

Maira Milolidaki
Iossif Valette - Elena Kyritsi
“Grafomena”



Subways Music presents the song cycle **“Grafomena”**: **Iossif Valette’s** compositions on selected poems from the homonymous poetry collection by **Elena Kyritsi**, which was released in 1995 by Edition 'Paratiritis'.

All voice parts are performed by soprano **Maira Milolidaki**.

The album songs were performed at the “Biennale of Young Artists of Europe & the Mediterranean” in Rome 1999, representing ‘Greek song music’, by Proti Praxi ensemble, a group of talented musicians that was set up for this performance.

The first recordings took place in 2003, and were continued in 2012 and 2016 with revisions to the orchestrations and the addition of a prologue and an epilogue.

The record is available worldwide, in physical and digital edition.

Compositions:

1. Prologue
2. O erotas mou
3. Einai lathos, eim’ allou
4. Thimithika mia thalassa
5. Hthes xafnika
6. I zoi
7. Tipota de mou einai arketo
8. Otan sviso
9. Pierrot Lunaire
10. Pistevo
11. Pou pas?
12. Epilogue

Contributing musicians:

Petros Metallinos - flute
Yannis Samprovalakis - clarinet
Stella Arambatzoglou - saxophone
Costas Karassavidis - percussions
Katerina Lekka - accordion
Xenia Tseligka - bayan
Michael Kontaxakis - guitar
Evangelia Kiosoglou - harp
Iossif Valette - piano
Michael Kolokotronis - violin
Yiorgos Arnis - contrabass

Contributors:

Recordings:

Glam Studios (2003)

Final Sound Studio (2016) - **Nikos Mermigkas & Barrice Sobolev**

SAE Studios (2012) - **Yannis Malafis**

D.K. Studio (2014) - **Kostas Karassavidis**

Mixes of epilogue: **Evangelos Sapounas**

Mixes & sound design: **Iossif Valette**

Mastering: **Evangelos Sapounas**

Front cover drawing: **Elena Kyritsi**

Artwork booklet: **Katerina Hondrogianni**

Production: **Subways Music - Sophocles Sapounas**

Production contributor: **Anna Eleftherou**

Copyright: **Sophocles Sapounas - Erateio Odeon**

Maira Milolidaki



Born in Athens, she studied piano and classical singing at the Athens Conservatoire. As a scholar of the Onassis Foundation she pursued her vocal studies in Milan, Italy, and in Rome with Renata Scotto as a member of the Opera Studio in the National Academy of Santa Cecilia. She has also studied theatre and the art of performance (National Theatre Summer Academy, Drama school 'Εμπρός'). As a debutante, she has participated in the international young artists program of the Aegean Opera under the artistic direction of the American baritone Sherrill Milnes. Since then, she appears regularly on stage performing a wide repertoire ranging from baroque to contemporary music.

A few favorites moments: Sängerin (B. Brecht, National Theater of Greece), Violetta (Verdi, La Traviata) and Madga (Puccini, La Rondine) in Rome (Accademia di Santa Cecilia), Gilda (Verdi, Rigoletto, Teatro dal Verme, Milan), Queen of the Night (Mozart, The Magic Flute, National Opera of Greece), Micaela (Bizet, Carmen) and Rosina (Rossini, Il Barbiere di Siviglia) with the Athens Municipality Symphony Orchestra, a recital at Carnegie Hall, N. Y, with the quintet Melos Brass, the artistic direction of the concert cycle A Museum made of Music (Museum of Cycladic Art, supported by the Onassis Foundation. 2009-2011) and of the festival Music Tones at Beton 7 (2011-2015) along with T. Gouvelis, the educational program Opera: how to create the magic for the Athens Concert Hall, performing Sequenza III for solo voice by L. Berio every time she has the chance, performing Gepopo (Ligeti, Le Grand Macabre) for the workshop of contemporary music (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), singing Purcell with the counter tenor Michael Chance, performing the Akhmatova Songs by J. Tavener with the cellist A. Liakakis in a summer night in the open air and at the Onassis Cultural Center, taking part in the productions of the Music Theater Company RAFI (Céphise in Pygmalion (Rameau) staged by P. Mexis, Godmother in Cendrillon (Viardot) and Morgana in Alcina (Handel), both staged by Th. Glynatsis), performing the songs by G. Kouroupos based on the poems by O. Elytis and Credo by N. Hakim in the "free jazz performance" BSDA by G. Panteleakis, appearing in the movie Matriarchy by N. Kornilios, having fun in Paris (Phd in semiotics, Sorbonne University), teaching vocal technique at Deree.

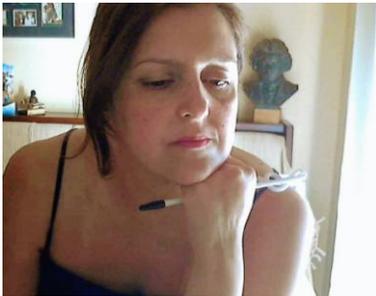
Iossif Valette



Iossif Valette is a Greek composer and pianist. He's a graduate of the Music Department of the Aristotle University in Musicology and Music Composition (PhD). He attended masterclasses on "New Music" in Darmstadt and "Alexander technique" in London. His works have been awarded in Greek and International competitions and have, also, been played in Athens, Boston, Rome, Brussels, Graz and Sengen. His song cycle 'Grafomena' represented "Greek music" in Biennale 1999 in Rome. His chamber opera 'LXIr' (2006) was commissioned by the Athens Megaron, his opera 'Freud for her' was staged at the Greek National Opera (2012), and his piano cycle 'Contra-pedal' (2012) was released as a CD. His work "Dance of Orpheus" (2017) was recorded and broadcasted by Greek Television & Radio.

He is a member of the "Greek Composers Union", as well as a scientific associate of the Institute of Educational Policy. His works and his handbook on 'Form and analysis', are published by Panas Music. His discography is published by Irida Classical and Subways Music.

Elena Kyritsi



Elena Kyritsi took piano lessons with Katerina Stamatelou at the Music College of Thessaloniki, from where she got her degree. She has studied Musical Pedagogics, has taken vocal and choir directing lessons, and, also, holds degrees in Harmony and Counterpoint. She has attended seminars for children's choir and physiology of childhood voice.

During 1987-1990, she worked as an actor in the theatrical group "*Morfes*", under the direction of G. Iordanidis. In 1995, she had her poetic collection "Grafomena" published, by Edition "Paratiritis". "Grafomena" represented Greece at the Biennale of Rome in 1999, as a song cycle (music: I. Valette), in the category of "poetry set to music". In 1997 she participated in "Politechno" workshop of the European Capital of Culture, which had as a subject the mixing of the arts. Her composition on H. P. Lovecraft's 'The Outsider', was presented at Thessaloniki Concert Hall (2007). In 2008 she was awarded the 1st prize for libretto in a children's opera, in a national competition held by Opera of Thessaloniki. In 2012 she wrote the script and directed the stage performance of "A Journey with Contra-pedal" (music: I. Valette), a different piano recital which features movement and speech, that took place in Thessaloniki and Athens.

She has accompanied choirs and has taught piano and music theoreticals. In 2004 she founded "Kokkini Klosti", a music theater workshop for children. During her years of teaching, she has presented numerous children's stage performances, and has, also, been awarded the 1st Prize at the 2nd Panhellenic Festival of School Choirs of the Municipality of Kalamaria (2009).

