

YIORGOS KALOUDIS

Photo - Lambros Papanikolatos



Biography

Yiorgos Kaloudis is a classically trained cellist, an exceptional Cretan Lyra performer, improviser, and composer. He performs regularly in concert halls, museums and festivals around the world. He is a highly experienced recording artist and multi-instrumentalist and has collaborated in numerous CD's, films and Theatre Productions.

EARLY YEARS: Born in Athens, Greece in 1973 from a musical family, Yiorgos Kaloudis's first language of expression has always been music. He started playing the Cretan Lyra at a very early age, and continued his family tradition as 4th generation of Cretan Lyra players.

His formal studies of the cello were completed at the Athenaeum Conservatory in Athens and graduated with honors. He earned a scholarship from the Fulbright Foundation giving him the opportunity to study in Los Angeles composition and improvisation, which lead him to perfect his personal cello techniques.

DISCOGRAPHY: His personal discography consists of his debut solo cd album TRUTH (2005), followed by his second album ON THE WIND (2009) with the kind support of the J.F.Costopoulos Foundation and J.S. Bach cello suites on the Cretan Lyra (2016).

Since 2005, as influenced by his Cretan background, he has introduced a 4-string Cretan Lyra with sympathetic strings to his performance and recordings, bringing to it his technical understanding of the cello, as well as the innovative addition of a 4th string the low C of the cello. Studying this project has been a longstanding effort and has taken several years to accomplish and it is due to his passion, commitment, his distinct approach to music, and the remarkable ability to honor the traditional Cretan Lyra that it has been achieved. Soon, Yiorgos Kaloudis's new album J.S.Bach Suites for Solo Cello performed on the 4-string Cretan Lyra with sympathetic strings will be released in a World Premiere Recording.

OTHER COLLABORATIONS: Yiorgos is a frequent guest at many important music festivals all over the world such as the Fringe Festival in New York, Biennale in Rome, Manchester Jazz Festival.

He also collaborated with international orchestras like the St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, and the Lege Artis Chamber Choir in St. Petersburg, the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra, and the National Symphony Orchestra of Thessaloniki. He performs regularly in numerous venues, cathedrals, concert halls and has numerous collaborations around the world.