



Vassilis Mastorakis

He was born in Athens in 1970. He studied at the National Conservatory in the class of Dimitris Fampas. In 1991, he received his Diploma with the highest honours, First Prize, and Distinction for Outstanding Performance. He pursued postgraduate studies with Kostas Kotsiolis at the Athens Conservatory. He continued his studies at Trinity College London, where 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 Stelios Golgaris. He has given numerous recitals in Greece and abroad. In 1998, he signed an exclusive contract with the record company SONY CLASSICAL and released his first CD titled *Tango Passion* with guitarist Stelios Golgaris. In the same year, they participated in the album production of Dionysis Tsaknis “*Chorika Ydata*”, released by SONY MUSIC. In 2002, the duo contributed to the CD issued by SONY MUSIC in memory of Astor

Piazzolla titled *Tango Lessons - The Best Tangos of Astor Piazzolla*, which includes recordings by some of the greatest tango artists of all time, including Piazzolla himself.

In 2004, he was invited to participate with guitarist Stelios Golgaris on the CD by Dimitra Galani, “*To S'Agapo Borei*”, released by SONY MUSIC. That same year, along with Stelios Golgaris, he released another CD with SONY CLASSICAL titled “*Bordel*”, featuring the internationally renowned Greek singer Giorgos Dalaras. The album included an arrangement by Kostas Ganoselis on a traditional Spanish theme for two guitars, bass, percussion, and voice. In 2005, he participated with Stelios Golgaris in the CD “*Master Class - Half a Century of Greek Guitarists*”, released by EROS MUSIC. In 2007, he collaborated again with Golgaris on the CD “*Giorgos Dalaras - 10 Hidden Songs*”, released by the magazine *Difono*. In the same year, with Golgaris and tenor Mario Frangoulis, he released the CD “*Amor Oscuro*” under SONY CLASSICAL-BMG, featuring music by Dimitris Maramis based on lyrics by Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca.

In 2017, he participated in the commemorative CD by FM RECORDS, “*30 Years FM Records 1987-2017*”, collaborating with Vangelis Boudounis, Maro Razi, Stelios Golgaris, and Nikos Xanthoulis on the latter’s composition “*Guitar Symposium - Kitharizein*”. He has appeared as a soloist in prestigious concert halls, such as the “*Amadeo Roldan*” Theater in Havana, the “*Athens Concert Hall*”, “*Thessaloniki Concert Hall*”, “*Herod Atticus Odeon*”, “*Lycabettus Theater*”, and the “*Ancient Theater of Epidaurus*” as part of the Athens Festival. He has performed as a soloist with renowned orchestras, including the “*Sofia Symphony Orchestra*”, the “*Athens State Orchestra*”, the “*Thessaloniki State*

Orchestra”, the “Camerata Orchestra of Friends of Music”, the “National Symphony Orchestra of the Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation” (ERT), the NERIT, the “Modern Music Orchestra of ERT”, the “Symphony Orchestra of the Municipality of Athens”, and the “Orchestra of the Greek National Opera”. He has collaborated with conductors such as Leo Brouwer, Loukas Karytinis, Miltos Logiadis, Alkis Baltas, Theodoros Antoniou, Willem de Bordes, Alexandros Myrat, Myron Michailidis, Nikos Chaliassas, Tasos Simeonidis, Lefteris Kalkanis, Giorgos Aravidis, and others.

Since 2000, he has been a close collaborator of composer Yiannis Markopoulos. He has worked with notable Greek composers, including Mikis Theodorakis, Giorgos Kouroupos, Theodoros Antoniou, Michalis Grigoriou, Ilias Andriopoulos, Stefanos Korkolis, Dionysis Tsaknis, Nikos Xanthoulis, and Dimitris Maramis. He has also collaborated with artists such as Giorgos Dalaras, Maria Farantouri, Haris Alexiou, Mario Frangoulis, Lakis Halkias, Charalambos Garganourakis, Dimitris Mitropanos, Dimitra Galani, Manolis Mitsias, Kostas Makedonas, Giota Nega, Alkinoos Ioannidis, and musicians like pianist Giorgos Kontrafouris, guitarists George & Nikos Tzavaras, and lute players - songwriters Michalis & Alexandros Tsouganakis. In 2002, he performed alongside Stelios Golgaris and pianist Stefanos Korkolis in the first performance of “Concierto Argentino” for two guitars, piano, and orchestra by Stefanos Korkolis, composed in memory of Astor Piazzolla. The same year, they performed the concerto “From Astor to Manos” for two guitars and orchestra by Nikos Xanthoulis dedicated to them. In 2005, he performed as a soloist with the “Orchestra of Colors” at the tribute for the 80th birthday of Mikis Theodorakis, held at the “Athens Concert Hall”.

In 2007, he performed as a soloist in Manos Hadjidakis's "Kapetan Michalis," arranged by Yiannis Sambrovalakis, with the "Thessaloniki State Orchestra". He has served on panels for national and international guitar competitions and was part of a working group at the Ministry of Culture concerning the conservatory recognition of musical instruments.

He is the Artistic Director at the Model Music Center of Piraeus, the Municipal Conservatory of Kallithea "Odysseas Dimitriadis", the Director of Music Workshops at the Municipal Conservatory of Nikaia - Agios Ioannis Rentis, and Head of the Guitar School at the Municipal Conservatory of Agios Dimitrios. He founded the Piraeus Guitar Festival in collaboration with the Association of Greek Guitarists. Many of his students rank among the top guitarists of their generation.

