

**The Joy Greek of Music**  
**Europe Day Concert in Harpa**  
**9. May 2014**

**Ludwig van Beethoven**

Symphony No. 9 – An die Freude (the European Anthem)

*Opening address by Ambassador Matthias Brinkman, Head of the EU Delegation to Iceland*

**Nikos Skalkottas (1904-1949)**

**The Gnomes, ballet music (1939)**

Introduction. *Molto allegro e vivace*

The Gnomes in the Underworld. *Allegro scherzando*

The Gnomes (I). *Allegro ironico*

Chorale

The Song of Joy. *Alegro vivace*

Caput Ensemble, conducted by Guðni Franzson

**Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Ten Wind Instruments (1939)**

- I. Moderato

Geoffrey Douglas Madge, piano - Caput Ensemble conducted by Guðni Franzson

**Mayday Spell – A Fairy Drama, Symphonic Suite (1944/49)**

(From the music to the play by Christos Evelpidis)

Argyro's song. *Moderato allegretto*

Folk-song. *Lento* [after an original folk song from

Roumeli-Central Greece]

Thora Einarsdottir, soprano - Caput Ensemble conducted by Guðni Franzson

From **32 Piano Pieces (1940?)**

Tango

Geoffrey Douglas Madge, piano

**Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)**

**Cinq mélodies populaires Grecques – Five Greek folksongs (1904-1906)**

French translation by Michel Dimitri Calvocoressi

Le réveil de la mariée/Waking the bride

Là-bas, vers l'église/Down there by the church

Quel galant m'est comparable?/What gallant can compare with me?

Chanson des cueilleuses de lentisques/Song of the lentisk gatherers

Tout gai!/Gaily!

Thora Einarsdottir, soprano - Geoffrey Douglas Madge, piano

## **Nikos Skalkottas (1904-1949)**

### **Two Greek Dances**

- *Epiroticos* (from Epirus) (1/3)

- Kleftikos (dance of Christian outlaws during ottoman rule in Greece) (III/8)

Caput Ensemble, conducted by Guðni Franzson

## *Intermission*

### **Vasilis Tsitsanis (1915-1984)**

Pikrameno agorí, arranged by Nikos Ordoulidis

[The bitterness of the young man, in front of her house, in the freezing cold]

### **Mikis Theodorakis**

Peixe Tsitsani mou

[Homage to Tsitsanis and other bouzouki players]

### **Vasilis Tsitsanis (1915-1984)**

Solo bouzouki in 5/8 (recorded in 1980)

Na giati perno (1936)

[I am wandering Athens drinking to cure aching love for a beautiful girl]

Me pire to ximeroma (1950)

[At dawn, I still wandered through the streets, speechless, prostrated with grief]

Bakse Tsifliki (1946)

[Going out with your sweetheart, to taverns and beautiful beaches round Thessaloniki, with fine wine and good music]

Apokliros (1949)

[Wandering like an outcast far away from home]

Ti simera, ti avrio, ti tora (1953)

[It is better to call it off right now if we are doomed to be unhappy together]

Stou Alevra ti mantra (1939)

[The cheat – You've made yourself look a fool because you trusted the hussy girls]

Arkfontissa (1938)

[I'm tired of trying to win you my lady, my crazy enchantress, like a shipwrecked man battered by waves, I seek consolation – you've broken many hearts, Lady..., you've made my life hell]

Arapiko louloudi (1947)

[Tonight I remembered you again, my magic Arabian flower, my intoxicating dream]

Kane ligaki ypomoni (1948)

[Don't lose hope, the day will come - be patient! - when s/he will come back to you]

Ta xena cheria (1962)

[Only those who grew up among stranger people, and tasted the bitter tears of the orphans, they know what to be a stranger and a homeless means]

Synnefiasmeni Kyriaki (1943)

[Cloudy Sunday, you are like my heart which is always grey. Christ and my Virgin! When I see you rainy I'm never at ease, you make my life black and heavily I sigh]

To karavi (1959)

[Every man is a ship in a storm, in this vast sea we call a life. I'm also a drifting boat and I expect a little love from you]

Tha pao ekei stin Arapia (1939), also in an arrangement by Manos Hatzidakis (1972)- was an inspiration for Skalkottas' **Concerto for 2 violins: II. Variations on a Greek Rebetico theme. Andante** (1944/945).

[I'll travel to Arabia, they've told me there's a sorceress there who'll lift your spell off me]

Ta oraia toy Tsitsani (1948)

[Beautiful Tsitsani's melody]

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