

rebetika



THE TSITSANIS
typical orchestra
vocal
MARIKA NINOU

greek popular songs



630-122 PL

rebetika

greek popular songs



630122 PL



Άρκτιο
Γ. Ταβλιάνη

THE TSITSANIS TYPICAL ORCHESTRA

Vocal: MARIKA NINOU

Solo Bouzouki: VASSILIS TSITSANIS

SIDE A

ΑΗ - ΝΙΚΟΛΑ (St. Nicolas)

ΣΥΝΝΕΦΑΙΔΑΜΕΝΗ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ (Cloudy Sunday).

ΓΕΝΝΗΘΗΚΑ..... (I was Born.....)

ΤΑ ΚΑΒΟΥΡΑΚΙΑ (The little crabs)

ΕΛΛΑ ΟΠΟΣ ΕΙΣΑΙ (Come as you are)

ΑΓΥ ΧΟΡΑ ΑΛΛΕΓΚΡΑ (Hora Allegro)

SIDE B

ΧΑΣΠΑΤΟΙΣΕΡΒΙΚΟΙ ΧΟΡΟΙ (Dances)

ΑΠΟΨΗ (Tonight)

ΜΠΑΡΜΠΑΡΙΑ (Coast of Barbary)

ΖΑΪΡΑ (Zaïra)

ΙΩΑΟ ΜΠΟΥΖΟΥΚΙ (Solo Bouzouki)

ΙΩΑΟ ΜΙΝΟΠΕ (Solo minore)

The "Rebetika" records have now reached the status of a classic Greek folk music.

"The first record I bought was from the singer and the title of the song was 'Alone' by the composer Stavros Xarhakos. I liked it very much and I have been listening to it ever since."

The "Rebetika" records I like best are those of Vassilis Tsitsanis, especially his "Allegro". I like the way he sings and the way he plays the bouzouki. He has a unique style and I think he is one of the best Greek folk musicians. His songs are simple but they have a deep meaning. I also like the songs of Maria Ninou, especially "Tonight".

The "Rebetika" occupies a special place among modern Greek popular songs. Their origin and evolution can be traced back to the major Greek seaports and the amusement centres of the big towns.

They have grown rapidly in popularity since the end of the last war and they are now firmly establishing themselves as favourites of young and old alike. Today, there are "Rebetika" fans in all sections of Greek society, though the original audience was mainly the sailors. The term "Rebetika" should not be confused with "Folkongsong", which are the original products of a group of unknown composers, or at least of composers whose names and personalities are veiled in the distant past.

They have become popular because, in contrast to the "Folkongsong" the "Rebetika" is invariably the work of people who had no musical education (as was generally the case with folkongsong composers), but whose name has been preserved for posterity following the recording or broadcasting of their songs. The "Rebetika" has not been subject to the same evolutionary influences as the folkongsong.

The "Rebetika" is a musical form which is basically related to the Byzantine chant and the Greek folkongsong. This probably explains why it makes such a strong and direct appeal to the Greek people.

The "Rebetika" is a song which expresses an unexpressed amorous desire, as well as an escapist longing, which has been suppressed in the post-war years. There is also a touch of sentimental suspense, bordering on erotic cynicism.

The "Rebetika", a combination of song and dance, make three distinct approaches to music through their lyrics, melody, and the movements of the dance. The composer is also the writer of the lyrics and often conducts the group of instrumentalists performing his work. The "Rebetika" style differs very considerably from the "vocal cantos" counterpart, while the "Rebetika" is a more exact science in its execution, a strict rhythm and tempo being maintained throughout.

Vassilis Tsitsanis, the composer and conductor of the orchestra forming this selection, is a personality ideally suited to this type of work. In addition to playing the bouzouki, he is also a violinist, a pianist, a musical producer, he also composes and his improvisations seem almost inexhaustible. He is a virtuoso on both these instruments, and occasionally his striking voice can be heard among those of the other singers.

Basil Tsitsanis, the regular conductor of the orchestra forming this selection, is a personality ideally suited to this type of work. In addition to playing the bouzouki, he is also a violinist, a pianist, a musical producer, he also composes and his improvisations seem almost inexhaustible. He is a virtuoso on both these instruments, and occasionally his striking voice can be heard among those of the other singers.

Although this record received no professional training, the bouzouki has been handed down from generation to generation from ancient times. similar instruments being found in the old civilizations of India, China, Egypt and so on. Outwardly, it resembles a guitar, but has a much longer neck, three double strings, and is played with a plectrum. The customary "Rebetika" orchestra consists of three bouzoukis, two guitars, and an accordion.

"The first record I bought was from the singer and the title of the song was 'Alone' by the composer Stavros Xarhakos. I liked it very much and I have been listening to it ever since."

"The first record I bought was from the singer and the title of the song was 'Alone' by the composer Stavros Xarhakos. I liked it very much and I have been listening to it ever since."