



Western
Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

12:30 FRIDAYS SERIES:
LIGHT OF EAST ENSEMBLE

January 30, 2015

12:30 p.m., von Kuster Hall

Mary Ashton: *violin*

Graham Lord: *clarinet*

Sheldon Valeda: *doumbek*

Dharlene Valeda: *riqq, doumbek*

Jedd House: *contra bass, electric bass*

Filip Stasiak: *contra bass, guitar*

Panayiotis Giannarapis: *oud, bouzouki, baglama, tzoura*

Apo Kseno Topo

Greek Folk Song from Konstantinoupoli

Lamma Badda Yatathana

Arabic/Andalusian Muwashahat

Fog Al Nakhal

Iraqi Folk Song

Ayazein

Egyptian Folk Song

Enta Omri (Well-known Egyptian Song from 1964)

Muhammad Abdel Wahab
(1902 - 1991)

Longa Nihavent

Classical music from Turkey

Pente Xronia Dikasmenos (Greek Rembetika – “Ta Xasiklidika”)

Vangelis Papazoglou
(1895 - 1943)

Eudokia (Greek Instrumental Music in 9/8)

Manos Loizos
(1937 - 1982)

Psaropoula - Armenaki

Folk Songs from the Greek Isles

Rampi - Rampi

Turkish Folk Song

The Artists

The **Light Of East Ensemble** is an instrumental group based in London, Ontario. The band performs music from the Near and Middle East, including traditional, folk, classical Arabic, Greek Rembetika, and modern urban music of the 20th century from regions such as Armenia, Greece (Asia Minor - Smyrni, and Konstantinoupoli), Turkey, and other Middle Eastern countries such as Egypt, Lebanon, Israel and Syria. The band also performs Sephardic Music.

The music may not be what Western listeners grew up hearing, but the rhythms and melodies are instantly captivating and listeners are quickly drawn into the intensity of the music. For people of Near East and Middle East descent, the music becomes a vehicle for a nostalgic journey back to their home country as they experience melodies and rhythms they may not have heard in a live performance for many years. Every show finds such audience members expressing their delight in hearing the ensemble play popular pieces from their homeland.

The Light of East Ensemble has appeared in various venues in Southwestern Ontario. Past appearances include performances at the Aeolian Performing Arts Centre, TD Canada Trust Sunfest, Sunfest World Music and Jazz Series 2009 - 2010, Home County Folk Festival, Mill Race Folk Festival, Stratford Summer Music Festival, Museum London, War Memorial Hall, Innes Town Hall, and the River Run Centre. Light of East also performs educational concerts for schools.

The Light of East Ensemble was nominated for both a Jack Richardson Music Award and a London Music Award in 2008 and 2011.

The musicians in Light of East come from different musical backgrounds and experiences but all share a love for the music. Their passion for the exotic sounds of the music they create is immediately apparent to the listener. CBC's "In Town and Out", "Bandwidth", and "The Bridge" have broadcast their music.