





BRATIMENE

Arcángel & Theodosii Spassov a musical encounter



© Annemiek Rooymans

A musical encounter between two geniuses who present a energetic and exquisite multi-flavoured dish of flamenco and Bulgarian rhythms. Flautist **Theodosii Spassov** is a master of improvisation on the kaval, the Bulgarian wooden shepherd's flute. He is a storyteller, blending traditional Bulgarian folk music with jazz and classical music into his own unique, highly individual style. In this concert his rich musical world will join up with the extraordinary universe of cantaor **Arcángel**, who the critics unanimously praise as the heir of the late and great flamencosinger Enrique Morente.

The singer from Huelva is one of the leading lights of a new generation of vocalists who is making waves internationally with his creative renditions of the classical *jondo* repertoire. Arcángel transcends flamenco borders with a subtle and rich imagination, always grasping the roots. He collaborated with the Orchestre Tetuan from Morocco and lent his voice to a number of contemporary pieces of the Spanish composer Mauricio Sotelo, with whom he performed during 'Flamenco Sin Fin', the final gala at the III Dutch Flamenco Biennial in 2011.

Arcángel and Spassov explore musical horizons from the Balkans to the flamenco breeding grounds of Andalusia and back again. This musical dialogue will offer both maestros the chance to follow their instincts in a swinging "open flamenco space", demonstrating the ease with which the shepherd's flute combines with flamenco rhythms, as well as the richness and boundlessness of the world heritage treasure that is flamenco.



© anapalma

Arcángel gives part of his solo part away to a phenomenal Bulgarian flute player with whom he initiates a musical dialogue that brings about the deepest feelings of two different cultures. Right from the start you feel that this is about intercultural respect. And through the interweaving of the voice of the singer and the sounds of the shepherd's flute arise moments of incredible beauty.

La Vanguardia, 27th of May 2012

World Première: Barcelona, Mercats de les flors. May 26 2012

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l68sf0T-6NE>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dk0LGoCtGi0>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DK8Y_hpeo

With special Guests Vlatko Stefanovski & Miroslav Tadic

IV Flamenco Biennale Netherlands January 27, 2013

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RuMsO1jNDq0>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80Y5pG0jScQ>

Extraordinary brotherhood in Balkan Flamenco Tales

(...) Spassov did not only show once again virtuosity on his instrument, but also his impressive singing skills. Arcángel and Spassov merged their voices in a fascinating and successful way in many sections, both rehearsed and improvised. The group's courage and creativity extend to the domain of rhythms as well: the flamenco musicians played and clapped the complex Balkan rhythms, just as those from the Balkans did in the bulerias and tangos. The exchange between Balkan and flamenco rhythms ensued not only between, but also within songs, and it was as spectacular as it was surprisingly organic.

(...) What should be emphasized, is that this extraordinary richness never slips into the pitfalls of chaos or imbalance, not even at the most intense and adventurous moments of improvisation.

<http://www.deflamenco.com/revista/resenas-actuaciones/extraordinary-brotherhood-in-balkan-flamenco-tales-1.html>

"Heart to heart"

(...) But the understanding stems from within, since both groups uphold the same philosophy: give tradition some fresh air. That's what is done by the two Macedonian guitar players, in charge of giving the concert a prologue. That's what is done by Dani de Morón, who briefly gave concert guitar the place it is missing on the program. That's what is done by Theodosii Spassov with that flute of his that tells tales. And that's what is done by Arcángel, a cantaor who demonstrated with this return to the Bimhuis that flamenco cante -following the example of his maestros Morente and Carmen Linares - also has to create and think and break circles. And what better way to do so, as he said in English, than "heart to heart". That's what 'Bratimene' means; spiritual brotherly union.

<http://www.flamenco-world.com/magazine/about/biennale2013/resenas/balkan27012013ing.htm>

Suma Flamenca juin 2013

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ak3vq6veAPA>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwXoHWkjeMs>

Critic De Flamenco:<http://www.deflamenco.com/revista/resenas-actuaciones/arcangel-bratimene-suma-flamenca-19062013-1.html>

*Until reaching such a grand finale, **Arcángel** had offered a dazzling recital. The cantaor, applauded from the first “aye”, offered a complete journey through cante, always grasping the roots, but laying stakes on his marked personality. Impeccable in voice and in music, he began the journey in the malagueña, continued por soleá and led up to tangos. Along the way, a thousand and one references, dozens of verses with contents, instants of creative tensions.*

FLAMENCO WORLD COM

Theodosii Spassov is unquestionably the greatest virtuoso of Bulgaria’s shepherd flute, the kaval, and in his hands the simple tube of wood pierced by holes is capable of an astonishing range of sounds, effects and endless subtleties of phrasing.

Kim Burton, SONGLINES

He actually created a new musical genre. NEWSWEEK

....like a jam session between Ian Anderson and Thelonius Monk. CHICAGO TRIBUNE

What he manages to produce on his wooden flute is sensational. BERLINER MORGENPOST

His work on the Kaval was nothing short of pure genius. HOWARD ROVICS

Spassov sounds like the late flutist and saxophonist Rahsaan Roland Kirk. Except Spassov plays a simple, rural shepherd's flute. CHRIS NICKSON



Arcángel – flamenco singing

Theodosii Spassov – kaval

Dani de Morón – flamenco guitar

Agustín Diassera - percussion

Optional: Special Guest - Vlatko Stefanovski & Miroslav Tadic (guitar)

Dance - Ana Morales

© Flamenco Biënnale Nederland 2013

**flamenco
biënnale**

Contact: Ernestina van de Noort

www.flamencobiennale.nl

info@flamencobiennale.nl

0031.6.212.75088