

#classicalmusic #sacredmusic #worldmusic

**FINE INTERNATIONAL PIANO & VOICE DUET
VASSILIS TSABROPOULOS / NEKTARIA KARANTZI DUET**

**Between East and West Tour
Based on the new world-wide CD release: Eleison**

It is not just a musical piano and voice duo.

It is the combination of an internationally recognized virtuoso pianist and a unique female voice of Sacred and Byzantine Chant that ideally link the music of West and East.

After four years of their inspired cooperation in an unpredictable musical marriage of west musical culture and east tradition, and following two successful European tours, the internationally renowned pianist, composer and conductor Vassilis Tsabropoulos and the highly gifted performer of sacred music Nektaria Karantzi, present the new world-wide CD release: "Eleison" and they are preparing for their new international concert tour.

In their repertoire the musical compositions of the virtuoso pianist, mainly through his long ECM discography, meet the imposing mystic sacred chants and byzantine hymns in Greek, Italian, Romanian, Arabic, Russian and Aramaic (the language of Jesus Christ), performed by the wonderful voice of the acclaimed vocalist of sacred byzantine music, and his imaginative improvisations on Mediterranean traditional themes.

West meets East unfolding each of them their own musical treasures with an imaginative dialogue on stage.

New worldwide CD Release: Vassilis Tsabropoulos, "Eleison"



"Eleison" is the long expected, by the audience and the critics, new world-wide release of the internationally acclaimed pianist, composer and conductor Vassilis Tsabropoulos. Having echoes from Tsabropoulos' previous distinguish albums ("*Akroasis*", "*Chant Hymns and Dances*", "*Melos*", all released by ECM) "*Eleison*" explores again in depth the roots of ancient music and the mysterious nature of sacred Byzantine music. This time the composer is joined by the very gifted female vocalist of sacred music Nektaria Karantzi.

The cycle of these new compositions for piano and voice seems to be a point of completion of the composer's wandering in a particularly colorful but unpretentious music world, which Vassilis Tsabropoulos serves and highlights masterfully through his recordings.

MSO records is a new record label with international release, founded by the acclaimed pianist, composer and conductor Vassilis Tsabropoulos. MSO record's

philosophy, based on inspired creativity and taking the advantage of guiding by the artistic experience of its founder Vassilis Tsabropoulos, will explore the classic repertoire, the sacred religious music from all over the world and will bring in life the music of new composers. Embracing the possibility of digital access, all the recordings will be offered also digitally in high quality with new insights and in an ultimate way. For MSO records music is a holy land of sacrificial creation.

The "Eleison" is available on the largest music stores, both online and off internationally.

Please, find out more information about the current release in the following official presentation:

<http://www.challengerecords.com/products/14609917065279/>

You could also listen to a sample of it in this link:

<http://youtu.be/VnnR1gCqBLo>

You could also listen a preview extracts of the tracks on iTunes:

<https://itun.es/gr/IVZ8bb>

Vassilis Tsabropoulos

Vassilis Tsabropoulos, who is considered to be one of the greatest Greek pianists, is an internationally acclaimed concert pianist, conductor and composer. Since 2000 he is an artist of ECM Records label and he has toured in Europe several times playing concerts. His unique solo piano releases, *“Akroasis”*, and *“The Promise”* are inward-looking albums and *“Chants, Hymns and Dances”* an international cross-cultural success. As The Times wrote: *“Tsabropoulos is one of those rare musicians who is equally at home in both the classical and the jazz worlds”*. Vassilis Tsabropoulos once described the making of different kinds of music as an aesthetic imperative, a conviction embodied in his ECM discography.

A prodigy, was winning music competitions from the age of ten, and after graduating from the Athens National Conservatory, continued his studies on an Aristotle Onassis Scholarship at the Paris Conservatory, the Salzburg Academy and the Julliard School. Tsabropoulos was an early achiever, winning the UNICEF competition. His distinctions and awards are too many and many are his collaborations with orchestras in Europe, performing an ever-expanding repertoire in both recitals and concertos. He has taken the stage with Europe's several important orchestras including among others the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Stockholm Philharmonic, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the Czech Philharmonic, Budapest Chamber Orchestra, Sofia Philharmonic, Italy Radio Orchestra etc. His repertoire varies from Bach to Beethoven and Chopin to Prokofiev. As a pianist he is highly effective in Russian music, particularly in Rachmaninoff. He has made his first USA tour in October 2004 with a significant critical and popular success. Pick of his career is his performances with London Philharmonia and Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Vladimir Ashkenazy in piano concertos of Beethoven and Rachmaninoff.

Vassilis Tsabropoulos is the Honorary President of the Sergei Rachmaninov Greek Society. He is also the Founder, Music Director and Principal Conductor of the [Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra of Athens](#), which is under the aegis of the Archbishop of Athens and all of Greece, Ieronymos II, and he is the Artistic Director of the Sacred Music Festival of the Radio Station of the Church of Greece.

Nektaria Karantzi

Her voice has been identified mainly with the Byzantine sacred art and has been internationally acclaimed as one of the most important voices in Byzantine Chant and Sacred Music. Her performances are purely devoted to Byzantine Chant, the Mediterranean primeval musical tradition the religious music in Greek, Romanian, Arabic, Russian, Italian, French, Aramaic (the language of Jesus Christ) etc. The Greek vocalist Nektaria Karantzi has also been invited for Master Classes from some of the most renowned educational and musical centers in Europe, such as the Liszt Academy in Hungary, the Sorbonne University in France, the University of Oviedo in Spain etc.

She is the unique Greek performer of Byzantine music with discography in Byzantine music since she was fourteen and with active work of chanting as a chorister in church since she was nine.

In her first recordings of chanting she accompanied a contemporary saint, Saint Porphyrios the Kapsokalyvite and with his encouragement she started her studies in Byzantine Music at a very early age. Nektaria Karantzi is also well-known in Greek music stage through her collaboration with the greatest teacher of the Greek Traditional Music Chronis Aidonides. The important moment of her career is her collaboration with the internationally acclaimed pianist, composer and conductor Vassilis Tsabropoulos in an artistic combination inspired by byzantine hymns joining West and East and toured in Europe several times.

She is the Founder and the Honorary President of the “Byzantine Female Chanters Association” and she is the President of the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra of Athens, which is under the aegis of the Archbishop of Athens and all of Greece, Ieronymos II. Nektaria has studied Law, undertook postgraduates in Penal Law, Criminology, Ecclesiastical Law and she is also a Doctor of Laws.

LINKS:

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Vassilis Tsabropoulos

The official website www.tsabropoulos.com is under construction

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YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/nektariakarantzi>

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TECHNICAL REQUIRMENTS:

Grand concert piano

Professional Sound equipment for piano and voice

2 monitors

1 Microphone for voice, preferably Shure-Beta 58A

1 Microphone for speaking

1 music stand

