

Texas Early Music Project Presents

Night Music!

Episode 6: May 23, 2021

with hosts

Gitanjali Mathur & Daniel Johnson

***Nanourisma Ródos* ~ “Lullaby from Rhodes”**

Anonymous/Traditional

Performed by Tsambika Bakiris

Κοιμήσου αγγελούδι μου
Και εγώ είμαι κοντά σου
Παιχνίδια και όλο χαρά
Γεμάτα τα όνειρα σου

Sleep my angel
And I'm here with you.
With play and joys
May your dreams be filled.

Να βλέπω τα χειλάκια σου
Να μου χαμογελάνε
Γιατί οι άγγελοι τ' ουρανού
Μαζί σου θα μιλάνε

So I can see your sweet lips
Smile at me,
Because the Angels in the sky
Will be conversing with you.

Κοιμήσου και παράγγειλα
Στα Γιάννενα τα ρούχα σου
Και στην Κωνσταντινούπολη
Και τα χρυσαφικά σου

Sleep well and I have ordered
Your clothing from Ioannina
And from Istanbul,
Your wedding jewelry

Ύπνε που παίρνεις τα παιδιά
Έλα πάρε και τούτο
Μικρό μικρό σου τ' έδωσα
Μεγάλο φέρε μου το

Sleep, who comes for children,
Please come take this one.
I present him/her very small,
Return him/her all grown up.

Ύπνε Ύπνε πάρε το
Και πάλι φέρε μου το
Να μου το φέρεις της υγείας
Και του αρραβωνιάσματος του

Sleep, sleep come take him/her
And bring him/her back to me.
Bring him/her back healthy
And ready for his/her wedding engagement.

Να μεγαλώσει να γίνει
Ψηλό σαν κυπαρίσσι
Κοινωνία κλώνοι του να απλωθούν
Σ' Ανατολή και Δύση

So he/she will grow
Tall like a cypress tree,
And may his/her branches spread
From east to west.

Tsambika Bakiris' suggestions for Greek music listening

Manos Hatzidakis, a composer who has written hundreds of popular Greek songs.

If you want to listen to *rebetiko* music, try selections by Markos Vamvakaris and Vasilis Tsitsanis.

Nanourisma Kastellorizo ~ “Lullaby from Kastellorizo”

Anonymous/Traditional

Performed by Rachel Toprac Miller & Anthony Toprac

Νανι νανι να κοιμηθει, εμενα το παιδι μου, Να μεγαλωσει, Να γενει οσαν το κυπαριση, Για να το λενε οπου παιει να καλοσωρισει.	Sleepy, sleepy, go to sleep For me, my child, So that you may grow, So that you become like a Cypress tree, So that everyone welcomes you wherever you go.
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Νανι νανι να κοιμηθει, να εχει καλη μοιρα, και ως προστατη το Χριστο και οδηγο την Παναγια.	Sleepy, sleepy, go to sleep, So that you may have a good fate, With Christ as your protector And the Virgin Mary as your guide.
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Anthony Toprac’s suggestions for Greek music listening

For raw, unrefined authenticity there is *rebetiko*, the music of the working class circa 1920 -1980:
Fragosyriani, by Markos Vamvakaris: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHHQdE56PS0>

Then there is *Misirlou* aka *Misirlu* or *Miserlou*, which made it into American popular music by Dick Dale and the Deltones, famously used in *Pulp Fiction*.

Here’s a nice Greek version: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_lt-iTzc0

Then there is the 1960’s Greek Invasion, in which a scruffy band of Greek musicians took the United States by storm, and movies like *Never on Sunday* and *Zorba the Greek* were the rage of Hollywood. During this special time, Nana Mouskouri was a beloved singer, and a favorite of my mother. Here is a recording of the soundtrack of *Never on Sunday* by Mouskouri, with acting by Melina Mercouri:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhgEGcXgZwI>

Meri Ladli Ri ~ My Dear Girl

From the movie *Andaz* (1949)

Composed by Naushad Ali, Lyrics by Majrooh Sultanpuri

Performed by Gitanjali Mathur & Daniel Johnson

Daa deer dara dir
Dara daa deer dara
Daa deer dara dir
Dara daa deer dara
Meri laadali ri, meri
Laadali ri bani hai
Taaro ki tu raani,
Taaro ki tu raani.

(Musical Sounds)

My dear girl, oh, my dear girl,
You have become
The Queen of stars,
The Queen of stars.

Nil gagan par baadal
Dole dole har ik tara
Daa deer dara dir
Dara daa deer dara
Chaand ke andar,
Budhiyaa dole
Thumuk, thumuk deer dara.
Meri laadali ri, meri
Laadlai ri bani hai
Taaro ki tu raani,
Taaro ki tu raani.

In the blue sky, the clouds
Are dancing, and dancing is each star.
(Musical Sounds)

In the moon,
The old woman dances
Gracefully.
My dear girl, oh, my dear girl,
You have become
The Queen of stars,
The Queen of stars.

Kamala gaaye, Bimala gaaye,
Gaaye kunabaa sara!
Daa deer dara dir
Dara daa deer dara
Ghunghat kaadh ke
Gudiya naache
Jhoome re guddaa pyara.

Kamala sings, Bimala sings,
The whole family sings!
(Musical Sounds)

Adorning a scarf,
The girl doll dances,
The sweet boy doll swings to and fro.

Meri laadali ri, meri
Laadali ri bani hai
Taaro ki tu raani,
Taaro ki tu raani.

My dear girl, oh, my dear girl,
You have become
The Queen of stars,
The Queen of stars.