

Rechberger Herman

Finland

O thanatos tou Orfea (The death of Orpheus)

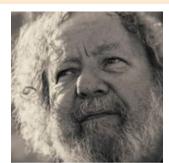
About the artist

Born 1947 in Linz/Austria. Studied classical guitar in his hometown. Moved to Zürich/Switzerland, Belgium Brussels and finally to Helsinki/Finland, where he studied composition with Aulis Sallinen and made his master degree in classical guitar. Further studies on the barock recorder with Olli Ruottinen. 1976 he got his Finnish citizenship and from 1980 -1985 he held the post of an artistic director of the electronic music studio and producer of contemporary music at YLE (Finnish Broadcasting Company). From 1985 onward Rechberger received several grants from the Finnish Ministry of Education. His compositional output is rather large reaching from solo works, chamber music, symphonies, choral works and operas. His studies in ethnomusic brought him to Africa (Benin) studying the Djembe and th Middle East (Egypt, Tunisia), studying the Darabuka. Rechberger lives nowadays most time of the year in Greece, where he found new inspiration of the local traditional music.

Associate: TEOSTO

Artist page: https://www.free-scores.com/Download-PDF-Sheet-Music-mymusi2020.htm

About the piece



Title: O thanatos tou Orfea [The death of Orpheus]

Composer: Herman, Rechberger

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Instrumentation: Flute and Harp **Style**: Contemporary

Comment: Orpheus is a legendary musician, poet, and prophet in

ancient Greek religion and myth. The major stories about him are centered on his ability to charm all living things and even stones with his music, his attempt to retrieve his wife, Eurydice, from the underworld, and his death at the hands of those who could not hear his divine music. As an archetype of the inspired singer, Orpheus is one of the most significant figures in the

reception of cla... (more online)

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HERMAN RECHBERGER

Ο θάνατος του Ορφέα

O thánatos tou Orféa - The death of Orphéus

for flute and harp



Orpheus is a legendary musician, poet, and prophet in ancient Greek religion and myth. The major stories about him are centered on his ability to charm all living things and even stones with his music, his attempt to retrieve his wife, Eurydice, from the underworld, and his death at the hands of those who could not hear his divine music. As an archetype of the inspired singer, Orpheus is one of the most significant figures in the reception of classical mythology in Western culture, portrayed or alluded to in countless forms of art and popular culture including poetry, film, opera, music, and painting.

Orpheus was born as a son of the Muse Calliope and the Thracian king Oeagrus. Orpheus, towards the end of his life, disdained the worship of all gods except the sun, whom he called Apollo. One early morning he went to the oracle of Dionysus at Mount Pangaion to salute his god at dawn, but was ripped to shreds by Thracian Maenads for not honoring his previous patron (Dionysus) and buried in Pieria. Pausanias writes that Orpheus was buried in Dion and that he met his death there. He writes that the river Helicon sank underground when the women that killed Orpheus tried to wash off their blood-stained hands in its waters. Feeling spurned by Orpheus for taking only male lovers, the Ciconian women, followers of Dionysus, first threw sticks and stones at him as he played, but his music was so beautiful even the rocks and branches refused to hit him. Enraged, the women tore him to pieces during the frenzy of their Bacchic orgies. In Albrecht Dürer's drawing of Orpheus' death, based on an original, now lost, by Andrea Mantegna, a ribbon high in the tree above him is lettered *Orfeus der erst puseran* ("Orpheus, the first pederast"). His head and lyre, still singing mournful songs, floated down the swift Hebrus to the Mediterranean shore. There, the winds and waves carried them on to the Lesbos shore, where the inhabitants buried his head and a shrine was built in his honour near Antissa.

The lyre was carried to heaven by the Muses, and was placed among the stars. The Muses also gathered up the fragments of his body and buried them at Leibethra below Mount Olympus, where the nightingales sang over his grave. Orpheus' soul returned to the underworld where he was reunited at last with his beloved Eurydice.

Ο θάνατος του Ορφέα

