

Dinos Constantinides

Suite for Two Pianos

LRC 98



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(Diakos Suite)

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The “Suite for Two Pianos” (1985) is extracted from the incidental music written for the Greek play “Diakos” in 1961. This play deals with the life of the Greek hero Athanassios Diakos whose courageous actions inspired his compatriots in the early stages of the Greek revolution for freedom against Turkey in 1921. The music, which employs Greek rhythms and modal tunes, was meant to portray the character of rural Greece.

The play “Diakos” was performed in New York City by the “Lemos Theater” in 1961. There is a version of the work called “Diakos Suite for Orchestra.” Also, the composer has written another setting called “Four Greek Songs” for soprano and piano employing the same musical ideas set to poetry by four different Greek poets. The latter composition is recorded on a compact disc by Vestige Records entitled “Dinos Constantinides - Antigone and Other Vocal Works.”

The music of Dinos Constantinides has been performed throughout the world. He is the recipient of many grants, commissions and awards, including first prizes in the 1981 Brooklyn College International Chamber Competition, the 1985 First Midwest Chamber Opera Conference, and the 1997 Delius Composition Contest Grand Prize. He also received the 1985 American New Music Consortium Distinguished Service Award, the 1989 Glen Award of l’Ensemble of New York, several Meet the Composer grants and numerous ASCAP Standard Awards. In 1994 he was honored with a Distinguished Teacher White House Commission on Presidential Scholars.

Additional scores available from Dinos Constantinides 947 Daventry Drive • Baton Rouge, LA 70808 • (504) 766-3487