

## THE GYPSY DEVILS & THE CYPRUS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# Soul of the Gypsy

**ΩPA / TIME : 20:30 - EIΣITHPIA / TICKETS: € 10, €5** 

Τρίτη, 30 Σεπτεμβρίου - Δημοτικό Θέατρο Στροβόπου, Λευκωσία Tuesday, September 30 - Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Τετάρτη, 1 Οκτωβρίου - Δημοτικό Θέατρο Λάρνακαs Wednesday, October 1 - Larnaca Municipal Theatre

**ΓΕΝΙΚΕΣ ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ / GENERAL INFORMATION : 22463144, 25878744, 22800933** 

### The Gypsy Devils and the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra

A concert with famous Gipsy Devils and the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra. The programme is impressive and unique, full of passion and inspired from Gipsy music. The programme includes classical and traditional music and addresses to classical music lovers as well as a wider audience. The concert is organized in collaboration with the Embassy of the Slovak Republic.

**Gypsy Devils Orchestra** is a gypsy orchestra composed by 8 successful performers who have studied in the State Universities of Bratislava and Vienna. Stefan Banyak takes the lead of this new orchestra and launches a series of brand new projects. The orchestra consists of cimbalom, clarinet (tarogato), 2 violins, viola, cello and 2 double- basses.

The repertory of the Gypsy Devils is extremely wide and universal, from pure gypsy improvisation, to Jewish klezmer music, folklore music of Slovakia, Hungary, Russia, Greece, Rumania, to classical hits, famous arias from operettas, musicals, movie music and jazz standards. This large repertory is arranged by the members of the group who impart to their music a special touch of the gypsy style.

In 2000 the Slovak National Music Academy rewarded the orchestra with three Grammies – best orchestra, best album and best performers. The Orchestra also won the 1st price "Best Gypsy Orchestra in the world" at the Gypsy Music Festival Ciechocinek in Poland, in 1998. In their projects, the orchestra cooperates with the greatest personalities and performers of all styles such as Peter Dvorsky, Martin Babjak and Jolana Fogasova.

The Gypsy Devils have already played in all over the world and performed at the most prestigious stages, such as the Berlin Philharmonie, Komische Oper - Berlin, Konzerthaus - Berlin, Covent Garden Hall, Royal Opera House - London, Hans Max Saal - Munich, Smetana Hall-Prague, Konzert

und Kongressaal - Luzern, Concert Hall - Melbourne and Goldener Saal - Musiverein in Vienna.

The orchestra has already recorded an inaugural CD presenting original compositions and arrangements, in a virtuoso gypsy jazz style. At the moment they are recording a new CD dedicated to Christmas, a compilation of the most famous Christmas carols in the gypsy style which will come out in mid-November. In November the orchestra will be collaborating with the Philharmonic of B. Martinů (Czech Republic). The programme consists of famous classical hits and gypsy melodies arranged by the members of Gypsy Devils.

### **PETER BREINER** (conductor)

Peter Breiner (1957) is known as a composer, conductor. pianist and arranger. He began to study piano in his early childhood (1961) and his exceptional results led to his early acceptance at the Conservatory in Kosice. He studied piano (L. Kojanova), composition (J. Podprocky), conducting and percussion. In 1975-1981 he studied composition at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava (former Czechoslovakia) with Prof. Alexander Moyzes, one of the most significant figures in modern Slovak music. Peter Breiner lives in Toronto, Canada since 1992. Mr Breiner's own compositions have always been "multidimensional". During his studies, he was fascinated by crossing over different musical worlds. Later, he preferred a synthesis of both polarized types of music which brings his music closer to the world of Leonard Bernstein. Breiner's clever arrangements are perhaps the best known. His arrangements of national anthems of all participating countries were used during the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004. Christmas Goes Baroque I and II is a collection of Breiner's commercially most successful Baroque arrangements together with Beatles Go Baroque and Elvis Goes Baroque. One of the world's most recorded musicians, with over 150 CDs in the last 10 years, Breiner has conducted, often doubling as a pianist, the New

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#### CYPRUS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Cyprus Symphony Orchestra was established in 1987 as Cyprus State Orchestra by a decision of the Council of Ministers. It is committed to the development of high performance standards and to the promotion of music education and culture in Cyprus. The Orchestra functioned under the auspices of the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture, until December 2006. Since January 2007 its administration has been undertaken by the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra Foundation, which was established by a decision of the Council of Ministers. The CySO has broadened its activities by promoting community outreach programmes, developing relationship with all levels of music education in Cyprus, participating in cultural exchange programmes, etc. Giving around twenty concerts series annually, the CySO collaborates with distinguished foreign and Cypriot soloists, conductors and ensembles, as well as with various cultural, social and state organisations. Its activities include participation in International Music Festivals, opera productions, official events of the state, first performances of works by Cypriot composers, and since 1999 the "Educational Programmes", in collaboration with Primary and Secondary Education. The Orchestra has performed in Greece (Sacred Music Festival of Patmos, Athens Megaron Hall, Patras Cultural Capital of Europe 2006), Germany, Denmark, Bulgaria, France, Malta and the United Kingdom.



