

The Naghash Ensemble of Armenia



The Naghash Ensemble combines the earthy spirituality of Armenian folk song, new classical music and contemporary post-minimalism with the energy of rock and jazz. Three brilliant female vocalists and some of Armenia's finest instrumentalists on duduk, oud, dhol and piano play captivating new music based on sacred texts by the medieval Armenian mystic poet and priest, M'krtich Naghash.

Written by Armenian-American composer John Hodian, The Naghash Ensemble's "Songs of Exile" is a profound meditation on man's relationship to God from the perspective of a monk forced to live in exile for many years. Part folk music, part classical and profoundly moving.

"The Naghash Ensemble transports the listener with shimmering melodies and mystical contrapuntal lines. The singers have an intensity that reveals the music's spiritual depth."

— Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

"East meets West and antiquity meets modernity in this collection of ruminations, lamentations and incantations. Highly intriguing yet accessible." — NPR

"The songs are unmistakably Armenian, but out of this world."

— Armenisch-Deutsche Korrespondenz

Touring Ensemble

Hasmik Baghdasaryan, soprano
Tatevik Movsesyan, soprano
Arpine Ter-Petrosyan, alto
Tigran Hovhannisyan, dhol
Aram Nikoghosyan, oud
Emmanuel Hovhannisyan, duduk
John Hodian, piano/composer

Discography

Songs of Exile – Volume I
(2014 Naregatsi Art Institute/
Available Forms Music)
Songs of Exile – Volume II
(2016 Naregatsi Art Institute/
Available Forms Music)

Booking Contact

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Naghash

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