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ANŌPOLIS WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL

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09—11
09.2025



Thessaloniki
Ελεύθερη Είσοδος
Free entry
Ώρα / Time 21.30

09—11
09.2025

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Περισσότερες
πληροφορίες olipoli.gr

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ANŌPOLIS WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL

Anopolis World Music Festival marks five years of presence in the public spaces and monuments of Thessaloniki's Ano Poli (Upper Town) and invites you to join us for a three-day celebration of contemporary musical creation on September 9, 10, and 11, 2025.

Having musically journeyed together through more than 25 locations in the Upper Town, this year we return to familiar corners and discover new ones - once again shaping public space as a place of vibrant gathering, dialogue, and coexistence.

Across nine different sites in the historically multicultural Upper Town, ten concerts will take place featuring solo, duet, and trio ensembles from Greece and abroad. Drawing inspiration from world musical traditions, the artists will present original compositions as well as new arrangements of traditional music, through a rich sonic palette that bridges East and West. Improvisation, experimentation, multiple languages and styles weave a polyphonic mosaic of melodies echoing from Greece, the Balkans, and the Mediterranean, to Anatolia, the Black Sea region, and beyond.

We invite you to join us in experiencing the power of music to transform public space into a place of cultures, stories, and collective expression. Music knows no borders, and in Ano Poli it brings us together, inspires us, and sparks encounters. It becomes a celebration that embraces us all.

The Anopolis World Music Festival is organized by the non-profit civil company olipoli, under the auspices and with the support of the Ministry of Culture and the Directorate of Culture and Tourism of the Municipality of Thessaloniki, with the participation of the Municipality of Neapoli-Sykies, and in collaboration with the 3rd Municipal Community of the Municipality of Thessaloniki and the Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki City.

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Under the auspices and
with the financial support
of the Ministry of Culture



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ANŌPOLIS
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ANŌPOLIS
WORLD MUSIC
FESTIVAL

September 9

Free entry | Time 21.30



Leftokarya

Tsitsanis square (1, Sthenonos Street)

PianOLaterna

At the mulberries (5-7, Vlatadon Street)

Urban Modal

On the balcony of the Trigonion Tower
(146, Eptapyrgiou Street)



Leftokarya

Musicians: Natasa Tsakiridou (vocals), Giannis Tsanasidis (Pontic lyra), Iakovos Moysiadis (Istanbul lute, tamburas)

“Leftokarya”, or the brown gold of Pontus, in the Pontic dialect are hazelnuts and symbolize the abundance and richness of Pontic music.

Having an experiential relationship with tradition and studying the music of Pontus, they choose to play traditional tunes and songs from the endless musical tradition of the Black Sea. At the same time, belonging to the new generation of musicians, they have their ears and horizons open to all types of music and try new experiments, aiming to propose a fresher and more modern look at this music through their sound.

After completing the first cycle with the release of the album of the same name, Leftokarya is preparing new compositions and musical arrangements of Pontic folk lyrics that have never been made into songs. Using modern synthetic motifs, different levels of polyrhythm and having new ideas influenced by different musical idioms and the personal aesthetics of each one, they propose this new material with the aim of bringing the audience into contact with the living and changing side of musical traditions.

“Through this path we ourselves are led from the Music of the Place to the Music of the World, to which we belong”.

Location: Tsitsanis square (1, Sthenonos Street)



PianOLaterna

Musicians: Haroula Tsalpara (piano, singing)

PianOLaterna: A bridge between two Worlds

The name "PianOLaterna" intricately weaves three words into one, encapsulating the essence of this project:

Piano - My primary instrument, and the cornerstone of this musical voyage.

OLA - Translated to "everything" in English, it signifies the boundless range of music that the piano can embrace. Here, every genre, every emotion, every melody finds its place on the keys.

Laterna - In English, "barrel organ" evokes the echoes of a bygone era, an older world of music, and nostalgia.

Indeed, the piano and the barrel organ represent two distinct worlds, each with its own character and history. Through PianOLaterna, these worlds converge, transcending boundaries and creating a harmonious blend of musical traditions, where past and present coexist, and every note resonates with a timeless beauty. Join me on this musical journey where the keys of the piano and the melodies of the barrel organ come together to create a captivating fusion of Eastern Mediterranean and Western musical influences. PianOLaterna is a testament to the endless possibilities that music offers when different worlds unite.

Location: At the mulberries (5-7, Vlatadon Street)



Urban Modal

Musicians: Giorgos Vallianatos (lavta), Dimosthenis Karachristodoulou (Istanbul lyra), Loukas Metaxas (percussion)

The musical group Urban Modal was created by Dimosthenis Karachristodoulou, Loukas Metaxas and George Vallianatos. They met as fellow students at the “Department of Music Studies” of the University of Ioannina and were united as a band, by a common aesthetic regarding modal music (makam music), old and contemporary, as well as by a common perspective on its place in the modern era.

One of the main goals of Urban Modal is the interaction and “conversation” with their musical environment. They thus create various musical “relationships” that evolve into collaborations (projects) and recording works, such as with: Antonis Ginosatis (Saz, Violin), Anna Kouklaki (Kanun), Kyriakos Tapakis (Electric Bass), Elena Moudiri Hasiotou (Vocals), Panagiotis Panagakis (Vocals/Oud), Zekiye Yurekli (Vocals) and more. They have also been invited and collaborated with the composers Christos Tsiamoulis, Nikos Andrikos, Nektarios Vagianos and Petros Zaranis.

The band will perform its own instrumental compositions as well as those of other contemporary composers based in Greece, with the orchestral perspective of the band.

Location: On the balcony of the Trigonion Tower (146, Eptapyrgiou Street)

ANŌPOLIS
WORLD MUSIC
FESTIVAL

September 10

Free entry | Time 21.30



Old Terminal

Church of Saint Paul the Apostle (16, Ochi Avenue)

**Tactus - “From the Shadows to Center Stage:
Saxophone and Accordion in Cultural
Dialogue”**

Church of Saint Paul the Apostle (16, Ochi Avenue)

Şenkop

On the western walls (Tomeas Teichon
& M. Triantafyllidi Streets)

Tsolakis & Vrachnos Brothers

At the threshold of the Heptapyrgion
(Heptapyrgion, Naoum Panagi Street)



Old Terminal

Musicians: Giannis Demogiannis (classical guitar)

The composer and guitarist Giannis Demogiannis presents his solo concert “Old Terminal”. An evening dedicated to his compositions for guitar, featuring works written over the past four years.

The program includes pieces with a strong narrative character, making use of the full spectrum of the guitar’s sound. The compositions carry sounds and images from various cities - Thessaloniki, Bologna, Paris, Madrid - where they were composed. Within them, different guitar traditions meet, sometimes with subtle nuances, sometimes with more direct intensity.

Drawing inspiration from the guitar and vocal traditions of Greece, Italy, and Spain, “Old Terminal” develops a sensitive approach to a Mediterranean sound. The melodies of the urban centers of Greece, the flamenco of Spain, the lyricism of traditional and urban Italian songs, and the poetry developed in medieval Italy, all form the sonic identity of the project. Each piece highlights different aspects of these traditions, creating a musical atmosphere that unites and bridges cultures and eras.

Location: Church of Saint Paul the Apostle (16, Ochi Avenue)



Tactus - “From the Shadows to Center Stage: Saxophone and Accordion in Cultural Dialogue”

Musicians: Theofilos Sotiriadis (soprano & alto saxophone), Panagiotis Andreoglou (accordion)

Saxophone and accordion, two instruments with a shared destiny: they became established and celebrated far from the dominance of the classical tradition. The saxophone became the voice of jazz music and revolution, while the accordion praised the folk music of the world.

In today's era, where tradition, classicism, and innovation intermingle and transform, these two instruments continue to take center stage precisely because of their “non-aristocratic” origins.

The concert program includes a musical journey from the second half of the 18th century to the present day.

Location: Church of Saint Paul the Apostle (16, Ochi Avenue)



Şenkop

Musicians: Cem Mazlum (percussion), Rûbar Dindar (keyboard), Ruşen Can Acet (kabak kemane , vocals)

“Şenkop” derives its name from two powerful elements: “Şen,” the Turkish word for joy and cheerfulness, and “syncopation,” the rhythmic technique that adds excitement and unexpected accents to music. If translated to English, the band’s name would aptly be “Joycopation” – a somewhat whimsical reflection of their musical approach. Frankly, this name encapsulates the band’s artistic mission: discovering authentic folk songs from Anatolia and neighboring regions and reimagining them with vibrant, contemporary arrangements that infuse with joyful energy, while preserving their cultural essence.

The band’s distinctive sound comes from their innovative fusion of jazz harmonies with traditional makam music, carefully preserving the microtonal elements that give Anatolian music its unique character. Şenkop approaches Anatolian musical tradition as a rich mosaic shaped by the diverse multitudes that have called the region home throughout history. This multicultural perspective allows them to explore the nuanced musical languages of Turkish, Kurdish, Armenian, Greek, Assyrian, and many other cultures that have contributed to Anatolia’s extraordinary musical heritage. Through their performances, Şenkop creates a bridge between Anatolia’s rich musical heritage and modern sensibilities, inviting audiences to experience traditional songs in fresh, exhilarating ways.

The group began their musical journey in early 2024, initially recording a series of live performances that captured their unique interpretations of traditional music. Şenkop officially adopted their name right before their debut concert in May 2024 at Art Istanbul Feshane, organized by the Municipality of Istanbul. Since then, they’ve expanded their presence by performing at various notable venues and events, including Kadıköy Sessions and multiple music festivals sponsored by municipalities, schools, and the Cultural Ministry of Turkey. Şenkop will perform in 32nd Istanbul Jazz Festival this year. Şenkop’s first album has released recently in June 2025 can be found on Spotify, Youtube Music and other streaming platforms.

Location: On the western walls (Tomeas Teichon & M. Triantafyllidi Streets)



Tsolakis & Vrachnos Brothers

Musicians: Alekos Tsolakis (bouzouki), Periklis Vrachnos (guitar), Vangelis Vrachnos (double bass)

Vrachnos brothers, Periklis (on guitar) and Vangelis (on double bass), collaborate in this musical group with the unique bouzouki virtuoso Alekos Tsolakis, performing their personal compositions and arrangements of rebetiko songs.

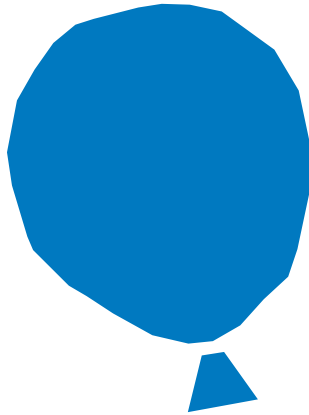
Contemporary musical creation inspired by the folk music of the diverse, multi-religious metropolis of the Balkans of the early 20th century, meets and intertwines with the vibrant expression of the evolution of the rebetiko tradition.

Location: At the threshold of the Heptapyrgion (Heptapyrgion, Naoum Panagi Street)

ANŌPOLIS
WORLD MUSIC
FESTIVAL

September 11

Free entry | Time 21.30



Armathies

Latomos Monastery (17, Epimenidou Street)

Vasilis Gkofas Trio

At the plane tree (5, Arachthou Street)

Roviolides

Terpsithea Square (24, Terpsithea Square)



Armathies

Musicians: Giorgos Kalamakis (oud, lute), Pantelis Agkistriotis (Istanbul lyra, lute), Konstantinos Kalamakis (violin)

Three musicians, drawing from the rich musical idioms of the Eastern Mediterranean, weave seven distinct stories - each a self-contained musical-poetic journey. Their shared ground: a common language of expression, born of music and nurtured through years of creative interplay.

A breath of sea air, the scent of rose geranium and wild thyme, their image in a clay pot by a stone-built terrace - fragments of a world where the old and the new meet, subtly intertwined within the textures of a living, urban present. "Aeri" music ensemble, through "Armathies" project, conjures these sensations and offers them a place to dwell - in the voice of the lyra, the violin, the laouto, the oud, and the human song.

The ensemble takes its name from a poem of the same title, penned by a poet from the island of Sifnos.

Location: Latomos Monastery (17, Epimenidou Street)



Vasilis Gkofas Trio

Musicians: Vasilis Gkofas (seven-string classical guitar), Giannis Gouventas (lute), Vassilis Pallikaris (accordion)

The debut album of guitarist Vassilis Gkofas brings the seven-string classical guitar to the forefront, in a musical landscape rooted in Greek folk tradition yet influenced by contemporary styles.

Greek rhythms such as kalamatiana and karsilamades are blended with rich harmonies -inspired by classical and jazz music- adding depth and new colors to the melodies. At the same time, ornamented melodic lines evoke the sounds of instruments like the violin and the laouto. This "post-folk" approach opens a dialogue about the role of the guitar within musical tradition.

The performance will feature original compositions as well as arrangements of music from mainland Greece and the Balkans, alongside musicians Giannis Gouventas on lute and Vassilis Pallikaris on accordion.

Location: At the plane tree (5, Arachthou Street)



Roviolides

Musicians: Akis Pitsanis (vocals, guitar), Vangelis Paschalidis (santour), Periklis Vrachnos (violin)

Roviolides is a music ensemble formed in Thessaloniki during the past decade. Their hallmark is the unique sound of the santouri-violin duo (known in Greek as “zygiá”), a combination that was prominently featured in interwar-era recordings from Greece.

Blending tradition with innovation, the group explores the textures of this historic sound while also venturing into original compositions and Balkan-inspired music. The result is a rich and expansive sonic mosaic that bridges the past with the present.

The concert will feature pieces from their debut, self-titled album, as well as unreleased material from their upcoming record.

Location: Terpsithea Square (24, Terpsithea Square)

The locations



TUESDAY 09/09

- 1. Leftokarya**
Tsitsanis square
(1, Sthenonos Street)
- 2. PianOLaterna**
At the mulberries
(5-7, Vlatadon Street)
- 3. Urban Modal**
On the balcony of the
Trigonion Tower
(146, Eptapyrgiou
Street)



WEDNESDAY 10/09

- 4. Old Terminal**
Church of Saint Paul the
Apostle (16, Ochi Avenue)
- 5. Senkop**
On the western walls (Tomeas
Teichon & M. Triantafyllidi
Streets)
- 6. Tsolakis & Vrachnos Brothers**
At the threshold of the
Heptapyrgion (Heptapyrgion,
Naoum Panagi Street)



THURSDAY 11/09

- 7. Armathies**
Latomos Monastery
(17, Epimenidou Street)
- 8. Vasilis Gkofas
Trio**
At the plane tree
(5, Arachthou Street)
- 9. Roviolides**
Terpsithea Square
(24, Terpsithea Square)

