



Stelios Golgaris

He was born in 1969 in Athens. In 1988, after completing all his years of study on a scholarship for excellence, he received a Guitar Diploma with the “Excellence & Dimitris Fampas Award” from the Athens Conservatory and continued his studies at Trinity College London, from which he graduated with a Licentiate Recital in Guitar (LTCL) with Distinction, as well as an Advanced Recital Ensemble with Distinction, as a guitar duo with Vassilis Mastorakis. In 1982, he won the First Prize in the Volos International Guitar Festival Competition for young people up to 15 years old. In 1988, he won the Harmony Prize of the Athens Conservatory and, in 1989, the First Prize in the World Soloist Competition at the Volos International Guitar Festival. In 1998 he signed an exclusive contract with the SONY CLASSICAL record company and released his first CD titled “TANGO PASSION” together with guitarist Vassilis Mastorakis, which received rave reviews in Greece and abroad.

In 2002 he participates together with the guitarist Vassilis Mastorakis in the CD published by SONY MUSIC in memory of Astor Piazzolla entitled "TANGO LESSONS - The best Tango of Astor Piazzolla" which includes recordings of the greatest tango artists of all time including Astor Piazzolla himself. In 2002 he played together with the guitarist Vassilis Mastorakis and the pianist Stefanos Korkolis in the first world performance of "Concierto Argentino" for two guitars, piano and orchestra by Stefanos Korkolis written in memory of Astor Piazzolla. In 2004, together with the guitarist Vassilis Mastorakis, he released again with SONY CLASSICAL the CD entitled "BORDEL", where the internationally renowned Greek singer Giorgos Dalaras participates, in an arrangement by Costas Ganoselis, on a traditional Spanish theme.

In 2005 he participated in the CD released by the record company "EROS MUSIC", titled "MASTER CLASS - HALF CENTURY GREEK GUITARISTS".

In 2007, together with the guitarist Vassilis Mastorakis and the tenor Marios Fragoulis, they release with SONY CLASSICAL, the CD titled "Amor Oscuro", with lyrics by F.G. Lorca and music by Dimitris Maramis. In 2016, he performed in the first world performance, the "Concerto of Thrace" for two guitars and orchestra, by Dimitris Svyntzidis, with the Ricercare Orchestra on the "THRACE GUITAR FESTIVAL 2016" CD. In 2017, he participated in the anniversary CD "30 YEARS FM RECORDS 1987-2017", in the composition of Nikos Xanthoulis, "Guitar Symposium - Guitar". In 2020, he participated in the CD "SOUNDS OF THRACE" by FM RECORDS as a soloist with the "Burgas State Opera Orchestra", performing the "Concerto of Thrace" by the composer Dimitris Svyntzidis.

He has appeared as a soloist in famous concert venues such as: “St. George” in the Grand Kremlin Palace in Moscow, “Alte Opera” in Frankfurt, Theater “Olympia” in Paris, “Palladium Theater” in London, “Raddisson Theater” in Copenhagen, “Hall of Springs” in Saratoga, “Amadeo Roldan” Theater in Havana, “Athens Concert Hall”, “Thessalonica Concert Hall”, “Herod Atticus Odeon”, “Ancient Theater of Epidaurus”, “Municipal Theater of Piraeus” etc.

He has collaborated with major orchestras such as the “Philadelphia Orchestra”, “Modern Ionic”, “Presidential Orchestra of the Russian Federation” (Kremlin), “Paderewski Symphony Orchestra”, “Sofia Symphony”, “Burgas State Opera”, “Athens State Opera”, “ERT National Symphony”, “Athens Camerara - Friends of Music Orchestra”.

He also collaborated with top conductors such as Charles Dutoit, Paul Morris, Leo Brower, Pavel Ovsianikov, Simeon Kogan, Willem De Bordes, Jordan Dafoff, Tadeusz Wojciechowski, Alexandros Myrat, Loukas Karytino, Miltos Logiadis, Lefteris Kalkanis, Giorgos Aravidis, Andreas Tselikas, Tasos Symeonidis as well as with well-known Greek composers such as Michalis Grigoriou, Ilias Andriopoulos, Dionysis Tsaknis, Stefanos Korkolis, Stamatis Kraounakis, Evanthia Remboutsika, Andreas Katsigiannis, Dinnos Georgountzos, singers such as Georges Moustaki, Kostas Hatzis, Lakis Chalkias, Giorgos Dalaras, Haris Alexiou, Dimitra Galani, Eleni Tsaligopoulou, Nena Vevetsianou, Marios Fragoulis, Vassilis Lekkas, Dimitris Bassis, Nikos Portokaloglou, Rita Antonopoulou, Giota Negka, Yiannis Ploutarchos, Michalis Hatzigiannis, Dilek Kots, but also musicians like the pianist George Kontrafouris, the guitarists George & Nikos Tzavaras, but also the lutists, Michalis & Alexandros Tzouganakis and the band Active Member.

He taught classical guitar from 1988 to 2012 at the Athens Conservatory. He is the Artistic Director at the Municipal Conservatory of Nikaia - Ag. I. Rentis, at the Dafni - Ymittos Municipal Conservatory and Director of Music Workshops of the Model Music Center of Piraeus. Since 2013, he has been the President of the Association of Greek Guitarists and founded the Guitar Festivals of Thrace, Macedonia, Ionian Islands, Karditsa, Volos - Magnesia, Amfikleia, Attica, Piraeus, Bloko Kokkinias, Peloponnese, Crete, as well as the Parnassos Guitar Academy.

In 2019, the Cyprus Guitar Orchestra honoured him for his overall contribution to culture. Several of his students have distinguished themselves and won over 70 prizes in national and international guitar competitions.

