

## MARKELLOS CHRYSSICOS

My first piano teacher, M.M. Roussou, and my first harpsichord teacher, M. Dalmati, were both distinguished poets and translators – I am really grateful for this stimulating and varied beginning of my basic musical education and I owe to them my love for words, for language and eventually for opera. A little after my harpsichord diploma, still not sure of my plans, I went to Paris to continue with S. Romeo and then with my mentor O. Baumont. Later on in Salzburg with K. Gilbert and S. Rampe and finally in Geneva with Ch. Jaccottet of whom, alas, I was the last student.

After a few masterclasses and competitions around, I returned to Greece and started working as a vocal coach and assistant conductor, having the luck to participate in various award winning projects and recordings with Armonia Atenea baroque orchestra for MDG, Sony, Decca etc. while I had my first recording as a conductor with the Venice Baroque Orchestra (*L' Olimpiade - Naïve*) in a double cd on Metastasio's libretto that was awarded the Choc de Classica distinction.

I have been regularly conducting Armonia Atenea, leading the orchestra in prestigious venues and institutions like the Markgräfliches Opernhaus in Bayreuth, Händel-Festspiele Halle, Theater an der Wien, Wigmore Hall and with such distinguished artists like Max-Emanuel Cencic, Julia Lezhneva, Daniel Behle, Juan Sancho, Yuri Minenko, Myrto Papatnasiu et al as well as with ensembles and orchestras like the Irish Baroque Orchestra, MusikAkademie Potsdam and the Bach Consort Wien with which I have been invited at the Kammeroper Wien for three years in a row. I equally enjoy working with modern orchestras and I have collaborated over the last years with the State Symphony Orchestra of Athens and the State Symphony Orchestra of Thessaloniki - thanks to my early music education I invest the same kind of scholarship, creativity and imagination to every work, whether it is a 16<sup>th</sup> century madrigal or a piece of classical, contemporary or improvised music.

One of my happiest gigs was producing and presenting "Palimpsest", a weekly broadcast for the Third Program of the Greek National Radio. Loving the lyric theater and trying to be as close to it as possible, I am currently serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Greek National Opera.