

John Bilezikjian • Dantz Records • P. O. Box 2434, Laguna Hills, CA. 92654-2434 Phone or Fax (949) 581-5664 • E-mail: DantzRec@aol.com • Web: www.DantzRecords.com



## **Highlights of Qualifications**

- Performing for over 40 years
- B. A. in Violin, Oud, Performance and Composition from San Fernando Valley State College (CSUN)
- Repertoire from around the world and able to play many stringed instruments plus an array of authentic instruments from around the world. He sings in many languages.
- He is a solo performer and is leader of his own Ensemble, Band,
   & Orchestra.

# **Professional Experience**

Recordings, Television, Motion Pictures, Radio, Concerts, World Tours, Lectures, Clubs & Restaurants.

From out of the dark light of the cabaret and into the spotlight of the concert stage the Oud is very much alive and John Bilezikjian's playing proves that there certainly can be a "Heifetz on the Oud". by Berge H. Kevorkian

John's music needs no translation in the world of American or Middle Eastern audiences. He is a composer, teacher, entertainer, actor, and soloist. He is a soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. His degrees are in music with a specialization on the Oud, Violin, Performance and Composition. In the opinion of many qualified critics from the Los Angeles Times, "He is internationally acclaimed and considered a music dazzler" by Herbert J.Vida.

"his command of rhythm, dynamics, and harmonic color is astounding"

Frets Magazine

The Orange County Register "He's slightly amazing", "He speaks and performs in at least 11 languages - Turkish, Armenian, Russian, Spanish, Arabic, Persian, French, German, Greek and both Laurence Oliver English and Willie Nelson English".

by John Hall.

"a sworn statement to Bilezikjian's proficiency on the difficult 11 stringed instrument played with a quill".

Billboard Magazine

"is able to push the Oud far beyond it's ancient capabilities, coaxing chords, harmonies, and contrapuntal effects that lend surprising color to his performance".

Stereo Review

He regularly records for television and motion picture sound tracks such as the Academy award winner "Schindler's List" and most recently the sound track for "Accidental Spy". He can be heard on Robert Palmer's "Ridin' High"; Placido Domingo's "De Mi Alma Latina" and Ofra Haza's release "Kirya". John has 25 CD's on the market. Some of his more recent CD releases are "Armenian Connection", "Music of the Armenian Diaspora" and "The Magic of John Bilezikjian". "The Neo Classical Oud" and "The Art of the Oud" are representations of his more classical works.

## **Awards and Recognitions**

- "Creativity and Synthesis in the Music of John Bilezikjian" UCLA Publication/Thesis by Gail Schwartz
- "Who's Who" of Professional Artists Composers and Musicians, Copyright London England 1992
- "Who's Who" among Armenians in North America 1994
- "Most Outstanding Entertainer" Solo Performer 1993 from NAFISA, Gem Awards
- "Best Entertainer" Solo Performer 1994 from NAFISA, Gem Awards
- "Best Entertainer" "Most Outstanding Group" Soloist & Group Category 1995 NAFISA, Gem Awards

## **Recordings On Dantz Records**

#### ARMENIAN FOLK SONGS & DANCE ON DANTZ RECORDS

- Tape/CD Music from the Armenian Diaspora—Instrumental Armenian Folk Music
- Tape/CD YERAZ—To Armenia with Love Selected classical & folk songs featuring Helen & John Bilezikjian
- Tape/CD Dantz Fever—Armenian and Greek folk dancing
- Tape/CD Armenian Connection—Selected classical & folk songs featuring Armenian and Greek

Folk Music.

CD Oasis Middle Eastern Ensemble—Armenian and Greek dance music

#### **BELLY DANCE TAPES ON DANTZ RECORDS**

- Tape/CD The Tapestry of the Dance—Greek, Armenian, Turkish, Persian and Arabic Belly Dance Music with John & Var Daghdevirian
- Tape/CD The Magic of John Bilezikjian—Turkish Belly Dance and Arabic classical Music featuring John with Souhael Kaspar
- Tape/CD La Danse Orientale—Arabic Belly Dance Music featuring John with Aziz Khadra
- Tape/CD Sirocco—Persian and Turkish Belly Dance Music featuring John with Var Daghdevirian
- Tape/CD Dream of Scheherazade—Turkish, Arabic and Armenian Belly Dance music with John and

Louis Sayegh

Tape/CD One Thousand and One Nights—Arabic Belly Dancing and Turkish classical music featuring

John withTony Ayad

Tape/CD Ecstasy in Belly Dancing Of Veils and Incense—Greek, Armenian, Turkish, Arabic and

Persian Belly Dance Music

#### **CLASSICAL & SEASONAL TAPES ON DANTZ RECORDS**

Tape America's Oud Virtuoso—Live in concert at the Wilshire Ebell Theater featuring John with his Orchestra







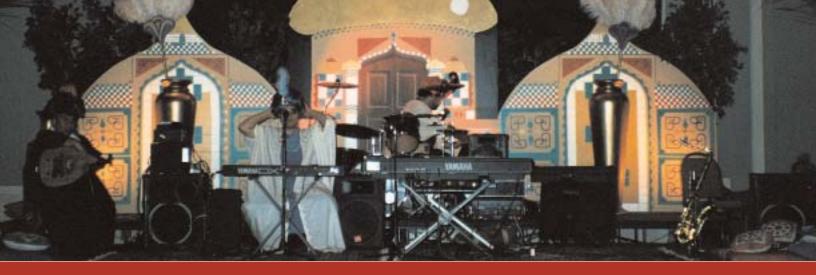












Tape Art of the Oud—Classical and original instrumental pieces

Tape Neo Classical Oud—Classical and original instrumental pieces

CD Moonlight Sonata—Classical and original instrumental pieces (compilation of Art and

Neo tapes)

Tape/Album Merry Christmas—Traditional Christmas music with some original pieces (solo Album)

Tape The Best of John Bilezikjian—Selections from John's recordings.

#### SEPHARDIC MUSIC ON VARIOUS OTHER LABEIS

Double Tape Kantigas de Mi Chikes (Songs of my Childhood)—Music of the Sephardic people Bonita

Jaros & John

Double CD Bilezikjian—Double Cassette \$25.00; Double CD \$30.00

Tape/CD Silver and Gold (Plata Y Oro)—Music of the Sephardic Jews sung in Ladino with Judy

Frankel and John

Tape Canto Antiquo (Music of the Sephardim)—Music of the Jews who have Turkish, Spanish,

Hebrew backgrounds and performed on ancient instruments

Tape/CD Sephardic Songs of Love & Hope—Ladino Romance and Sacred Songs of the Sephardim,

with oud and guitar with Judy Frankel & John Bilezikjian

#### RECORDINGS WITH WELL-KNOWN ARTISTS ON OTHER LABELS

Tape/CD Ridin High—by Robert Palmer, Rock & New Age Music

Tape/CD Kirya—by Ofra Haza

Tape/CD De mi Alma Latina—by Placido Domingo Classical Latin Love Songs

Tape Orientale Bouquet—Harry Saroyan

CD Leonard Cohen Live—Field Commander Cohen, and many other Leonard Cohen albums



## **Motion Pictures**

Dreamworks

(Too numerous to name dates) "Prince of Egypt"

20th Century Fox "30 Something" Fox "Anastasia"

**Paramount** "Mission Impossible"; "Murder

" Mission Impossible" Sony She Wrote"; "Happy Days"; "Mork & Mindy"; "I Spy"; Warner Bros. "Affair to Remember"

"Ohanian"; "Laverne & Shirley"; "Schindlers List" Sonv "Apples Way", "Wings of Eagles",

"Three's Company" Warner Bros. "Maximum Risk"

Warner Brothers "The Pirate"; "Cheers"; "St. "Executive Decision" Tristar

Elsewhere": "21 Hours at Lorimar "Telefon" Munich"; "Bionic Women"; "Hart

to Hart"; "Alice"; "Samson & "Postman Always Rings Twice" Universal "Ruby Cairo"/ "Deception" Delilah" Maurice Jarre & Frank

> "Bashkaus, Siberia" Documentary Capp

**NBC** "Princess Daisy" Lalo Schifrin "Exotica" A. Egoyan, Canada

**ABC** "Hardy Boy's " Stu Phillips "French Connection" Warner Bros.

**Universal Studios** "Voyagers" Elliott Kaplan Village Roadshow

"Austin City Limits" Leonard "Queen of the Damned" Prod.

Cohen Miramax "Accidental Spy"

**KCET** Greece Documentary " Scorpion King" Universal

Egypt Documentary Armenian Film Found "Voices From The Lake" Russian Presentation, Melissa

Documentary on Armenian Totten

Genocide

## **Cast Parties**

Aladdin Disney DHI

Fox Anastasia Isuzu "Trooper"

Harliquinn Dinner Theater Mark Taper Forum Nine Armenians

Disney Hunchback of Notre Rold Gold Pretzels

Dame

## Commercials

**Television** 



Rice A Roni



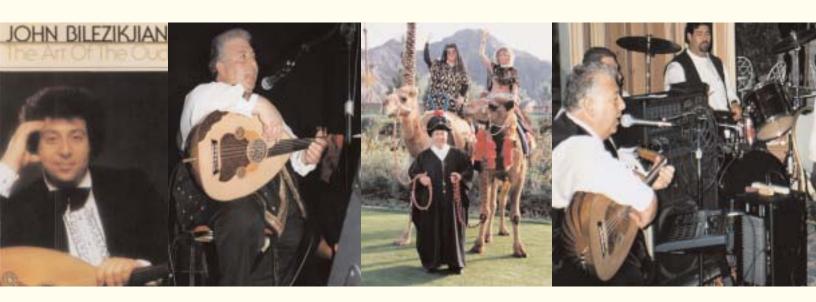


# **Concerts & Stage Performances**

	Concerts a Grago Fortal Indiana			
1997	London, CAIA, Centre for Armenian infor. & Advice "John & Helen Present Music of Armenia"			
1997	L.A. Philharmonic, Nov. Concert Series - Balalaika Soloist			
1997	J.P.Getty Museum, Malibu, Closing Ceremonies "International Music"			
1997	Mark Taper Forum - Nine Armenians Opening Night			
1997	Mark Taper Forum - Board of Directors for Nine Armenians			
1997	Skirball Cultural Center - Sephardic Concert Series			
1996	Tifereth Israel Temple Beverly Hills - Sephardic Concert			
1996	VJCC Van Nuys Sephardic Concert			
1996	Mission Hills Ararat Home - President of Armenia			
1974–1996 L.A. Philharmonic - Romeo & Juliette Ballet (Mandolin soloist)				
1995	Fasl Taiseer, Debut for Oud & Strings with American String Quartet (Dr. Janice Foy)			
1989	Romeo & Juliette, L. A. Philharmonic, Hollywood Bowl			
1989	L. A. Philharmonic, Mahler vs Mozart, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion			
1988	Debut Vazken Muradian Oud Concerto w/ LA Mandolin Orch., Joel Lish Conductor, Santa Monica			
1887	Rodrigo Guitar Concerto with LA Mandolin Orch., Joel Lish Conductor, Santa Monica			
1986	Vivaldi Guitar Concerto on Oud w/ LA Mandolin Orch., Joel Lish Conductor, Santa Monica			
1980-Present Wilshire Tifereth Temple, Beverly Hills, King Juan Carlos of Spain & Queen Sophia				
1980–1981 Wilshire Ebell Theater - John Bilezikjian, Triple X Fraternity Concert				
1978	Sephardic Temple, Mrs. Anwar Sadat			
1973	Wilshire Ebell Theater - John Bilezikjian, Live in Concert with ensemble			
	World Tours			

## **World Tours**

1979	Leonard Cohen - European Tour, Mama Concerts - Oud, Mandolin
1988	Leonard Cohen - European & American Tour - Mama Concerts - Oud, Mandolin
1988	Leonard Cohen - Australian Tour - Mama Concerts - Oud, Mandolin



# Lectures

1978–1997	GIT - Guitar Institute - Demonstration on Oud and capabilities - Tom Tedesco Class
1996	APS - Armenian Professional Society - Lecture on the Origins of Armenian Music - Demonstration
1989	UCLA - Origins of the Oud & style of John Bilezikjian - Dr. Jihad Racy, Chairman Ethnomusicology
1988	UCLA - Lecture on Armenian Music & John Bilezkijian - Dr. Hovannisian, Armenian Studies
1988	USC - Ethnomusicology Dept - Armenian Music & John Bilezikjian - Dr. A. Vardanian
1988	USC - Sephardic Music Club - The Oud and Sephardic Music
1986	SFVSC - Music Dept Lecture and performance on the Oud
1986	UCSD - Lecture and performance of Armenian Music on the Oud - Armenian Studies Club
1967	Grant High School Music Dept The Oud and Armenian Music
1974	Dana Hills High School - Music Dept Dr. Wm Priestly

# Radio

# Clubs & Restaurants (Too Many to Mention)

FM/KCRW - 89.9	Tom Snobel		
KPFK - 90.7	Mario Cassetta	1965 to 1980	The Seventh Veil, The Cascades, The Fez,
KPFK – 90.7	Roz and Howard Larman		Aladdin Rest. Kabob Palace, Apadana, Ararat Rest. Ali Baba
FM/KUSC	Bonnie Grice	1980 thru 1990	Greek Village, Grecian Gardens, Athenian,
KPCC	Doug Johnson		Holiday Inn, Sheraton Hotel, Buena Park
RPCC	Doug Johnson		Hotel, Beverly Hills Hotel

