

ELENI KARAINDROU

Born in Teichio, Phocis, Eleni Karaindrou studied piano and music theory at the Hellenikon Odeion (Greek Conservatory). On graduating from the University of Athens, School of Philosophy, went to Paris for post-graduate studies in Paris (1967), on a scholarship from the French government. Studied Ethnomusicology at the Sorbonne and Orchestration and Orchestra Direction at the Scuola Cantorum. Her return to Greece, in 1975, marked her first record, setting poetry by K. Ch. Myris to music, *The Great Wake* (EMI) sung by Maria Farantouri. She also collaborated with Manos Hadjidakis in creating the Third Programme for Greek radio.

Since 1975 has composed music for 50 stage plays, more than 22 films, and 15 television and radio programmes, and collaborated with leading directors both in Greece and abroad, including: Jules Dassin, Lefteris Voyatzis, Vassilis Papavassiliou, Maya Lymberopoulou and others. One collaboration stands out - with director Antonis Antypas at the Aplo Theatro - for whom she has composed music for 30 different plays (1986-2012). Standouts amongst these include their collaboration on Euripides' *Trojan Women* (2001) and *Medea* (2011), both at the Ancient Theatre of Epidaurus. Her long-term collaboration with director Theo Angelopoulos commenced in 1983, and includes music for his films *Voyage to Cythera*; *The Beekeeper*; *Landscape in the Mist*; *The Suspended Step of the Stork*; *Ulysses' Gaze*; *Eternity and a Day*; *The Weeping Meadow*; and *Dust of Time*. She has also worked with directors Dimitris Mavrikios, Takis Kanellopoulos, Tonia Marketaki, Christoforos Christofis, Lefteris Xanthopoulos, Margarethe von Trotta, Chris Marker and others.

Besides an extensive discography, was signed in 1990 by internationally renowned record company ECM and has worked with founder Manfred Eicher, producing 9 albums: *Music for Films*, *The Suspended Step of the Stork*, *Ulysses' Gaze*, *Eternity and a Day*, *Trojan Women*, *The Weeping Meadow*, *Elegy of the Uprooting*, *Dust of Time*, *Eleni Karaindrou-Concert in Athens*.

Concerts at the Herod Atticus theatre, the ancient theatre of Epidaurus, at the Athens and Thessaloniki Concert Halls, the Forest Theatre of Thessaloniki, in Cyprus, at the Rock Theatre were artistic successes. She has also played very well-received concerts as parts of major European festivals (in the UK, Italy, Germany and Poland), as well as a concert in Brussels at the (Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, 2003) to mark the Greek presidency of the E.U.

She has collaborated with major European orchestras including the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, the Düsseldorf Symphony Orchestra and others. With the Athens Camerata she recorded the music for *Eternity and a Day*, *The Weeping Meadow*, *Dust of Time*, but also gave more than 25 concerts in Greece and abroad.

In 2000-2001 the Düsseldorf Opera successfully staged the ballet *Phaedra* to her music, choreographed by Jochen Ulrich.

Besides compositions written with inspiration drawn from movies and the theatre, her repertoire includes unpublished symphonic works, which she has performed in concert.

In 2004 a concert by world-renowned Orchestra dell' Academia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia conducted by Alexandros Myrat at the Auditorium in Rome paid tribute to her

composition oeuvre. In 2005 two concerts were held at Taiwan Concert Hall, in a tribute to her music played by the National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan.

In 2006 Karaindrou gave concerts in Turkey (Istanbul, Ankara) with the Hacettepe University Symphony Orchestra. In 2008 she collaborated with the Collegium F Orchestra for a major concert at the old Wroclaw opera house (Poland); while in 2007 and 2008 she participated in ECM festivals ECM Nostalgia (Poland) and Spuren I (Frankfurt). In 2012 she performed a series of concerts in tribute to the memory of Theo Angelopoulos: in Israel with the Haifa Symphony Orchestra; in Istanbul with the Istanbul Symphony Orchestra; in Thessaloniki with the Thessaloniki State Symphony Orchestra; and in Estonia with the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra.

She has received numerous distinctions and awards, including: five Film Music awards in Greece; the Dimitris Mitropoulos award for Theatre Music; as well as the international Fellini Award for “Best composer in Europe at the 1992 Europa Cinema awards in Italy. In 2002 she received a gold cross from the Order of Merit by the President of the Hellenic Republic; and in 2004 she gained a Felix (a European Oscar) nomination for her score for *The Weeping Meadow*.