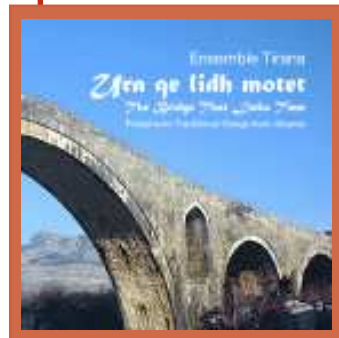


ENSEMBLE TIRANA

Mystical, magical, intoxicating, hypnotic, ominous and mysterious: this is how the Albanian polyphony of the six vocalists of the legendary 'Ensemble Tirana' sounds. Now there is a new cd with the appropriate title 'The Bridge That Links Time'.



fact sheet

Artist • Ensemble Tirana
title • Ura Qe Lidh Motet. The Bridge That Links Time
label • Fréa Records
article nr • MWCD 4068
format • CD/digipack
booklet • 10 pag. Engels
country • Albanië
genre • world music/
polyfonie
price • full price

contact

band web • ensembletirana.com
bookings • info@link-kulturburo.be

tracklisting

1. Ditet e beharit - Spring days 02:39
2. Hanko! 05:23
3. Na leu dielli - The sun rises 03:36
4. Mora rrugen per Janina - Travelling to Janina 04:13
5. C'me grise shpirtin - You drive me crazy 02:41
6. Ti me je si nje gonxhe - You are like a flower bud 03:13
7. Kenga e Ago Ymerit - Song for Ago Ymer 05:07
8. Kendon bylbyli - The nightingale song 02:35
9. Ju Pampore qe shkoni - O ye boats that go away 04:19
10. Vajta diku, vajta - I'm so happy with her 03:57
11. Ti je vete pranvera - You are the spring yourself 02:53
12. Mbece more shoke, mbece - A tragic end in the war 03:51
13. Moj bukuri magjike - O magical beauty 04:37
14. Potpourri Korcare - Potpourri of Korca 04:13



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THE MUSIC

Ensemble Tirana mainly sings a capella, with sparse accompaniment on traditional instruments like the flute and the two-stringed *cifteli*. The polyphony of the group resembles other similar styles from South-East Europe, especially those from Bulgaria, made famous by the female choir 'Le Mystère des Voix Bulgares'.

The music has its own, pronounced characteristics as well. The three- and four-part polyphonies are rich, emotional songs which are among the most beautiful in Europe. Some of the songs sound like a lament, dripping with life's suffering, which is not surprising to those who know the history of this small Balkan country.

In Albania, each region has its own musical style with its own musical and vocal colour. The body of songs not only consists of laments, but there are erotic stories too, 'adjusted' by official censorship during the totalitarian regime. The original lyrics however are not lost as they were kept alive in family-circles and sung at festivities.

In addition, the repertoire includes epic and historical chants. Those are situated in the seventeenth century and were an expression of the resistance against the Ottoman occupation of the country.

THE CD

The new cd of Ensemble Tirana offers very diverse songs with themes like love, romance, war and exile. They hail from all parts of Albania.

A striking element is the presence of several songs of the Arbëreshë. This was the name of an Albanian group of people, who moved to Italy after after the Ottoman invasion. During the five centuries they have been living there, they held onto their language, rites, Orthodox religion, customs, songs, etc.

Music was an important help to the Albanian in keeping their own language and culture during long and difficult centuries of invasions and occupations. This also explains the title of the cd: music is the bridge that links past with present.

THE ENSEMBLE

The Ensemble Tirana is a virtuoso ensemble that revives the rich and - unjustly - unknown repertoire of the Albanian polyphony in an honest and respectful way. The ensemble was founded in 1994 and performed at several renowned European festivals.

- Nazo Celaj: tenor
- Hyso Xhaferaj: tenor
- Dionis Delia: tenor
- Edmond Lila: tenor
- Luan Sula: bariton
- Ervin Kastrati: bass-bariton

Digital press file with press release, biography, downloads and hi-res cover/pictures: www.mwpromo.nl/ensembletirana



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