Alexandra Balandina

Associate Professor in Ethnomusicology, Dept. of Music Studies, Ionian University, Greece

Email to: balantina.alexandra@ac.eap.gr

She/Her/Hers

I am an anthropologist and ethnomusicologist with a degree in Social Anthropology from Panteion University and a master's and PhD in Ethnomusicology from Goldsmiths, University of London.

In Greece, I have taught at the **Department of Popular and Traditional Music** at the University of Ioannina, the **Department of Social Anthropology** at Panteion University, and the Department of Management, Economics, Tourism, and Cultural Units at the Agricultural University of Athens. Internationally, I served as the Course Director of the MA Ethnomusicology program at the **Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick**, where I also lectured in ethnomusicology.

My research, publications, and teaching span a variety of musical genres, including the classical music of the Middle East (focusing on Arabic, Iranian, and Turkish traditions), Balkan hip-hop, Greek popular music, and Irish traditional music. My academic interests include ethnographic research, urban folk culture, urban musical traditions in Greece, music performance as both a research tool and a subject of study, the intersections between music and politics, and the impact of COVID-19 on music practices and the lives of musicians.

I was introduced to modal musical traditions in the mid-1990s as a student of Ross Daly, eventually becoming an active member of his ensemble *Labyrinth*. I have performed with Daly in Greece, Cyprus, and the UK, primarily focusing on the modal musical traditions of Greece, the Middle East, and the Eastern Mediterranean. Since 2015, I have participated in various intercultural music ensembles, playing percussion (tombak, bendir, and daf). In 2019, I joined the music group *Musikarama*, a collective of refugees, Greeks, and international musicians, performing Middle Eastern and Balkan musical traditions. Currently, I am a member of the *Intercultural Orchestra* of the *Greek National Opera*, directed by Haris Lambrakis.

Selected Publications

- 1. 2024 Ethnographic Research in Ethnomusicology. Foreword: John Baily. Open-access online book. Kallipos Scholarly Publications (forthcoming, Nob. 2024).
- 2. 2021 Sangīta Kiran: Historical and musicological development of Hindustānī classical music [Sangīta Kiran: Ιστορική, μουσικολογική εξέλιξη και πρακτικές όψεις της Hindustānī κλασικής μουσικής]. Written by Sakis Laios (in Greek). Foreword: Ross Daly. Introduction and scientific editing: Alexandra Baladina. Athens: Institute for Research on Music and Acoustics (IEMA). ISBN: 978-960-7313-32-4
- 3. 2014 Kallimopoulou, Eleni and Alexandra, Balandina (eds). *Introduction to Ethnomusicology*. Athens: Asini. ISBN: 618-80872-1-X.