arabic songs of Lebanon and Egypt

played and sung by the
George Sawaya Trio
and female chorus
SIDE I, Band 1: SALAM DANCE. Duet played on the 'UD and the DURBAKKI

The 'Ud is similar to the guitar, having five double strings, shaped like an egg cut lengthwise. This instrument is used in many countries of the Middle East. The Durbakki is a drum made either of brass or pottery, covered with thin lambskin.

These are the accompanying instruments for the songs and dances recorded in this album.

Texts and translations by Salim Sayage.

SIDE I, Band 2: NORA YA NORA (EGYPTIAN)

NORA YA NORA YA NORA
YA WARDA NADIA FI BANNOARA
ISMIK ALA RASMIK SOORA
MALAMARA YA AMMOORA
NORA YA NORA YA NORA
NORA YA ISMI ALA MSAMA
ELLAIL BEY YEBAA NAHAR
ESHTI INTI WASH MIN SAMMA
YA AMEERA ALA NOUAR
YA NASEEM RAFRAF, YA SHAAR SHAFFAF, WLAISHI AWSAF
TIWFIK HAKIK YA NORA

YA HILO YALLE MA FISH GH AIRAK ALA BALI
YALLI SAAMATAK BI ROOHIBARDO MUSH GHALI
EL ALBI LAK YELTIFTIT LAMMA YE KOOK FAYET
WELAIN LAK TISHTIKI WESSABRI YEH LALI

ISMIK ALA RASMIK LAYEK
SIBHAN MIN ABDAA RASMIK
YA NADA ESOBHIA ERRAIK
ISM ALLA YA NORA ALA ISMIK
YA LAYALI EL EED, MIN GH AIR MAWAEEED, ABO HAZI SAEED
ILLI TEHINNI ALLAY NORA

NORA YA NORA YA NORA
The man describes his loved-one as a dew-touched rose in a vase of crystal. Her name is Nora (Arabic for light) and her presence lights the deepest darkness.

O sweet! There is no one in my mind but you.  
I gave you my soul, but I find that it is not enough.  
My heart turns to you when you pass,  
My eyes complain to you and yet you don't soften your heart to me.

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**SIDE I, Band 3: TITLA YA KAMAR (EGYPTIAN)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TITLA YA KAMAR BILLAIL</strong></td>
<td>Repeat</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TITLA YA KAMAR MASHKOOR</strong></td>
<td>Repeat</td>
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<td><strong>TIMLAHA ALAINA NOOR</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TIJEENA BANAT EL HOOR</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TITMAYAL ALINA MAIL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TITLA YA KAMAR MISMAM</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TIJAL HALAYALI FRAH</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TIJINAK HONA SOUH</strong></td>
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<td><strong>RAKBINAK DOHOOR EL KHAIL</strong></td>
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**An Egyptian love song, originally sung by the Egyptian movie star, Farid El Atrash.**

My sweetheart you are Moon appearing in darkness.  
Darkness will fade beholding your presence.  
You are lovelier than all the beauties of heaven.
SIDE I, Band 4: WASSALTINA LANOS EL BEER
(LEBANESE)

DAKHL EYOONEK HAKINA  ) Repeat
LAWLA EYOONEK MA JINA  )
WASSALTINA LANOS EL BEER
WATATI EL HABLEH FINA

HAKINA YA BINT ENNAS
YALKONIK RIK O IHSAS
SHO SHIBTI OMIN AY KASS
MATRAH MA SHIBTI SKINA

KHALINA NIFRAH FEEKI
TANSOONIK WINDAREEKI
SHO MAMILNA BERDEEKI
SHO MA MILTI BERDEENA

NIHNA MANARAF INTI FAIN
WAFKARIK BITWADI LAWAIN
INHAKITINA BRIMISH EL AIN
MNARAF SHO HAKITINA

HALFWAY YOU WALK WITH ME

A Lebanese song originally sung by the songstress
SABAH.

For your eyes' sake, speak to me;
I came here for the sake of you.
Halfway you walk with me on the path of love.

Let us be happy together.
Let me guard you with my love.
Let us not see each other's faults.
And from the stream of love let us both drink.
SIDE II, Band 1: ALAIM EL MANADILI

ALA IM EL MANADEELI  )Repeat
ADDABKI HATI EDIK
YA SAMRA YA JAMEELEH

ADDABKI HATI EDIK
ALLAH MIN ENDO YZEEDIK
BITREEDINI WEBREEDIK
WIBGHANI WEBITGHANEELI

YEKFINI SAHRI ONOHI
WIJROHI HAMM JROHI
YA MUNYAT ALBI OROOHI
KHALIKI IMABEELI

O THE CHARM OF YOUR SCARF

O the charm of your scarf!
Give me your hand and let us dance.
O dark beauty! To the Dabkee let us dance.*

May God give you more and more.
I love you and you love me.
I sing for you, you sing for me.

*Dabkee is a Lebanese dance.
SIDE II, Band 2: MA ALLI OLTILLO (EGYPTIAN)

MA ALLI OLTILLO
WI MALLI OMIILTILLO (Chorus)
WE GANI OREHTILLO
YA AWAZEL FALFILO

ALOLO KALAM WI ALOLI KALAM
WIKAN BINI WE BANO KHASAM
KALAMHOM ZAD GHARAMI GHRAM
WE FAD BEE SHOG BAAT LE SALAM
OSALAMO FRIHTILLO WEGANI ORIHTILLO
OALLI OLTILLO OMAWI OMILTILLO
YA AWAZEL FALFILO

(CHORUS)

FI ORBU YZEED HANEENI ELEY
OHOWA BEED YA KHOFI ALEY
AKHAF LANAS YE HIBBO ENEY
WE YETMANNO YE BOSO EDAY
FI EDEH KUL EL HANA WE INAY HIA EL MONA
WIHALAFLI BHOBINA WANA Bardo HALFTTLO
YA AWAZEL FALFILO

(CHORUS)

HE DIDN'T TELL ME, I DIDN'T TELL HIM

An Egyptian song, originally by Farid El Atrash.
The singer refers to his sweetheart as unforgettable.

CHORUS

He didn't tell me, I didn't tell him.
He liked me and I liked him.
He came to me and I went to him.
And you the envious are sunk in jealousy.

Our love is so strong, that the envious cannot destroy it.
When we are together no power can separate us.
Your words are so sweet.
Every phrase increases my love.

(CHORUS)

Though our love is so strong, still I fear when you are away
That others may desire your lips, or may wish to kiss your hands.
In your hands lies my happiness, in your eyes I see heaven.
I vowed my love, you vowed yours too,
And the envious are sunk in jealousy.
SIDE II, Band 3: YA ALLA OYALLAH YALLA HAY
(LEBANESE)

YA ALLA OYALLAH YALLA HAY ) Repeat
ONIHNA ASAD HABEEBAIN
HABIBET ALBI KHALIKI JANBI
MEEN YEDAR YEFARIG BAIN HAL HABEEBAIN
YA ALLA OYALLAH YALLA HAY ) Repeat

TRID AachoFAK KOL YOM LAMALEK EED
ONIZIM KOL HABAYEBNA WILHUB EZEED
YA RAIT O YA RAIT TIJI LA ENDELBAIT ) Repeat
GHIR WALLA HABIT TSHAWANI
YA ALLA OYALLAH YALLA HAY ) Repeat

Originally an Armenian song, this Lebanese version was introduced to the public in Arabic by Mohamed El Bakkar. He is presently residing in the United States, and is one of the stars of the Broadway hit, "FANNY".

LET US GO

Let us go, let us go, let us go,
We are the happiest of lovers.
Sweetheart, stay beside me.
Who can destroy our love?
Let us go, let us go, let us go.

When I see you, my sweetheart, it is my feast.
Let us call our friends to witness our love.
I hope and I hope that this love will last.
Let us go, let us go, let us go.
SIDE II, Band 4: LEBANESE FOLK DANCES

ALA LMANI AL MANI ) Repeat
EL MANI YA BOOY EL MANI YA BOOY )
(A)
HABEEBI ELLALI HANANI ) Repeat
HANANI YA BOOY HANANI YA BOOY
MA BFOTAK YA NOOR EL AIN
IN ISHT OALLA KHALANI
YA BA YA BA OYABA OYAB
YA BO KHALIL
(B)
YA GHZAYEL YA BOLEBA
YA HAWI WIMAZIBA
YA HILWA DABAHeEIN
FI GAWLATIK MARHABA
(C)
ZAHLI YA DAR ESSALAM
FIKI MARBA LISOODI
ALA EDILL WALLA MA NAM
EL MOUT IBBOUZ EL BAROODI

KOKIEH KOKIEH TISWA ALFAIN OMEYEH
TISWA ALFAIN OKTAR
TISWA DMOOIE O'ENAYEH

MY SWEETHEART'S WILD ABOUT ME

(A)
My sweetheart is crazy about me,
Wild about me, wild about me,
I'll never let him (her) go.
You will always be as precious to me as my eyes,
As long as God keeps me alive.

MY LITTLE GAZELLE

(B)
Oh my dear little gazelle, with your *abaya on,
You, whose love one cannot win without struggle,
You, my sweetheart have left me with pain,
By greeting and then ignoring me.

*ABAYA is a shawl, used by the Bedouins, woven from fine camel or llama hair, ornamented with gold trimmings.

THE TOWN OF BRAVERY

(C)
*ZAHLI is our town of peace
But we are a breed of lions.
By Allah, we will not accept defeat,
We will defy death even in the mouth of guns.

*ZAHLI is a town in Lebanon.