

Love Songs of Lebanon

Sung in Arabic by the Sawaya Quartet and Chorus

George Sawaya—Oud and Vocals Stephen Dertadian—Violin
Philip Boutara—Durbakki Michel Sawaya—Daff



M
1825
L418
G349
A658
1957

MUSIC LP

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FOLKWAYS FW 8815

Love Songs of Zebulun

Descriptive notes are inside pocket

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Love Songs of Lebanon

Sung in Arabic by the Sawaya Chorus

ACCOMPANIED BY FOUR NATIVE INSTRUMENTS

MUSICIANS:

George Sawaya - Oud and Vocals
Stephen Dirtadian - Violin
Philip Boutara - Durbakki
Michel Sawaya - Daff

CHORUS:

Adele Sawaya
Juliette Sawaya
Marie Sawaya

At the age of 10, George Sawaya was given a mandolin by his uncle, Naim Sawaya and asked to play Arabic music. Nothing especially unusual about this except that, when you consider that young George was born and lived in a small French-Canadian village in Quebec, it takes on an unusual light.

His Arabic-speaking parents and his uncle, often spoke of their days in Lebanon and of the wonderful music that they could now hear only on the gramophone. Young George took this all in eagerly and made up his mind that he would learn how to play Arabic music, on Arabic instruments.

In his teens he would often go to Montreal and play for the Arabic Community there. At the age of twenty, the Sawayas left the village of Joliette and came to live in Montreal, and George was given an "Oud." As he recalls the event: "It was a gift from some friends of mine, it was my birthday, and I could hardly wait to play it. But I was afraid too. I've played the "Oud" before, but the thought of having my own seemed too wonderful to be true."

Well, George did play the "Oud" and he played it well. He got his sisters, brother and brother-in-law to join him. They found that as a group, they blended beautifully and so the George Sawaya Quartet and Chorus was born.

Since then, they have appeared on TV, in nightclubs, as well as supplying the music for Syrian and Lebanese get-togethers. George now owns and runs an Art Display Shop in Montreal and whenever he is asked to appear, he never hesitates. "For," he says, "what better way is there to learn to get along with and understand the many people in this world of ours, than through music?" and he adds with a smile, "Besides, I enjoy it."

I'm certain you will, too.

Samuel Gesser

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS BY

PHILIP KAE

SIDE I, Band 1: Violin, oud and durbakki

SIDE I, Band 2: GAMIL, GAMAL

A Fareed Atrash song from the Egyptian film, "Love Letter." The hero sings the praises of his beloved whom he sees more beautiful than a vision.

He finds life sweet only because she is with him and puzzles over the secret of his love for her and his enchantment by her magic beauty.

BEAUTIFUL, WITH BEAUTY UNMATCHED

Beautiful, with beauty
un-matched
Not even in vision
Truly they described you
Like a gazelle
O Beautiful, beauty.

Why, life is beautiful and sweet
While you're with me,
Why, the intoxication of my heart
While you comfort me,
You ask me why I don't know
The secret why I don't understand
My soul sings And consoles me
Your glances Bewitch me
And yearning for you Bewilders me

CHORUS:

Gamil, gamal	Leh-donya gamila w'holwa	
maloush missal	Leh bitkhally-l 'alb	Wanta ma'ya
gamil gamal		bnashwa
maloush missalbis * ...	Tis'alny leh	Wanta assaya
wala filkhayal, sada il-li 'al	Wes-sirri eh	Ma'rafshi
zayil ghazal,	Rouhy tganny	Mafhamshi
gamil gamal	Nezret 'ainek	Wit-tamminny
	Wesh-shouk leik	Tis-hirny
		Hay-yerny.

جميل جمال

ما لوتش مثال	جميل جمال
ما لوتش مثال	جميل جمال
صدق اللي قال	ولا في الخيال
جميل جمال	زي الغزال

وانت معايا	ليه الدنيا جميلة وحده
وانت اسيا	ليه بتخلي القلب بشوه

مرفئي نأني ليه
مرفئي والرايه
وتطحنى روجي تفتي
تسمرني نظرة عينك
خيرني والشوق ليك

SIDE I, Band 3: Is a love date to be met at two o'clock. The lover avows that he will be awaiting his beloved at the appointed moment and implores her not to dispell the hope in their hearts. Originally sung by Odette Kedo, a Lebanese star.

TOMORROW AT TWO

Tomorrow, tomorrow at two
Meet me, O light o' my eye
With burning desire, I shall wait
For you my One and only!
With my soul I guard your pledge
Break not the hope of our hearts

At the exact moment of our date,
I shall wait,
And no one shall know of what
goes between us
And neither of us shall fail
to appear
At the appointed place which
you know.

بكر انا ع اثنين

بكر انا ع اثنين
لثمين يا نور العين

على نار الشوق انا على وعدك

يا لبي انت لثمينك ولا بعدك

بعيني راح صملك عهديك

لثمينك انا العيون

بتمام الموعده حاشته

ولا عه بيدري الي بيها

ولا عه بيثغيب منا

وانت يا روجي بفرق وين

Boukra, boukras-sa'atnain
La eeny ya nour-il'ain
'Ala nar-ishouk ana 'ala wa'dek
Yally inta la kablek wala ba'dek
B'ainy reh sunlek 'ahdek
La tqaiye' emel-l-'albain

Bitemam-l-maou'ad hastenna
Wla hed beyidry-lli beinna
Wla hed byetgayyeb minna
Wanta ya rouhy btē'rif wein.

SIDE I, Band 4: SHTI'NA LAKLIT-TABBOULE

A Lebanese folk color describing village life and the yearning of the poet to go back to it. Tabboule is country salad made of soft-soaked crushed wheat with finely diced greens and mints and usually enjoyed outdoors and at picnics.

Song was originally composed and sung by the Lebanese popular poet Tanus Himlawe.

YEARNING FOR TABBOULY

Yearning for Tabbouly
And to sleep in the tree-house

Our journey is long
To our village
We yearn for Tabbouly
On our patio
And the cucumber of September
From our garden
And raw Kibbee, pounded
By the waterfall

We yearn to climb the hill
Above the vineyard
Where we set our trap
For the birds
Where the graceful beauties
fill their jars
From the spring
And they pass by with baskets filled
With luscious grapes.

CHORUS:

Shti'na l'akli tabbouli x
W' nawm-mil -'irzalbis x..

Akhzet sefritna toulé
Ya dai'itna
Shti'na l'akli-t tabboulé
'A stahitna
Wzir khyar-l ilouly
Min nekbitna
Wkibbin-nayee-l majboully
Hed-dish-shillal

Shti'na nitla' 'attalli
Foukil kermat
Nakhuz 'asfour wshalli
Nisly-d dibaas
Wtoured 'al'ain tmelly
Jrara-z zeinat
Ekoo'un milyani-s salli
'Anaheed sh kaal

اشفقنا لكل الشبوه

اشفقنا لكل الشبوه

ونوم الرزالي

أخذت فرناً طوله يا ضيعتنا
 شتقنا لكل النبوة عا طيحتنا
 وزر خيالاً يملأ من فقتنا
 وكبه النية المجهولة حد الشد
 شتقنا نطلع عالمك فوق الكرمات
 ناخذ عصفور وشله نضلي الدبقات
 وثور د مالعين فلي جرارا الزينات
 بكعنت مليانه الله عنا فيه أشكال

يا جميل يا جميل

يا جميل يا جميل يا جميل
 على حبك بان لي دليل
 انا خايف قلبي بجميل
 يا محير قلبي معاكه
 يا مجترى الفكر وراكه
 خايف اروح بهرواكه
 شتقني وتجيرني
 ملقاس الى صبرني

SIDE 1, Band 5 -- Interlude with the same instruments.
 Dance music.

SIDE II, Band 1: Also opens with musical introduction.

SIDE II, Band 2: YA GAMIL

The lover bemoans his fate as he falls victim to his love. He implores his beloved to end his uncertainty and bewilderment. Sung originally by Fareed Atrash, Egyptian star of stage and screen.

CHORUS:
 Ya gamil ya gamil ya gamil
 'Ala houbbak bane dalil bis x..
 W-ana khayif albi yi mil
 Ya m'khayar albi ma'ak x
 Ya m'gar fikri warak bis x..

GEO.
 Khayif a rouh bi hawak

CHORUS:
 Tish 'ghilné wit khayarné x
 Mal ' ash ili sábirnébis x..

BEAUTIFUL, O BEAUTIFUL

Beautiful, O beautiful, O beautiful
 Of your love, I see a sign
 I fear my heart's swaying
 O bewildered love, my heart's
 with you,
 You, who has captivated my thoughts
 I fear I'm falling in your love

You beset me and befuddle me
 And I find not that which consoles
 me.

SIDE II, Band 3: ANA WINTA

An original Atrash song. The singer sees the whole world capsuled in his love. He pairs himself with his beloved as the rose and its fragrance, the song and its melody or the glass and its intoxicating wine.

CHORUS:
 Ana winta ana winta
 wil houbi kfay'alaina
 ana winta ana winta
 wil dounya moulki-daina
 ana winta, ana winta.

Ana donya	Inti behget-ha
Ana gonwa	Inti gennet-ha
Ana ferha	Inti-b tisamet-ha
Ana rouh hayema	Wanadeit-ha
Elkas wan-neshwa	Ana wanti
Wad-donya holwa	Ana wanti.

YOU AND I

You and I	You and I
And love's our all	
You and I	You and I
And the world's ours	
You and I	You and I

I am the world	You're its joy
I am a song	You're its melody
I am happiness	You're its smile
I am a lost soul	You're its guide
The glass and the wine	You and I
The world sweet	You and I

انا وانت

والحب كفاه علينا
 انا وانت انا وانت
 والذنب ملكه ايدينا
 انا وانت انا وانت

أنا دنيا انت برحمتي
أنا فرحة انت ابتسانتي
أنا غنوه انت غنيتي
أنا روح هائمه وهديتي
الكاس والسكوة
أنا وانت
والدنيا الحلو
أنا وانت

KHALLEHA 'ALALLAH

Khalleha 'alallah 'alallah
Mash-sheha wyallah wyallah

Itbassam waqhek lid-donya
Wla tis'al wafreh beshababek
La tosruf min 'omrek thani-ya
Tit'allem âou tishky 'azabek

Id-donya mraya lammaqhek feeha
tidhek wiyaya wtrouk layaleeha
Shouf sighlek wil-baki 'alallah
Khalleha 'alallah...

SIDE II, Band 4: TAWIL BALEK

An enchanting ditty originally sung by the beautiful Lebanese singer Hanan. The sweetheart here beseeches her lover to be patient with her and fears that the flame of their love would melt both away like a burning candle.

TAWIL BALAK YA HABBBOUB

Tawil balak ya habbouba
Haji ta'ibni w mat'oub
Albi Sham'a w hobbak nar
Rah bit-dawibni wit-doub
Tawil balak, tawil balak,
Tawil balak, ya habbouba.

PATIENCE, MY LOVE

Patience, my love
You beset me and yourself
My heart's a candle
And you're love is the flame
Which will melt us both
Patience, O patience
Patience, my love.

طول بالكه يا حبوب

طول بالكه يا حبوب

هاجي تاعيني رنتعوب

قلبي شمع وحبكه نار

راح بتذويني وتذوب

طول بالكه يا حبوب

خليك على الله

خليك على الله

على الله

مسير ويا الله

ويا الله

انبتسم وافضحك للناس
ولد ناس وافرح بشبابك
لا تصرف من عمرك ثابته
تألم او تشكى عذابك

الدنيا مرارة لما افضحك فيل

تضحك وياي وشروى ليايل

شوف شغلك والباقي على الله

خليك على الله...

SIDE II, Band 5: KHALLIHA 'ALA-ALLAH:

A carefree song of youth. The singer sees life as a mirror which reflects his laughter and joy, leaving all cares and problems to the compassion of God. Original song by Mohammed El-Bakkar.

LEAVE IT TO GOD!

Leave it to God To God
Leave it and go And go.

Smile and laugh to the world
Care not, and enjoy your youth
Spend not a second of your life
Complaining of your pain!

Life is a mirror, when I laugh to it,
It laughs with me, and all is well
Tend your business and leave it to God
Leave it to God...

These recordings are not meant to demonstrate the vocal and instrumental facility of the performers. These recordings are meant to demonstrate the type of singing and playing people do among their friends and in company. Those who want professional performances of Arabic and Lebanese songs and dances should contact Rashid Sales Company who issue Arabic records. The copyright of the songs and dances in this record album is controlled by Mr. Albert Rashid.

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