

STEREO

MFS 783

GREEK SONGS & DANCES

MONITOR PRESENTS THE CHRIS KALOGERSON ENSEMBLE

monitor
MUSIC OF THE WORLD



• GREEK SONGS & DANCES / Kalogerson Ensemble •

DESIGN: EDWARD BUYBAUM

GREEK SONGS & DANCES

Monitor presents CHRIS KALOGERSON & His Ensemble

RETURN TO ARCHIVE
CENTER FOR FOLK LIFE PROGRAMS
AND CULTURAL STUDIES
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Side One

1. KATERINA (3:09) (Instrumental)

This opening selection is a karsilama in 9/8 time. The dance originated in Asia Minor and is performed face to face with a partner. The movements are flirtatious or courtship in nature.

2. YAREM YAREM (1:52) (Vocal)

This song is an updated version of an old song from Asia Minor re-popularized within the past few years. The lyrics defy translation because of their lack of continuity but they may relate to the sacking of the St. Sophia church in Constantinople. The 17/16 rhythm is typical of the Balkans and points east.

3. ME LENE GIORGO (2:44) (Instrumental)

This selection is a syrto in 2/4 time and the title means, literally, "My Name is George." The syrto is the most traditional dance of Greece but each region and island has its own particular style of dancing it. Starting in antiquity as ritual, evolving in classical times through the Greek theater, the syrto today is danced by young and old alike.

4. ITIA (2:20) (Vocal)

This tsamiko folk dance originated in Roumeli. A circular line dance in 3/4 time, it is danced around a wild tree as a tribute to the beauty of nature. It is performed by men and the leader displays agile virtuosity in improvising martial leaps and springs.

5. KALAMATIANO MEDLEY (3:30) (Instrumental)

a) Zoitsa • b) Glari c) Me Kapses Yitonisa
"A Girl Named Zoe," "The Sea Gulls" and "Unrequited Love for a Neighbor" are a trio of kalamatiano circle dances which are a variation of the syrto dance in 7/8 time.

6. BYZANTINO HASAPIKOS (1:57) (Instrumental)

This happy and lively "politiko" hasapiko dance originated in Constantinople. It was the guild dance of the butchers . . . and popular in the islands off the coast of Asia Minor. Today no Greek *glendi* (merrymaking party) would be without this dance.

Side Two

1. GORGONA (2:14) (Instrumental)

A light hasapiko popular in Greek music today, *Gorgona* is frequently performed in the tavernas.

2. POU THAI PAI (2:26) (Vocal)

This song is a variant of the tsamiko in 5/8 time. An optimist sings of his personal hardships and poverty but the refrain expresses the thought that the wheel of fate will turn and bring better times.

3. NATANE 21 (1:55) (Instrumental)

This is a hasapiko, the lyrics of which dealt with the life and times of the revolutionary heroes of 1821.

4. KARAGOUNA (2:53) (Vocal)

This syrto song and dance is part of a courtship ritual from Karditsa, Thessaly. Unmarried girls dance it in the village square. After the dance the girls to be engaged are presented with a handkerchief by their betrothed.

5. POSO VAREIA N'TA SIDERA (2:05) (Instrumental)

A zeimbekiko in 9/4 time, it originated in the Aegean area of Smyrna. In ancient times it was a ritual dance. In Byzantine times it was a war dance with swords. In current days it is danced to work out one's problems.

6. GRIVAS (3:35) (Instrumental)

A tsamiko in honor of a revolutionary chieftain hero, this was originally danced by the Tsamidis, Greeks who lived around Souli in South Epiros. In the folk dance, the four forward steps symbolize victory during war and the two backward steps were the temporary setbacks or regrouping.

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The MUSICIANS

Album production and supervision: Chris Kalogerson

JOHN TRIGAS, *Clarinet* • MARK MACRES, *Bouzoukee* • JIM ROTH, *Accordion* • CHRIS KALOGERSON, *Drums* • DIMITRI "JIM" NICKLOW, *Vocals* • DESPINA REGAS, *Vocals*

Greek Music on Monitor Records



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BALLADS OF A GREEK CAFE: The Songs of Jimmy Linardos sung by Yanis Manos, Pericles Vayas and Tonia Felipou. MFS 492



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