

ATHANASIOS ZERVAS (b. 1959 in Filiatra Greece) is a composer, theorist, saxophonist, and conductor. Dr. Athanasios Zervas is a Professor of ‘Music Theory – Music Creation’ and Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts at the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki Greece, where he teaches since the fall of 2000, and Artist in Residence at the Athens Conservatoire.

He holds a Doctorate of Music (DM) in composition and a Masters of Music (MM) in saxophone performance from Northwestern University, and a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in music from Chicago State University. In addition he has Diplomas in Flute and in Clarinet from Conservatory Contemporary Ode, and Degrees in Harmony, in Counterpoint, and in Fugue from Byzantine Music Conservatory in Athens Greece.

He studied composition with M. William Karlins, William Russo, Stephen L. Syverud, Alan Stout, and Jay Alan Yim; saxophone with Frederick Hemke, and Wayne Richards; jazz saxophone and improvisation with V. “Bunky” Green, Joe Daley, and Paul Berliner; conducting for winds with John Paynter, for orchestra with Alfred Gras, and for vocal ensembles with Robert Harris.

He is the chief editor at the electronic music theory & composition journal “*mus-e-journal*” at www.muse.gr. Athanasios is the founder and soprano saxophonist of the Athens Saxophone Quartet. He is a specialist on pitch-class set theory, contemporary music, composition, orchestration, and improvisation. His research interests focus on the music of Elliott Carter, Ralph Shapey, Dinos Constantinides, William Russo, ancient and traditional Greek music, jazz composition & improvisation, and music for saxophone.

His research papers have been presented in innumerable musicological conferences and symposiums in Greece, Cyprus, USA, France, and Croatia. His articles and papers have been published by the University of Athens Greece, University of Macedonia Greece, the MUSE Institute of Greece, the Greek Composers Union, the Hellenic Saxophone Association, the University of Central Missouri, the Hellenic Musicological Society, and presented in the Saxophone World Congress in Strasburg (2015) and in Zagreb (2018), in NASA at the University of Illinois U-C, etc.

In Greece he has taught at the University of Crete, the Byzantine Music Conservatory of Athens, the Contemporary Conservatory of Athens, the Nakas Conservatory of Athens, the Fakanas Conservatory of the Arts, the Greek Military Academy, and at the Indianapolis University-Athens Greece, and in the US at Chicago State University, Columbia College Chicago, Northwestern University. He has presented lectures and master classes at Boston University, Georgia State University in Atlanta, Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge, Loyola University Chicago, Kutztown University in Pennsylvania, Mansfield University in Pennsylvania, Michigan State University, University of Chicago, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, University of Central Missouri, University of Missouri-Columbia, Virginia Commonwealth University, Lakehead University in Canada, etc.

As a composer, Athanasios Zervas has written music for solo instruments, large ensembles, vocal ensembles, songs, electronic music, jazz ensembles, music for film, and Greek songs. He has numerous performances of his music in Europe and in the US by virtuoso soloists such as Johanna Cox on English horn; violinists Borislava Ilcheva and Aaron Farrell; flutists Iwona Glinka and Susanna Loewy; trumpeters Rex Richardson and Orbert Davis; cellists, Demetris Patras, Nick Photinos, Steven Thomas, Caitlin Strockosh, Costis Theos; pianists Mark Sudeith,

Maria Asteriadou, Lola Totsiou, Peter Miyamoto, Christina Sidiropoulou, Froso Ktistaki; mezzo soprano Angelica Cathariou; saxophonists Leo Saguiguit, Jonathan Helton, David Dees, Jeremy Justeson, Panos Skyftas; percussionist Mark Smith, Carry Biolo; to mention few, and by large ensembles such as Louisiana Sinfonietta, Chicago Jazz Philharmonic, Orchestra Academica in Athens, Symphony Orchestra of Constanta Romania, Northwestern University Contemporary Music Ensemble, Contemporary Orchestra of the National Greek Radio, the Brass Ensemble of the Athens Municipal Orchestra, the Athens Big Band, the University of Macedonia Wind Ensemble in Thessaloniki Greece, the Contemporary Ensemble of the Greek Composers Union, the Athens Saxophone Quartet, etc.

Dr. Zervas has collaboration as soloist with performances with the State Orchestra of Hellenic Music, the Athens Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra of Greece, the State Orchestra of Athens, the Athens Contemporary Ensemble (Athens Municipality), the State Orchestra of Thessalonica, the Symphony Orchestra of Constanta Romania, the Louisiana Sinfonietta, The Chicago Jazz Philharmonic, and was a member in the Chicago Symphonic Wind Ensemble and the Chicago Jazz Ensemble.

He has numerous appearances/performances at the Carnegie Hall NY, Millennium Park in Chicago, at Pick Staiger Concert Hall-Evanston, at Mandel Hall of the University of Chicago, at Schubert Theater-Boston, etc. and in Greece at 'Megaron' Concert Hall in Athens, 'Megaron' Concert Hall in Thessaloniki, at 'Herodion' Theater in Athens, Stadium of Ancient Olympia, Epidaurus Ancient Theater, and in many professional concert halls in Greece and in the US; he performed at the Olympics 2004 Opening and Closing Ceremonies in Athens. Between 1999 to the end of 2006 was the music director/conductor of the Athens Jazz Orchestra (and Big Band) and the Athens Contemporary Ensemble, between 1999 to 2000 he conducted the Contemporary Orchestra of National Radio/TV, and between 1993 and 1997 was the conductor of the St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church Choir in Chicago. There are more than 100 compositions written for him by American, European, and African composers, and has recorded with BMG, EMI, FM records, Libra Music Ltd, Mercury/Universal Co., Magni Records, Centaur Records, and several independent productions. Between 2002 and 2004 he was the coordinator of the Kalavrita International Summer Seminars in Contemporary Music/Composition and Saxophone, and in 2004 he was the director of the international jazz festival at 'Megaron' Music Hall in Thessaloniki Greece. Dr. Zervas was president of the Hellenic Saxophone Association between 1999 and 2008, and is a member of the Greek Composers Union, the Hellenic Musicological Society, the College Music Society, the NACUSA, and the North American Saxophone Alliance.

Μονογραφία (Monograph)

2018

Ζητήματα Μουσικής Δημιουργίας, Δοκίμια και Πραγματείες. ("Essays in Music Creation." in Greek and in English)

Εκδόσεις **Μ. Νικολαΐδης, Editions Orpheus**, 2018 (ISBN 978-960-7266-90-3)

Μουσικές συνθέσεις (Compositions):

2018

- Zervas, A. 2018 Elegy for Antigone for alto saxophone and cello, Jeanne Inc., USA
- Zervas, A. 2018 Elegy for Antigone for alto saxophone and strings, Jeanne Inc., USA
- Zervas, A. 2018 Clarity for clarinet and piano, Panas Music, Greece
- Zervas, A. 2018 Saxologies for four saxophones (one player) and piano, Panas Music, Greece
- Zervas, A. 2018 Dispositions-Sonatina for Piano, Panas Music, Greece

2012

- Zervas, A. 2012 Elegy for Antigone for soprano saxophone and piano, Jeanne Inc., USA
- Zervas, A. 2012 GOLD'NSILV for solo flute, Jeanne Inc., USA
- Zervas, A. 2012 Elegy for Antigone for oboe and piano, Jeanne Inc., USA

1998

- Διατριβή: AN ANALYSIS OF THE FIRST MOVEMENT OF CONCERTANTE NO. II FOR ALTO SAXOPHONE AND FOURTEEN PLAYERS BY RALPH SHAPEY. D.M. diss. Northwestern University, Evanston (IL, USA) 1998.

Κατάλογος Συνθέσεων – List of Compositions

CONCERTO FOR PIANO AND ORCHESTRA I. Fragments, II. In Memoriam, III. Rhapsody (2020)
CONCERTO FOR PIANO AND STRINGS I. Fragments, II. In Memoriam, III. Rhapsody (2019)
BREATH OF AMARANTHOS Concerto Grosso for 5 soloists and Symphony Orchestra (2019)
ALERTA for Symphony Orchestra (2019)
EPIC AND LYRIC SONGS ON ASSYRIAN ANCIENT POETRY for soprano and piano (2019)
ELEGY FOR ANTIGONE for violin and piano (2019)
FANTASIA FOR SOLO VIOLIN (2018)
ELEGY for solo saxophone (2018)
SINFONIETTA FOR WIND ENSEMBLE (based on M. Theodorakis themes) (2017)
MUSIC FOR STRINGS (2016)
RITUALS FOR VIOLA (2015)
RISING APHRODITE-vocal duo and piano (2015)
FANTASIA FOR SOLO VIOLIN (2013, 2018)
ORACLE FOR SOLO SAXOPHONE (2013, 2018)
ELEGY FOR ANTIGONE FOR ALTO SAX. AND CELLO (2015, 2018) (JEANNE PUBL. 2018)
CLARITY FOR CLARINET AND PIANO (2013, 2018) (PANAS PUBL. 2018)
EIGHT GREEK HEROIC SONGS for mezzo soprano, flute, percussion & piano (2011 & 2012)
ELEGY FOR ANTIGONE for English Horn and Strings (2012)
ELEGY FOR ANTIGONE for alto sax. and strings (2012) (JEANNE PUBLISHERS, USA 2018)
ELEGY FOR ANTIGONE for Flugelhorn and Strings (2012)
MODAL SONGS-THREE MOTETS FOR WOMEN VOICES A CAPPELLA (2012)
PSALM for alto sax, percussion & piano (2012)
SONGS για μεσόφωνο, φλάουτο και πιάνο (επτά τραγούδια σε Ελληνική ποίηση (2011)
ELEGY FOR ANTIGONE for oboe and piano (JEANNE PUPBISHERS, 2012)
ELEGY FOR ANTIGONE for soprano sax. and piano (JEANNE PUPBISHERS, 2012)
MODUS SONOROUS for flute and percussion (based on saxologies) (2012)
WOMEN MARRIAGE IN ANCIENT GREECE-Film Music (2011)

DISPOSITIONS-SONATINA FOR PIANO (2011) (PANAS PUBL. 2018)
ANTIPHONIES for alto sax & piano (2010)
GOLDINSILV for solo flute 2002 (JEANNE PUBLISHERS, USA 2012)
ΣΤΑ ΗΧΟΚΥΜΑΤΑ ΥΨΩΜΕΝΟΙ για μεσόφωνο και κουαρτέτο σαξοφώνων (Ποίηση Κώστας Βάρναλης) (2010)
MANIPULATIONS II for solo violin (2009)
ΕΜΦΥΩ SONATA for Vln, Vc, & Pno (based on saxologies), (2008)
FOR FLUTE AND PIANO (based on saxologies) (2008)
RONDO II for solo trumpet (2007)
TRIVE for clarinet, violin and piano (based on saxologies) (2006)
ΕΤΕΡΟΦΩΝΟ για φλάουτο και τρομπέτα (2006)
SALPISMA for four trumpets (2003)
DIALOGS III for two violins (2005)
SAXOLOGIES for four saxophones (one player) and piano (2005) (PANAS PUBL. 2018)
SONATINA VIP for violin and piano (2005)
SONATINA FOR TRUMPET AND PIANO (based on saxologies) (2004)
ALERTA for Big Band (2004)
BRASS QUINTET (2003)
MANIPULATIONS for solo cello (2003)
RAIN EUPHORIA for flute and double string quartet (2002)
ELEGY-MELOS for saxophone quartet-version 2 (2002)
SALPISMA for four trumpets (2002)
ELEGY-MELOS for four trumpets (2002)
ERANA for thirteen instruments (fl, cl/bs cl, a. sax, bsn, tpt, f. hn, tbn, perc I, II, pn, vln, cello, c. bs) (2002)