



The Commandaria Orchestra
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Ἔν Χορδαῖς
Music Traditions of Mediterranean



PRESS RELEASE

“EXILE”

**Theme Concert of The Music Ensemble
“En Chordais” (Greece)
and the participation of
'The Commandaria Orchestra'**

**KATO VRISI – GEROSKIPOU, PAFOS
Sunday, May 28th, 2017, 20:00**

<http://www.pafos2017.eu/en/event/exile-greece-cyprus-iran/>

Commandaria Orchestra of The Cyprus Wine Museum is honored to have been invited to collaborate with the international awarded Music Ensemble “En Chordais” at a unique theme concert entitled “EXILE”.

“EXILE” is the last of the three-day events of Pafos2017 project **MEDITERRANEAN MUSICAL TRADITIONS** and will take place at Kato Vrisi, Geroskipou, next Sunday, May 28th.

The history of humanity is a long and painful series of exiles. Nowadays, the multimode condition of exile seems timelier than ever, in its physical, mental and spiritual dimension. Kyriakos Kalaitzides, composer and artistic director of the ensemble “En Chordais” is one of the most important researchers in the area of musical traditions of the Mediterranean. Coming from a family of refugees from Pontus and Cappadocia, he has dealt with the issue of exile in depth, in an enchanting fusion of eastern and western music, with sensitivity and virtuosity.

Exile is part of a series of events which celebrate the musical traditions of the Eastern Mediterranean and its neighbouring countries, as well as their impact on contemporary music. Shared musical experiences connect people from across cultures, mentalities and beyond language. They become the way to truly link continents and bridge cultures as the motto of Pafos2017 suggests. **Mediterranean Musical Traditions** is a three-day event comprising of five concerts by musicians from Greece, Northern Italy, Israel and Spain.

En Chordais ensemble is active in the domain of multicultural, learned and popular musical traditions of the Mediterranean, exploring both their creative continuity and their meeting with contemporary musical trends, in a fusion mood. Through an osmotic procedure the group successfully combines Byzantine and art music of the Mediterranean with Greek regional idioms and contemporary music. The ensemble consists of: Kyriakos Petras (violin), Kyriakos Kalaitzides (oud, vocals), Drosos Koutsokostas (vocals, lute), Alkis Zopoglou (kanun), Petros Papageorgiou (toumberleki, bendir), Giorgos Kokkinakis (piano),

Commandaria Orchestra is invited to collaborate at the EXILE project and it will perform under the baton of Francis Guy.

The Commandaria Orchestra was established in 2009 by The Cyprus Wine Museum. The appellation of the Orchestra directly references to the region where The Cyprus Wine Museum is based, the Great Commandery of Cyprus, which was founded by the Order of Saint John. Commandaria is also the universally unique sweet wine of Cyprus.

The Orchestra's main target is to spread the musical culture of Cyprus. Its rich repertoire includes masterpieces from the Middle ages until nowadays.

www.facebook.com/CyprusWineMuseum.Commandaria/

Video Sample of the orchestra: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpjdpWu-vEY>