MCD 71775

# • JOHN VARTAN & HIS ENSEMBLE •



A MONITOR INTERNATIONAL COMPACT DISC

John Vartan has been a student of Armenian culture for most of his life – although born and raised in the New York metropolitan area. In 1971 he embarked on a Middle East tour that encompassed Armenia, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey and Greece and there amassed an extraordinary collection of instruments, some of which may be heard on this album. It is, by far, the largest selection of its kind in the United States and includes the oud, kaval, sring, kanoon, kemenche, shvee, tar, jmbush, yayla tanbur, dumber, duduk, saz and zurna. And even more extraordinary than the amassing of this collection is the fact that John Vartan has mastered these instruments and presents them in an authentic manner. He also gives demonstrations and lectures using these instruments and others like them.

Mr. Vartan has a B.A. in Sociology and has completed his Masters Degree in Recreational Therapy. An accomplished musician and inveterate scholar, John attributes his thirst for scholarship to the tutelage and wisdom of his Armenian grandparents.

In this album John Vartan and his Ensemble celebrate the variety and high spirits of the Armenian dance. This recording, apart from its very listenable quality, may be used as an educational folk dance primer, for it includes such popular dances as the Haleh, Tamzara, Duet Dance, Laz Bahr and Pompoury. An exciting and exhilarating recording of American-Armenian music, it is a veritable treasure chest of inspiration for the folk-dance enthusiasts, Armenian and non-Armenian.

#### THE MUSICIANS

Steve Bogoshian
John Dolbashian
Bob Takoushian
Chris Marashlianbass & guitar
Ully Marin
Veronica Rhoryanviolin
John Vartan
gaval, kanoon, kemenche

Musical Director and Arranger: John Vartan

## DANCE ARMENIAN! Monitor Presents JOHN VARTAN & HIS ENSEMBLE

- 1. INTRODUCTION 1:48
- 2. DANCE ARMENIAN (Laz Bahr) 1:57
- 3. SUNIATZ SARER 4:28
- 4. MARGO 4:30
- 5. OUD SOLO 4:00
- 6. HYE-TAMZARA 4:24
- 7. PAREV DAREK 3:37
- 8. AGOP JAN 3:05
- 9. HALEH 4:19
- 10. ASA INCH ANEM 2:59
- 11. POMPOURY 3:47
- 12. DUET DANCE 4:24
- 13. ANNA 3:31

Note: The above selections are also available on cassette: 51775







ENSEMBLE

**ARMENIAN: JOHN VARTAN & HIS** 

DANCE

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