

Steve Frangos

Anthropologist Steve Frangos is a widely acknowledged expert on Greek culture in the U.S. He has written over 100 articles on Greek music/musicians for journals, encyclopedias, magazines, and newspapers, and writes on Greek cultural topics for the *National Herald*--the foremost Greek American newspaper. Frangos also served as consultant on the Hellenic Museum exhibit *Road to Rembetika*, was curator of the exhibit *Greeks in Michigan*, and deposited 12 music collections in U.S. archives.

Education

B.A., Linguistics, Hampshire College, 1980
M.A., Anthropology, Indiana University, 1983

Books

Greeks in Michigan. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 2003

Journal Articles

Marika Papagika and the Transformations in Modern Greek Music, In *Reading Greek America: Studies in the Experience of Greeks in the United States*, Spyros D. Orfanos, editor (New York City: Pella Publishing, 2002 (223-239)

The Greek American National Anthem, *Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora*, Volume 28.2 (2002)

The Last Café-Aman Performer [George Katsaros], *Journal of Modern Hellenism*, Vol. 12-13 (1995-1996)

Archival Articles

Portraits in Modern Greek Music: Roza Eskenazi, *Resound* Volume 12, Numbers 1/2, January/April 1993

Large Record Collectors: The Unrecognized Authorities, *Resound* Volume 10, Number 2, April 1991

Greek-American Family Record Collections: Family Record Collections as Research Sources *Resound* Volume 8, Number 4, October 1989

Songs of an Indiana Island: The Grecophon Record Company of Gary, Indiana *Resound*. Archives of Traditional journal/newsletter Volume 4, Number 3, July 1985

Encyclopedic Entries

Roza Eskenazi (c. 1895-1980)

Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa, Philip Mattar, editor, Volume 2 (Second Edition) (Farmington, MI: Macmillan Reference, 2004)

Consultant

Road to Rembetika/O Dromos tou Rembetikou, Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center (National Hellenic Museum), 333 S Halsted St, Chicago, Illinois 60661, June 30, 2006-January 19, 2007

Music Archival Collections Deposited

National Hellenic Museum (Chicago), Description: Sheet music collection, original 78rpm records and re-recordings

Marriot Library (Utah), Description: 45 sound cassettes (1900-1988) Recordings documenting Greek commercial music in the United States. Included are recordings made from music in family collections, interviews with musicians and Greek Americans familiar with this music, and interviews with Dino X. Pappas, a collector of Greek and Turkish music.

Indiana University Archives of Traditional Music (Bloomington)
United States, Illinois, Chicago, Greek Americans, 1976

Author: Saloutos, Theodore; Petrakis, Harry Mark., and others Publication: 1976
Document: English: Sound Recording: Non-music: Conference proceedings: Cassette tapes

Greece, Macedonia, Sarakatsani, 1978
Author: Frangos, Steve; Cowan, Jane K. Publication: 1978
Document: Greek, Modern [1453-]: Sound Recording: Music: Folk music: Cassette tapes

Greece, Macedonia, Sokhos, 1978
Author: Frangos, Steve; Dupuis, Diane. Publication: 1978
Document: Greek, Modern [1453-]: Sound Recording: Music: Folk music: Cassette tapes

United States and Greece, California, Indiana, and Michigan, Greeks and Greek Americans, ca. 1920-1984
Author: Frangos, Steve; Cowan, Jane K., Publication: 1920-1984
Document: English: Sound Recording: Non-music: Interviews: Cassette tapes

Greece, Macedonia, Sokhos, 1978
Author: Frangos, Steve. Publication: 1978
Document: Greek, Modern [1453-]: Sound Recording: Music: Folk music: Cassette tapes

United States, Florida, Greek Americans, 1986-1987
Author: Frangos, Steve.; Gianaros, John K.; Katsaros, Georges. Publication: 1986-1987
Document: English: Sound Recording: Non-music: Instruction: Cassette tapes Archival Material

Greece, Macedonia, 1976-1978

Author: Frangos, Steve; Cowan, Jane K. Publication: 1980, 1976
Document: Greek, Modern [1453-]: Sound Recording: Music: Folk music

United States, Indiana and Illinois, Calumet Region and Chicago, Greek Americans, 1984
Author: Frangos, Steve; Bucuvalas, Tina. Publication: 1984
Document: English: Sound Recording: Music: Folk music: Cassette tapes

Greece, Athens, Lectures by Ted Petrides, 1978
Author: Petrides, Theodore. Publication: 1978
Document: English: Sound Recordings: Non-music: Lectures, speeches.

Newspaper and Magazine Articles

- 06/22-23/2013 The Long-Range Situation of the Greek-American Long-Playing Record,
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 06/6/2013 CD Is Planned as a Tribute to Legendary Bouzouki Player George Soffos.
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 05/28/2013 Setting the Record Straight
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 04/6-12/2013 Glamorous Entertainer Jefferies: Still ‘Fran-tastic’ After All These Years
Part 1 *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
Part 2 •04/13-19/2013 *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
Part 3 •04/20-26/2013 *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 03/28/2013 Everyday, Non-Celebrity Traditional Greek Musicians in North America
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 03/17-23/2012 Rediscovering the History of Greek Sheet Music in the United States
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 12/31/2011-01/06/2012
The Various Streets of Cairo: Song’s Many Names Unveils
Cultural Phenomenon
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 12/10-16/2011 Greeks in the Catskill Mountains
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 08/20-26/2011 Jimmie Spheeris, Dreamers
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 04/9-15/2011 The Greek Singer Sirens of the 1940s-50s Carried the Torch for Love
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx

- 03/19-25/2011 Betty George: The Greek Song Goddess
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 02/5-11/2011 Texas Garage Band: Thanks for the Memories of Those Happy Days
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 02/19-25/2011 Nick Gravenites, Bluesman
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 01/8-14/2011 Forgotten Sirens of Ameriki
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 01/15/2010 The Poignant Recordings of October 25, 1927
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 08/21-27/2010 Nellie Nichols, Star of Stage and Screen: Part II of an Enigmatic Story
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 08/14-20/2010 Comedienne Nellie Nichols Was Once Cathachakes
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 12/25/2009 Al Bowlly Crooned His Way through Dazzling U.S. Tour, Died in London Blitz, Part Two
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx
- 12/19-24/2009 Al Bowlly: The Jazzy, Hellenic Prince of ‘Modern Style Singing’ Conquered U.K.
National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx Part One
- 09/13/2008 The Second Wave of Greek Vaudevillians, Part 2, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 09/13/2008 The First Wave of Greek Vaudevillians, Part 1, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 08/16/2008 Greeks and Popular American Song, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 03/08/2008 Pangalos and the 1893 World’s Fair, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 02/23/2008 An Odyssey through Story and Song, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 11, Issue 541
- 01/12/2008 King George: The Happy Life of Georges Guétary, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 11, Issue 535
- 12/17/2007 The Very First Records in Old Ameriki, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 09/28/2007 The Kanarini of Ameriki: Madame Koula, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*

- 02/18/2006 Marimba Bands, Hawaii Guitars and You: Early Greek Love Songs on Commercial Records, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 02/05/2005 Greek Island Music Lives on with Grecophon Record's Legacy, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 8 Issue 382
- 01/28/2005 Greeks and the American Folk Music Revival, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 8 Issue 381
- 10/15/2005 "Yes! We Have No Bananas!", *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 8, Issue 418
- 04/24-25/2004 L. Cavadias: A Recorded Life, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 7 Issue 341
- 03/20-21/2004 Eddie Constantine: The Greek Tough Guy, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 7 Issue 336
- 03/6-7/2004 Sounds of the Season: Apokreas in Northern Greece, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 7 Issue 334
- 11/22-23/2003 The Chicago Season of Odysseus Lappas, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 4 Issue 319
- 05/10-11/2003 Nick Gravenites: A Life in Blues, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 6, Issue 291
- 04/19-20/2003 Greeks of Early Rock n' Roll, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 6, Issue 288
- 03/08-09/2003 The Lost Apollo Music Company, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 6, Issue 282
- 02/08-09/2003 Greek Singer's U.S. Work Compiled on New CD, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 6, Issue 278
- 2/2-3/2002 Chicago Playbills Record Greek Immigrant History, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 11/17-18/2001 The Journey of the Spheeris Family, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*
- 08/02/2001 The Chicago Season of Odysseus Lappas, *Greek Star* Year 97 No. 4173
- 04/21-22/2001 A Non-Traditionalist Who Made Music, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx*

March 2001 A Musical Legacy, *Greek-American Review*

- December 2000 Greek-Americans in High Fidelity, *Greek-American Review*
- 11/23/2000 Preserving Our Musical Heritage, *Greek Star* Year 96 No. 4137
- 09/9-10/2000 New Age Music Genius Credits Family for Inspiration, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 3 Issue 152
- 03/04-05/2000 Immigrant History in 78rpm, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 3 Issue 125
- 12/18-19/1999 The Man Who Sang the Great Rush to the Suburbs, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 3 Issue 114
- 09/28-29/1999 The Godfather of Greek American Musical Theatre, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 2 Issue 98
- 09/11-12/1999 Vembo: The Voice of Hellenism, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 2 Issue 100
- 12/18-19/1999 The Man Who Sang the Great Rush to the Suburbs, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 3 Issue 114
- 09/11-12/1999 Vembo: The Voice of Hellenism, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 2 Issue 100
- 09/28-29/1999 The Godfather of Greek American Musical Theatre, *National Herald/Ethnikos Keryx* Volume 2 Issue 98
- 10/10/1998 Greek Muses in Ameriki, *GreekAmerican* Volume 13 (39)
- 08/08/1998 Tradition for Mixed Voices, *GreekAmerican* Volume 13 (32)
- 06/06/1998; 05/30/1998 Of Saints and Singers
GreekAmerican Volume 13 (23), Part 2
GreekAmerican Volume 13 (22), Part 1
- 02/28/1998 Muse of St. Hylarion: Cyprus 1413-1422, *GreekAmerican* Volume 13 (9)
- 02/14/1998 First Star, *GreekAmerican* Volume 13 (7)
- 01/31/1998-01/07/1998 A New Age for Greek Music
GreekAmerican Volume 13 (5), Part 1
GreekAmerican Volume 13 (6), Part 2

- November/December 1997 Kiria Koula: To Kanarini tis Amerikis *Paradosi kai Texni* No. 36
 - 08/02/1997 Setting the Record Straight, *GreekAmerican* Volume 12 (31)
 - 07/05/1997 The Americanization of Karaghiozis, *GreekAmerican* Volume 12 (27)
 - 05/10/1997 Chicago's Green Mill, an American Institution, *GreekAmerican* Volume 12 (19)
 - 02/08/1997 The Eternal Andrews Sisters, *GreekAmerican* Volume 7 (6)
- January 1997 Misirlou, *Greek-American Review* (January) Volume XXL (50)

1996 Panhellenion Record Company

GreekAmerican Volume 11 (38) October 12th Part 1

GreekAmerican Volume 11 (39) October 19th Part 2

GreekAmerican Volume 11 (40) October 26th Part 3

- 08/28/1996 The Two Streets of Cairo, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (36)
- 06/08/1996 Greek Women's Voices, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (20)

1996 Greeks and the Dance Halls of America

GreekAmerican Volume 11 (18) May 25th Part 1

GreekAmerican Volume 11 (19) June 1st Part 2

GreekAmerican Volume 11 (20) June 8th Part 3

- 05/04/1996 Hypathia's Daughters, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (16)
- 04/27/1996 Greek Aires and the 1821 War Relief, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (15)
- 04/20/1996 Portraits in Modern Greek Music: Roza Eskenazi, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (15)
- 03/16/1996 Greek Island Songs, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (10)
- 02/17/1996 Tetos Demetriades: An Industry Unto Himself, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (7)
- 06/29/1995 Greek Performers and Promoters: 1870-1920s, *Hellenic Journal* Volume XXI (13)
- 05/13-19/1995 Epistrofi Stis Rizis Mas/Returning to Our Roots, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (15)
- 04/01-07/1995 George Pangalos and the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, *GreekAmerican* Volume 11 (9)
- 03/23/1995 Greek Aires and the 1821 Greek War Relief, *Hellenic Journal* Volume XXI (6)

•12/3-9/1994: Madame Coula: The Canary of Ameriki, *GreekAmerican* Volume 10 (92)

1992 Yiorgos Katsaros: Last of the Cafe Aman Singers, *GreekAmerican* December 24, 1991-June 12, 1992, (22 installments)

1991 The Many Traditions of Greek Music, *GreekAmerican* March 23rd-May 25, 1991
(8 installments)

1991 Greek Music in America: John K. Gianaros Musician and Composer, *GreekAmerican*
September 14th-November 23, 1991, (13 installments)

1991 Greek Music in America,
GreekAmerican March 9th Part 1
GreekAmerican March 16th Part 2

[Congressional Record Volume 141, Number 6 (Wednesday, January 11, 1995)]
[Extensions of Remarks] [Pages E85-E86] From the Congressional Record Online through the
Government Printing Office [www.gpo.gov]

TRIBUTE TO MUSICIAN/COMPOSER GEORGE KATSAROS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS of Florida in the house of representatives
Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, we owe a great debt of gratitude to those ancient Greeks who forged the notion of democracy and thus gave us a blueprint for our own democratic heritage. We owe another debt of gratitude to a man who has been called the greatest Greek folk song composer and singer of the 20th century. It is that man, my good friend George Katsaros, for whom I rise today to pay tribute.

Ironically, it was the promise of opportunity inherent in democracy that beckoned George to this country from the island of Amorgos in 1913 at the age of 25. Stepping off a steamship at New York Harbor with all his belongings in one hand and his guitar in the other, George Katsaros began a musical career that continues even today. Within hours of his arrival he was accompanying a Salvation Army street band and was invited to stay on. Now, more than 80 years later, his strong, nostalgic, mellow voice and unique style on the guitar have been heard in every corner of the world: in ballrooms, hotel clubs, coffeehouses, concert halls, steamships, private yachts--anywhere people gather to hear their memories and dreams and experiences put to music and sung from the heart.

Katsaros became so popular that in 1919 RCA Victor signed him as a recording artist. Contracts with Columbia and Decca followed, [[Page E86]] and soon many of his compositions became favorites in Greece and other places where Greek music is played. His popularity grew because

people related to his songs about life in unfamiliar surroundings and in difficult times; songs about the comfort of family and friends; songs about the joy of hopes fulfilled.

Now, even in his twilight years, George Katsaros still composes and performs. At 106 years of age he is immaculately dressed, his back straight, his eyes bright with ideas yet to be expressed. Accolades, such as his 1990 State of Florida Folk Life Heritage Award, or his selection as grand marshal of the 1994 Tarpon Springs Christmas parade, don't lull him into inactivity; they inspire him to continue on.

Steve Frangos, in his 1992 study of the international Greek entertainment industry, noted that Katsaros merits recognition on a national level "for his singular contributions not only to the ongoing development of Greek music but as one of the finest proponents of traditional ethnic music ever to perform in America." I am proud to call him a fellow American and a friend.