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The Music of Ancient Greece
An Encyclopaedia

SOLON MICHAELIDES
With a Foreword by R.P. Winnington-Ingram

It is not often realized how deeply our music today has been influenced by the music of ancient Greece. In fact Greece is no less the cradle of western music than of western civilization as a whole. That influence is evident in such things as musical theory, acoustics, musical aesthetics, musical terminology, the instruments we use, and possibly even our musical forms. It is no coincidence that the word music itself originally meant 'the arts of the Muses' where performing on instruments and singing played a prominent role. Melody, rhythm, harmony, orchestra, canon, organ, symphony. There are not merely Greek words: important Greek concepts lie behind them - as they do behind the modes.

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The Music of Ancient Greece is probably the first full-scale book ^{of its} ~~solely devoted to the subject~~ to be published, and as Professor Winnington-Ingram says in his foreword, 'there are few who will not find the exploration of this encyclopaedia a fascinating and rewarding pursuit.' The arrangement is alphabetical, the entries (of which there are over 1100) covering technical terms, instruments and dances; musical theorists, composers and executants; tragedians, poets and philosophers associated with music; and so on. Its aim is to embrace as many features of Greek musical life as possible. The many controversial issues are handled with exemplary objectivity and lucidity, and there are detailed and up-to-date bibliographies throughout. ~~It is a book that will change our perspectives in music history profoundly.~~

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SOLON MICHAELIDES

is a composer, conductor and musicologist. He was born in Nicosia, Cyprus, and studied in London at the Trinity College of Music, and in Paris with Nadia Boulanger, Guy de Lioncourt and Marcel Labey. He was founder ~~and director~~ of the Limassol Conservatoire (Cyprus) ^{and directed it} from 1934 to 1956, and ^{he} was director of the State Conservatoire from 1957 to 1970 and director ^{-general} of the State Symphony Orchestra in Thessalonike (Greece) from 1959 to 1970. He has conducted concerts in Greece and elsewhere in Europe and in the U.S.A. His compositions include an opera, Ulysses, symphonic works and chamber music. Among his publications are Modern Harmony (two vols., 1945) and The Neohellenic Folk Music (in English, 1948). He also contributed to the fifth edition of Grove (1954). He has been an adjudicator at various music festivals in Europe. ^{and} He has lectured at universities in the U.S.A. He was made commander of the Greek Order of 'Phoenix'; and ^{he} received the Prize of the Athens Academy for services to music.

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