

Spyridon Samaras was the most internationally respected Greek composer of his time, yet it is only in recent years that some of his major works have been edited or orchestrated for performance. *Tigra* is a major case in point, a ravishing love story set in medieval Venice, and a product of Samaras's operatic maturity. With its innovative harmonic language set to an Italian text, musical Orientalism and Franco-Italian influences it helped pave the way for the emerging Greek National School. It has been faithfully orchestrated by Byron Fidetzis. *Epinikeia* is reminiscent of Samaras's famous Olympic Anthem of 1896, while *Chitarrata* is a youthful work composed in Paris.

Spyridon  
**SAMARAS**  
(1861–1917)

**1–29** *Tigra* (Τίγρη) – Act I (1908–11)  
(arr. Byron Fidetzis [b. 1945] for voices, choir and orchestra, 2009) **56:30**

**Lenia Safiropoulou, Soprano • Marissia Papalexiou, Mezzo-soprano**  
**Maria Vlachopoulou, Mezzo-soprano • Angelo Simos, Tenor**  
**Dionysios Sourbis, Baritone • Dimitri Kavrakos, Bass**

**Sofia Metropolitan Golden Voices Mixed and Children's Choir**  
**Sofia Amadeus Orchestra • Byron Fidetzis**

**30–36** *Epinikeia* (Songs of Victory) (Επινίκεια) (1914) **14:43**

**37** *Chitarrata* (premiered 1885) **3:30**

**Varvara Tsambali, Mezzo-soprano** **30–36**

**Fretted String Ensemble of the Corfu Music School** **37**

**Pazardzhik Symphony Orchestra** **30–37** • **Byron Fidetzis**

All works restored and edited by Byron Fidetzis from original manuscripts

**WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS**

A detailed track list and full recording details can be found inside the booklet.

The Italian and Greek libretti and English translations can be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/574358.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/574358.htm)

'The orchestration of *Tigra* is dedicated to the memory of Christos Lambrakis (1934–2009), the man who elevated the social status of the professional musician in Greece.' – Byron Fidetzis

The present release serves as a contribution to the 200th anniversary of the Greek Revolution of 1821.

Musical preparation: Dimitris Yakas **1–36** • Cover: *Reclining Turkish Woman* (1895) by Emile Henri La Porte (1841–1919)

**NAXOS**

8.574358

**DDD**

Playing Time  
**74:53**



**www.naxos.com**

Made in the USA

Booklet notes in English  
Σημειώσεις στα ελληνικά

© & © 2024 Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd