

TURKEY MEETS GREECE

PROJECT FOR 4 PIANOS

Cyprien Katsaris, Janis Vakarelis, Ferhan & Ferzan Önder



DESCRIPTION

This fantastic project includes 4 musical personalities, among them *the internationally known pianist Cyprien Katsaris, the great artist Janis Vakarelis and the outstanding twin sisters Ferhan and Ferzan Önder*. The concert promises **and electrifying, energetic passion** for the audience and the artist themselves.

The aim of this project is to **overcome the marked Greek-Turkish relations of the past**, by playing a wonderful repertoire including Wagner and Say, and to reach out to the audience's heart with passionate intimacy on stage.

REPERTOIRE

Richard Wagner –Tannhäuser Overture (*Transcription: Carl Burchard*)

Antonín Dvorák – Slavonic Dance n° 2 in E minor, op. 72 (*for 4 hands*)

Antonio Vivaldi – Spring, Extract from « The Four Seasons » (Allegro – Largo – Allegro)
(*Transcription :Nicolas Economou*)

Francis Poulenc – L'Embarquement pour Cythère (for 2 pianos)

Georges Bizet – Carmen Fantasy (*Arrangement: Achilleas Wastor*)

Franz Liszt – Rákóczi-March (*Transcription – August Horn*)

Fazil Say – Winter Morning in Istanbul (*for 4 hands*)

Maurice Ravel – Boléro (*Transcription – Jacques Drillon*)

Mikis Theodorakis – Zorba, Suite (*Arrangement: Achilleas Wastor*)

Ferhan and Ferzan Önder

There is always a special bond between twins – and Ferhan & Ferzan Önder bring this bond on stage. They are two individual artists but together they established a new musical identity, establishing themselves as one of the most promising Piano-Duos of the younger generation in the world's concert circuit by means of their electrifying playing. The Turkish pianists and twins are one of the leading and *world famous piano duos nowadays*. The twins were invited to play at the *Salzburg Festival, Lucerne Festival, at the Festivals in Gstaad and the Schleswig-Holstein festival, among many others*. They regularly appear at renowned concert halls, such as the *Wiener Musikverein, Wiener Konzerthaus, Gewandhaus Leipzig, at the Wigmore Hall London and at the Mariinsky Theater St. Petersburg*. One of their famous recordings with EMI Classic was priced with the **ECHO**, other discographies were published with *SONY Classical*. The piano duo recently premiered the *Gezi Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra composed by Fazil Say*, which is specially dedicated to them.



Cyprien Katsaris

The French-Cypriot pianist and composer, and A graduate of the Paris Conservatoire where he studied piano with Aline van Barentzen and Monique de la Bruchollerie (piano First Prize, 1969), as well as chamber music with René Leroy and Jean Hubeau (First Prize, 1970), won inter alia the International Young Interpreters Rostrum-UNESCO (Bratislava 1977), the First Prize in the International Cziffra Competition (Versailles 1974).

His major international career includes performances with the world's greatest orchestras, most notably *The Berlin Philharmonic, Staatskapelle Dresden, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, SWR Symphony Orchestra, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal*, among many others. He has collaborated with conductors such as *Leonard Bernstein, Mstislav Rostropovich, Sir Simon Rattle, Christoph von Dohnányi, Charles Dutoit, Antal Doráti, Ivan Fischer, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Kent Nagano* and many more.



Janis Vakarelis

The Greek pianist Janis Vakarelis enjoys a major international career since winning the 1st Prize at the Queen Sofia International Piano Competition in Madrid with appearances in Europe, North and South America, Japan and the Far East.

He has worked with many eminent conductors such as *Sir Simon Rattle, Lorin Maazel, Kurt Masur, Mstislav Rostropovich, Lord Yehudi Menuhin, Sir Colin Davis, Sir Neville Marriner, Charles Dutoit, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Christoph Eschenbach*, performing with the leading orchestras such as *the Staatskapelle Dresden, Gewandhaus Leipzig, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre National de France, City of Birmingham Symphony, Philharmonia, Royal Philharmonic, BBC Symphony, Wiener Symphoniker, Mozarteum Salzburg, Orchestra Nazionale della RAI*, among others.

Janis Vakarelis has recorded extensively over the years for RCA (Brahms, Prokofiev), ASV (Brahms), RPO Records (Liszt, Prokofiev, Gershwin) which earned him extraordinary reviews in Gramophone, Classical Music and Diapason.

