRISING. A LINK BETWEEN CULTURES. NOT ARTIFICIAL, BUT NATURAL, SENSITIVE, MATURE. MUSIC, WHICH INSPIRES YOU TO OBSERVE THE EVOLUTION OF CULTURE IN A GREAT COUNTRY. SOMETHING NEW IS BEING CREATED HERE, WHICH NONETHELESS DOES NOT DENY ITS ROOTS. ALEXANDROS KAROZAS SUCCEEDS BECAUSE OF HIS SENSE OF UNITY, AND THE NATURALNESS WITH WHICH HE BLENDS VARIOUS ELEMENTS INTO SOMETHING NEW. IT IS A JOY TO EXPERIENCE, AND AT THE SAME TIME IT CONVEYS MORE OF ITS CREATOR, HIS VALUES AND HIS HOMELAND, THAN PERHAPS HE HIMSELF SUSPECTS.

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GEORGE DALARAS



BORN IN PIRAEUS, THE MAIN PORT OF ATHENS, GEORGE COMES FROM A TRADITION OF FOLK AND BLUES MUSIC. HIS FATHER WAS A TRADITIONAL MUSICIAN AND “BOUZOUKI” INSTRUMENTALIST AND HIS FIRST MUSICAL MEMORIES ARE OF THE MAIN FORMS OF GREEK MUSIC: THE LAIKA (POPULAR), THE REBETIKA (A KIND OF BLUES) AND THE PARADOSIACA (TRADITIONAL). HIS ART AND HIS POPULARITY TRANSCEND THE BORDERS OF GREECE PRECISELY BECAUSE HIS SONGS, POIGNANT EXPRESSIONS OF PROTEST, SOCIAL INDIGNATION AND HOPE, SET HIM APART FROM THE COMMON RUN OF MUSICIANS. HIS MAIN CONCERN FOR HIS AUDIENCES, BE THEY IN GREECE, LATIN AMERICA, RUSSIA, CANADA, THE USA, FRANCE, SWEDEN, OR THE UNITED KINGDOM, IS ALWAYS THAT HIS PERFORMANCES ARE NOT SIMPLY A GREAT EVENT BUT ALSO A GREAT CULTURAL EXPERIENCE AND A MUSICAL VOYAGE OF DISCOVER.

WWW.DALARAS.GR

STEFAN VLADAR



AS THE YOUNGEST PERFORMER EVER TO WIN THE INTERNATIONAL BEETHOVEN COMPETITION IN VIENNA, AUSTRIAN CONDUCTOR AND PIANIST STEFAN VLADAR HAS ESTABLISHED A BRILLIANT CAREER AS ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING AND VERSATILE MUSICIANS OF HIS GENERATION. SINCE 1991 STEFAN VLADAR HAS DEVOTED HIMSELF INCREASINGLY TO CONDUCTING, APPEARING WITH SUCH ORCHESTRAS AS THE VIENNA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, MOZARTEUMORCHESTER SALZBURG, CAMERATA SALZBURG, BRUCKNER ORCHESTER LINZ, THE HAGUE PHILHARMONIC, ESSEN PHILHARMONIC, STUTTGART PHILHARMONIC, RSO BUDAPEST, DANISH RADIO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, HAYDN ORCHESTRA OF BOLZANO AND TRENTO.

STEFAN VLADAR HAS BEEN THE PRINCIPAL DIRECTOR OF THE NEWLY FOUNDED RECREATION – GROSSES ORCHESTER GRAZ FROM 2002-2006. IN MAY 2008 HE WAS NAMED ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE VIENNA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, FOLLOWING HEINRICH SCHIFF IN THIS POSITION.

WIENER KAMMERORCHESTER



FOUNDED IN 1946, THE VIENNA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA HAS HAD ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT PARTNERS IN PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR CARLO ZECCHI AS WELL AS GUEST CONDUCTORS YEHUDI MENUHIN AND SÁNDOR VÉGH. MORE RECENTLY, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS HAVE INCLUDED PHILIPPE ENTREMONT (HONORARY CONDUCTOR FOR LIFE), ERNST KOVACIC AND CHRISTOPH EBERLE. JOJI HATTORI IS ASSOCIATE GUEST CONDUCTOR OF THE VIENNA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. CONSTANT COOPERATION HAS STARTED IN 2004.

THE SPECIAL QUALITY OF THE CONCERTS OF THE VIENNA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA COMES TO A PART OF METICULOUS REHEARSALS AND A VERY DELIBERATE EXAMINATION OF THE REPERTOIRE. ON AN EQUALLY IMPORTANT PART, HOWEVER, THAT QUALITY COMES FROM THE HEART. IT IS THOSE EMOTIONS THAT YOU CAN NOT PRACTICE OR REHEARSE, BUT ONLY ACHIEVE BY PASSION AND DEDICATION. ONLY THE MERGER OF THESE TWO ASPECTS MAKES THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE EMOTION POSSIBLE.

THE INTERNATIONAL RENOWN OF THE VIENNA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA IS REFLECTED IN ITS FREQUENT TOURS TO JAPAN, CHINA, TAIWAN, KOREA, THE USA AND SOUTH AMERICA, AMONG OTHERS, AND ITS REGULAR APPEARANCES IN PRACTICALLY EVERY MAJOR CITY IN EUROPE.

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WIENER SINGAKADEMIE



THE WIENER SINGAKADEMIE WAS FOUNDED IN 1858 AS VIENNA'S FIRST MIXED CHOIR AND WAS INTENDED TO SERVE AS A "SINGÜBUNGSANSTALT" (AN INSTITUTION TO FACILITATE THE TRAINING OF SINGING). FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, THE REPERTOIRE OF THE WIENER SINGAKADEMIE WAS MARKED BY TWO MAIN CONSIDERATIONS: FOSTERING THE WORKS OF THE CLASSICAL MASTERS ON THE ONE HAND, AND INCLUDING CONTEMPORARY WORKS ON THE OTHER. VERY SOON THE WIENER SINGAKADEMIE ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS A NOTABLE PART OF VIENNA'S CONCERT LIFE. IN 1882, THE YOUNG JOHANNES BRAHMS WAS BROUGHT TO VIENNA TO SERVE AS THE CHOIRMASTER OF THE WIENER SINGAKADEMIE. HE WOULD COME TO REGARD VIENNA AS THE CENTRE OF HIS LIFE. OVER THE YEARS, THE CIRCLE OF CONDUCTORS FOR WHOM IT WAS A MATTER OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO WORK WITH THE CHOIR GREW STEADILY. THE LIST INCLUDES GUSTAV MAHLER, RICHARD STRAUSS AND BRUNO WALTER (WHO HIMSELF LED THE CHOIR FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS). IN ADDITION, MANY NOTABLE COMPOSERS PREMIERED THEIR WORKS TOGETHER WITH THE WIENER SINGAKADEMIE TO THE VIENNESE PUBLIC. EDVARD GRIEG, ANTON RUBINSTEIN, AND PIETRO MASCAGNI MADE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO VIENNA'S MUSICAL HISTORY DURING THE FIRST DECADES OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE WIENER SINGAKADEMIE.

WWW.WIENERSINGAKADEMIE.AT

MIKIS THEODORAKIS



"ALEXANDROS KAROZAS' COMPOSITION OF THE POETRY OF CONSTANTINE
CAVAFY IS A BRILLIANT MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT."
(MIKIS THEODORAKIS, ATHENS 10/04/2010)



MIKIS THEODORAKIS
ALEXANDROS KAROZAS



MUSIC ON POEMS

ITHACA

SUPPLICATION

LONGINGS

COME BACK

CANDELS

AS MUCH AS YOU CAN

WALLS

PLEASURE

TOMB OF LANIS

VOICES

THE TOWN

THE GOD ABANDONS ANTONY

TEAM

ILYA KUZNETZOV (RUSSIA)
COMPOSER, CONDUCTOR, ARRANGER, ST. PETERSBURG

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