



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
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of Byzantine Antiquities



International Musicological Conference Crossroads | Greece as an intercultural pole of musical thought and creativity



Concert of Byzantine Music Rotunda (St. George), Thessaloniki, 7th June 2011, 20:00

Program

I. Choir of the Association of the Chanters of Thessaloniki “Ioannis Damaskinos”, conductor: Nikolaos Kolovos

1. *Μέγαν εὔρατο ἐν τοῖς κινδύνοις* – *The world found in you a great champion in dangers*: Apolytikion in the third authentic mode, in honor of St. Demetrios the patron of Thessaloniki
2. *Πάντα χορηγεῖ τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον* – *The Holy Spirit furnishes everything abundantly*: Idiomelon from the Vespers of Pentecost, in the first authentic mode, text by St. John of Damascus (ca. 675-ca. 753/4)
3. *Βασιλεῦ οὐράνιε* – *Heavenly King*: Sticheron from Vespers and Matins of Pentecost and of the Feast of the Holy Trinity, in the plagal of the second mode, text by St. Kosmas the Melodist (ca. 675-ca. 752)
4. *Αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν πάντες οἱ ἄγγελοι* – *Praise Him, all angels*: Lauds of the Matins-Service, text from Psalm 148, verse 2, slow melody in the third authentic mode
5. *Χαρᾶς τὰ πάντα πεπλήρωται* – *Everything is full of joy*: Sticheron anastasimon (i.e. about the Resurrection), from Lauds on Sunday Matins, in the third authentic mode, text by St. John of Damascus
6. *Γλῶσσαι ποτὲ συνεχύθησαν* – *Once, the languages have been confused*: Doxastikon of the aposticha on Vespers of Pentecost, in the plagal of the fourth mode, text by St. John of Damascus

7. *Τῷ Σωτῆρι Θεῷ – To God the Saviour*: Katabasia of the First Ode of the Kanon for the Feast of Ascension, in the plagal of the first mode, text by St. John of Damascus

8. *Δύναμις, Ἅγιος ὁ Θεός – Strength, Holy God*: Part of the Trisagion Hymn from the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, melody in the fourth authentic mode, by Lykourgos Petridis, First Precentor of the Great Church of Christ

9. *Σὲ ὑμνοῦμεν – We praise Thee*: Thanksgiving-hymn from the Divine Liturgy, melody in the plagal of the fourth mode, by Thrasyboulos Stanitsas (1910-1987), First Precentor of the Great Church of Christ

10. *Ἄξιον ἐστὶν – It is truly proper*: Small Megalynarion in honor of the Holy Virgin Mary. Text by the Archangel Gabriel (first part of the hymn, transmitted in A.D. 982) and by St. Kosmas the Melodist (second part of the hymn), melody in the plagal of the fourth mode, by Thrasyboulos Stanitsas

11. *Πολυχρονισμός – Polychronismos* (hymn containing wishes for many years) in honor of the Metropolitan of Thessaloniki, melody in the plagal of the first mode

II. Byzantine Choir “Filathonitai”, conductor: Dimitris Manousis

1. *Ἄρτος ζωῆς αἰωνιζούσης – Bread for everlasting life*: First and ninth Ode of the Kanon for Divine Communion, in the first authentic mode, melody by Petros Byzantios († 1808)

2. *Τὴν παγκόσμιον δόξαν – The glory of the entire world*: Dogmatikon theotokion (in honor of the Holy Virgin Mary), text by St. John of Damascus (ca. 675-ca. 753/4), melody by Petros Filanthidis (2nd half of 19th cent.-beginning of 20th cent.)

3. *Ἀλληλούϊα – Allelouia*: Allelouiarion in the third authentic mode by Gregorios Stathis (* 1939)

4. Second part from the tetrapartite Oikos of the Akathistos Hymn, *Δύναμις τοῦ Ὑψίστου – Might of the Highest*, text by Anonymus of the 6th-8th cent., kalophonic melody by Ioannis Kladas (2nd half of 14th cent.-1st quarter of 15th cent.), in the plagal of the first mode (triphonos)

III. Byzantine Choir of the School of Music Studies, Aristotle University Thessaloniki, conductor: Emmanouil Giannopoulos

1. *Μεγάλυνον ψυχή μου τὸν ἐν ἀθλοφόροις – Praise, o my soul, the leader among the victorious*: Ninth Ode of the first Kanon for the Feast of St. George, in the first authentic mode, with its megalynaria, melody by father Konstantinos Papagiannis

2. *Ἀνέτειλε τὸ ἔαρ – The spring came*: Doxastikon of the Lauds, in honor of St. George, in the plagal of the first mode, text by St. Theophanis Graptos (ca. 778-845), melody by Petros Peloponnisios (ca. 1735/40-† 1778)

3. *Σήμερον φωτισμός ἐν τῇ Σιών ἐλήλυθε ἐξ ὕψους – Today illumination came to Sion from above*: Unpublished idiomelon (*Kai nyn*) of the Lauds on Matins of Pentecost, in the second authentic mode, text from the manuscript Sinai gr. 1573, melody by father Konstantinos Papagiannis, composed in 1999

4. *Ὁ ποιῶν τοὺς ἀγγέλους αὐτοῦ πνεύματα – Who maketh his angels spirits*: Communion chant for the feast of the Archangels, in the first authentic mode, Psalm 103 (104), verse 4, melody by Petros Eutyichis called Glykys or Bereketis (around 1700)

IV. Choir “Thessalonian Hymnodists”, conductor: Ioannis Liakos

1. *Τῷ τὴν ἄβατον κυμαιομένην θάλασσαν* – *To the one who made dry the impassable agitated sea*: First and eighth Ode of the Kanon (Triodion) belonging to Matins of Holy Monday during the Holy Week of St. Demetrios, in the first authentic mode, text by St. Symeon, Metropolitan of Thessaloniki (1370-1429), melody by Petros Byzantios, adapted by Ioannis Liakos
2. *Ὁ θέλων μουσικὴν μαθεῖν* – *The one who aims at learning music*: Didactic poem by Panagiotis Chrysaphis the New (ca. 1671), in the first authentic mode, musical exegesis by Gregorios Stathis (1995)
3. *Ἄξιον ἔστιν* – *It is truly proper*: Small Megalynarion in honor of the Holy Virgin Mary. Text by the Archangel Gabriel (transmitted in A.D. 982) and St. Kosmas the Melodist (ca. 675-ca. 752), melody passing through the eight modes (oktaechon) by Demetrios Sourlantzis (1920-2006).

The Choirs

The Association of the Chanters of Thessaloniki “Ioannis Damaskinos” was founded in 1908 and represents the oldest association of this type in Greece. Its Choir holds a rich career both in Greece and abroad, but especially in Thessaloniki, where it has always been present at the ‘Dimitria’-Festivals. The repertory of the Choir comprises classical Byzantine pieces which express the tradition of the great masters of the Constantinopolitan and Thessalonian tradition, as Iakovos Nafpliotis, Konstantinos Pringos, Thrasyboulos Stanitsas, Chrysanthos Theodosopoulos, Athanasios Karamanis, Charilaos Taliadoros and Athanasios Panagiotidis.

The Byzantine Choir “Filathonitai” (Friends of Mt Athos) was founded in 2010. It consists of precentors, lampadarioi and domestikoi which have an accomplished knowledge of the Psaltic Art and beautiful voices. The main aims of the Choir are: a) research and presentation of the work of the most important Byzantine and post-Byzantine composers, b) morphological approach of different categories of Byzantine Chant, c) promotion of Byzantine and post-Byzantine Chant through scientific research and artistic quality, both in Greece and abroad, d) chanting during divine services.

The Byzantine Choir of the School of Music Studies of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki consists of students of the aforementioned School which follow or have already finished the practical courses about Byzantine Chant included in the student’s curriculum. The scope of the Choir is mainly educational, offering to the students the opportunity to come in direct contact with the treasures of Byzantine Chant through singing in community. The repertory of the Choir comprises classical pieces by composers of the post-Byzantine period, but also new compositions by contemporary authors, which are performed for the first time by this Choir.

The Choir “Thessalonian Hymnodists” was founded in 2007 by Ioannis Liakos together with his collaborators and pupils, which are chanters in different churches of Thessaloniki. Main scope of the Choir is the investigation, performance and recording of known and hitherto unknown compositions by Byzantine and post-Byzantine

composers, the chanting during the Divine Liturgy and different services, as well as the presentation of these musical treasures in Greece and abroad.



Basic bibliography for the preparation of the Program (hymnographers, composers, services, chronologies, genres and categories of Byzantine Chant):

The Holy Bible, King James Version, Nashville/New York 1977. Liturgical books (Pentekostarion, Menaia: eds. of Apostolike Diakonia and «Phos». *Συλλειτουργικόν*: ed. H.M. Simonopetra. Ιωάννης Φουντούλης, «Μεγάλη Εβδομάς» τοῦ Ἁγίου Δημητρίου, Thessaloniki 1986: ed. of the H. Church of St. Demetrios). L. Perria/J. Raasted (eds.), *Sticherarium Ambrosianum*, MMB, Série principale 11, Pars Principalis et Pars Suppletoria, Copenhagen 1992: Munksgaard. Γρ. Στάθης, *Οἱ ἀναγραμματισμοὶ καὶ τὰ μαθήματα τῆς βυζαντινῆς μελοποιΐας*, IBM, Μελέται 3, 2nd ed., Athens 1992. Μ. Χατζηγιακουμῆς, *Ἡ ἐκκλησιαστικὴ μουσικὴ τοῦ Ἑλληνισμοῦ μετὰ τὴν Ἄλωση (1453-1820), Σχεδιάγραμμα ἱστορίας*, Athens 1999: Κέντρον Ἐρευνῶν καὶ Ἐκδόσεων. Id., *Μνημεῖα Ἐκκλησιαστικῆς Μουσικῆς, Ἀνθολογίαις πρώτη ἕως δεκάτη, τ. Α΄*, Athens 2000: Κέντρον Ἐρευνῶν καὶ Ἐκδόσεων. Κ. Καραγκούνης, *Ἡ παράδοση καὶ ἐξήγηση τοῦ μέλους τῶν Χερουβικῶν τῆς βυζαντινῆς καὶ μεταβυζαντινῆς μελοποιΐας*, IBM, Μελέται 7, Athens 2003. Χρ. Τσολακίδης, *Ἁγιολόγιο τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας*, 2nd ed., Athens 2001. Π. Χρήστου, *Ἐκκλησιαστικὴ Γραμματολογία*, vol. II, Thessaloniki 1991: Κυρομάνος. Μ. Αλεξάνδρου, *Σημειώσεις μαθήματος Ἐισαγωγὴ στη Βυζαντινὴ Μουσικὴ*, Thessaloniki 2011. LP *Πέτρος Πελοποννήσιος, Ψάλλει Χορὸς Ἱεροψαλτῶν με Χοράρχην τὸν Ἄρχοντα Πρωτοψάλτην Θρασύβουλον Στανίτσαν, Βυζαντινοὶ καὶ Μεταβυζαντινοὶ Μελουργοί*, 4, ed. Γρ. Στάθης, Athens 1980. CD *Σὲ τὸν ἱεράρχην καὶ λειτουργὸν τοῦ Κυρίου...*, Ψάλλει ὁ χορὸς τῶν Θεσσαλονικέων Ὑμνωδῶν, χοράρχης Ι. Λιάκος, ed. H. M. Pantokratoros, Holy Mountain 2007. CD *Byzantine Music in the New World, Orthodox Saints*, Byzantine Chorus of the Sign of the Theotokos Orthodox Church, Montreal, Canada, dir. V. Hadjinicolaou, 1990. CD *Polychronismos to the Ecumenical Patriarch by Balasios the Priest*, The Greek Byzantine Choir, dir. L. Angelopoulos, ΕΛΒυΧ 33. H.G. Liddell /R. Scott /H.St. Jones/R. McKenzie, *A Greek-English Lexicon, With a Supplement* 1968, Oxford 1990: Clarendon Press. Maria Makrantonaki-Farasa, *Glossary of Theological Terms, English-Greek, Greek-English*, 2nd rev. ed., Thessaloniki: Pournaras. L. Brown (ed.), *The New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary, on Historical Principles*, 2 vols, Oxford 1993: Clarendon Press.



The Concert has been organized by the School of Music Studies, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, in collaboration with: Holy Metropolis of Thessaloniki, 9th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities, IMS Regional Association for the Study of Music on the Balkans, AUTH Cultural Policies' Committee, Municipality of Thessaloniki – Direction of Musical Activities – Department of Music Education. Many thanks to all the collaborators.