DINOS CONSTANTINIDES

Small Lemon Tree

A folksong from Epiros, Greece

for

Two voices, oboe, cello, and Piano

Written for Thomas and Olga Tamvakos LRC 003



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"Small Lemon Tree" is a folk song from Epiros, a small, mountainous province in northwestern Greece. Greek folk songs are traditionally accompanied by violin, clarinet, and lute.

The title, "Small Lemon Tree," has a symbolic meaning, for as the juice of a lemon is sour, so is the love of the one portrayed in the song. A simple emotional appeal is achieved through the simplest of musical means -- a melody of only four pitches, constantly repeated