

CCD Baby



Fahir Atakoglu

East Side Story

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Fahir Atakoglu demonstrates his virtuosity with the music he composed for the Istanbul National Ballet's East Side Story, a Dance Theater created by Aysun Aslan.

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- 12 Father The Poet and Gili-Sair Baba ve Gili
- 13 Both sides of the sea-Denizin iki yakasi
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Known for his recent release of his Jazz CD, entitled "IF" with legendary Bass Player Anthony Jackson (Paul Simon, Eye Witness, Michel Camilo,) and acclaimed Drummer Horacio "El Negro" Hernandez (McCoy Tyner, Michel Camilo, Carlos Santana), once again Mr. Atakoglu demonstrates his virtuosity with the music that he composed for the Istanbul National Ballet's performance of East Side Story.

Fahir Atakoglu is a resident of the Washington D.C. metro area, however he is very much from Istanbul, Turkey. He is highly recognized in Turkey as well as all over Europe and Japan for his large symphonic works and film scores. After many successful album releases in his native country of Turkey and around the rest of Europe, Fahir's release of "IF" represents an interesting departure from the large symphonic works and film music that he is so well known for. Instead of a ninety-piece orchestra, his Jazz music is performed by only three musicians.

He returns to his large musical works with his composition of East Side Story.

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On this CD , with Fahir's music you will relive the passion and agony of the Cholera District of Istanbul,where the Gypsies of Istanbul live, a place where the Ottoman Empire brought together people from all over Europe and Asia, and left them to try to survive as one people, with nothing to bind them but their humanity. The music of east side Story is full of Fahir's unique rhythmic melodies and harmonies together with lush strings and ethnic instruments like Ney, Turkish Drums and Duduk to name a few...

LA Times(Lewis Segal Times Staff Writer) has written "Atakoglu's score sounded utterly at home in every style, with lush symphonic lyricism layered over invigorating folk rhythms. As in Istanbul itself, you journeyed from Europe to Asia and back without ever leaving a unique environment..."