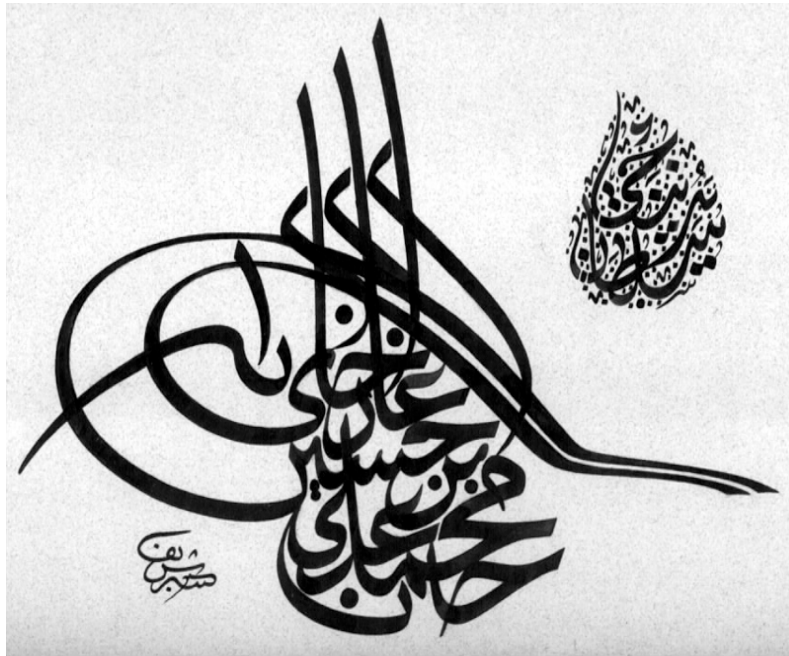


DÜNYA, in collaboration with the MIT Turkish Student Organization, presents

THE CONTINUATION OF OTTOMAN MUSIC

Osmanlı Musikisinin Devamı

Three Hundred Years of Turkish Music Concert Series, Fall 2004



THE COMPOSER'S 30th BIRTHDAY

directed by **Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol**, *tanbur, voice, piano*

Nihat Tokdil, *ney* / **Courtney Secoy**, *oboe* / **Erin Simmons**, *clarinet*

Cassie Keys, *french horn* / **Dan Nissenbaum**, *trumpet* / **Yukiko Nakagawa**, *trumpet* / **Dimitris**

Mikelis, *ud* / **Güç Basar Gülle**, *fretless guitar* / **Eylem Basaldı**, *violin*

Theodoulos Vakanas, *violin* / **Nektarios Antoniou**, *voice* / **Christiane Karam**, *voice*

Selis Önel Evren, *voice* / **Bertram Lehmann**, *percussion* / **Cem Mutlu**, *percussion*

MIT, Killian Hall, Saturday, September 25, 8:00pm

Original compositions for instruments and voices by Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol combining the idioms of Ottoman traditional music with contemporary media and methods.

Mehter müziği (Janissary music), sema müziği (Sufi devotional music), and ince saz müziği (instrumental music) are explored, producing striking new pieces which carry on and extend their traditional models.

A Heritage for Our Time

During the past two hundred years, all of the nations that once lived under Ottoman rule were confronted with a dilemma: how to build a new national identity based on local traditions of the past, while participating fully in the contemporary world which just happened to be dominated by the west. Turkey has known its own version of this dilemma. Growing up in Turkey in the 1970s and 80s I remember very clearly how public opinion was divided on this issue. According to some, the westernization of traditional Ottoman/Turkish music simply was impossible and therefore undesirable: any attempt to adapt Turkish music to western harmonies, instruments and forms would obviously result in the corruption and distortion of the tradition, robbing it of its Turkishness. Another group felt that the only way a Turkish musical tradition could survive and become widely accepted in the world was through the adoption of those very same western elements. This concert represents one composer's attempt to respond to this century-long dilemma by adapting certain western practices distinctly traditional Ottoman materials.

About four years ago, after a lifetime of training in classical western music and jazz I made a commitment to learning Ottoman/Turkish music. I wanted to be able to speak the Ottoman/Turkish language as well as I could speak the various western musical languages I already knew. I knew that I had already given quite a number of years to the learning of the latter and to learn a new language would require at least as much, if not more time. At this relatively early stage of my development in this effort, I have tried to remain honest to my original purpose and to pay my respect to both musical traditions by treating them with equal attention and patience.

Dr. Mehmet Ali SANLIKOL

PROGRAM

Introduction by Dr. Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol
president of DÜNYA and director of the "Three Hundred Years of Turkish Music" concert series

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I. *Gülbeng and Fetih duası* (prayer of the Ottoman Janissary Bands)

II. *Ney Taksim in Makam Beyati* (instrumental improvisation)
Hanım Sultan Peşrevi

III. *Ud Taksim in Makam Rast* (instrumental improvisation)
Rast Peşrev
Ara Taksim on Keman (instrumental improvisation)
Excerpt from Ergenekon-"Kıyan and the Mother Wolf"

IV. *Buselik Canon*

V. *Ben Bir Acep ile Geldim* (sacred song)
Ben bir acep ile geldim / Kimse halim bilmez benim
Ben söylerem, ben dinlerem / Kimse dilim bilmez benim...
I came wandering / No one can understand how I feel
I speak but I alone listen / No one can understand what I speak...

VI. *Ottomanist*

All music composed and arranged by Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol (b. 1974) except the first title and all the taksims in the program.

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Acknowledgements

MANY THANKS to the MIT Turkish Student Organization for their collaboration in the creation of this concert. I would like to thank my dear wife Serap Kantarcı Sanlıkol, without whom I could never have found the energy and power to do this concert. Along with her I would also like to extend my thanks to the officers of DÜNYA for their hard work.



Our main sponsor for the 2004 fall season