12-21-2013

Darkness Is Your Candle

Office of Arts + Cultural Programming
PEAK Performances at Montclair State University

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Audience and performers, please turn off all electronic devices.

In consideration of both performers and audience, the taking of photographs or videos and the use of recording equipment are not permitted.

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes, including one 15-minute intermission.

“Sirto”
“Kozarica Kolo”
“Krivo Sadovsko Horo”
“Cveta moma ubava”
“Longa Nahawand”
“Longa Farahfaza”
“Sandansko Horo”
“Samai Hijaz”
“Yis Kou Ghimetn Chim Giti”
“Kani Vor Janim”

Percussion Duo

“Ghaida”
“Krujk”
“Kani Vor Janim”
“His Koo Ghimetn Chin Giti”
“Lamma Bada”
“Samai Hijaz”
“Sandansko Horo”

“Kameni Zvo”
“Kameni Kolo”
“Sito”

Program

Komitas Vardapet (1865–1935)
Sayat Nova (1712–1795)
Sayat Nova

Traditional Andalusian
Abdel Rahman Jabakji (d. 2003)

Traditional Bulgarian

Italian, late 14th century
Arranged by Nina Stern

Glen Velez, Shane Shanahan

Musicians:

Glen Velez, Shane Shanahan

Performer:

Omer Avital

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To view our complete season and for more information, visit peakperfs.org.

**World Premiere!**

**East of the River**

**Darkness Is Your Candle**

Daphne Mor and Nina Stern, recorders, nay, chalumeau
Ara Diajkhian, oud
Jesse Kotansky, violin
Peter Stan, accordion
Omer Avital, bass
Shane Shanahan, percussion
Glen Velez, percussion

**Staff**

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The National Endowment for the Arts
The New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts
Discover Jersey Arts
Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation
National Dance Project (NDP) of the New England Foundation for the Arts
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Alston and James T. Creanza

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**Khor**

“Khor” (“Canyon”) is based on a text from the late medieval period and exists in various manuscripts dating from that period. Stylistically, the work is similar to a liturgical chant and was transmitted orally through the centuries. In the 19th century, Komitas Vardapet noted it and made an arrangement of it for voice and piano. Komitas, arguably Armenia’s most famous musician, was also a priest (Vardapet: “teacher of the church” or “divine teacher”). He traveled extensively around the Armenian countryside, listening to and writing down Armenian folk songs and dances. He collected and published upward of 3,000 songs, later adopting many of them for choirs, solo voices, and piano.

**Karii Ofen Jamiie** and “Ye Ku Ghetto Chirr Gihb”

“Karii Ofen Jamiie” and “Ye Ku Ghetto Chirr Gihb” are two songs written by the Armenian poet and author (Habushi) Sayat Nova. Born Hayrouttan Sayat, he adopted the name Sayat Nova, meaning “Master of Songs” in Armenian.

**Ghazeta**

“Ghazeta” is one of 159 manuscripts from a trip to London’s British Library (MS Add. 29567)—an extraordinary collection of Italian virtuoso solo dances from the late 14th century. Originally written for one melody instrument, the version performed tonight depicts an original arrangement of the work for two recorders and percussion.

**Longa Farahaza** and “Longo Nahawand

The song is a lively instrumental piece of Turkish/Eastern European origin, usually in simple 2/4 meter. The form of the song is similar to the syrtos: consisting of two to four couples (kadsu) with a repeating refrain (lesnoto). These two pieces are written in the related modes (maqsas of bahi and nahawand).


**Canta mma abaha**

“Canta mma abaha” is a genre—in a dance, usually in 7/8 time, from Macedonia. This particular beija is often sung. The lyrics to the song are:

Canta, the beautiful girl, sheabeth-her silver hoops, and asks herself:

“Why, Dimko, don’t you come to me?

Did you tell me, Dimko, that you would love me truly, only me?

I’m sending you a gift, you madam, come back to me!

Pull your cap down over your eye, wink at me, raise your cap so I can see you. I’m turning you out for you!

I wait for you every day, to see you near me. I’ll go take another love if you don’t come!

Come, Dimko, come this evening, lady, but I’m burning up for you!”

**Krivo Sadovsko Horo**

“Krivo Sadovsko Horo” is a Bulgarian folk dance form in 13/8 time.

**Kozak Kale Kozaka**

“Kozak Kale Kozaka” is a Serbian/Romanian dance in 24/4 meter.

**Sirt**

Sirt, or sirtos, is the name of a group of traditional Greek dances related. Along with the kalamatianas, they are the most popular dances throughout Greece. Both are line dances and use the same dance steps, but the sirtos is in 2/4 or 4/4 meter whereas the kalamatianas is in 7/8.

Notes by Nina Stem.


**Ghazetat**

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