

GROUP 2 – WORK 5

COMPOSER: ANTONIS ANTONIOU (Music and Lyrics)

WORK TITLE: Alavrostishiótis (Fey) from the album *PISSOURIN* (2021)

PERFORMED BY: MONSIEUR DOUMANI (band members: Antonis Antoniou (Vocals, Tzouras*, Electronics), Demetris Yiasemides (Trombone, Flute), Andys Skordis (Guitar, Loops, Backing Vocals)).

Duration: 4'30''



**tzouras is a stringed musical instrument closely related to the bouzouki. Its name comes from the Turkish cura.*



Alavrostishiótis (Fey) - A translation of the Cypriot lyrics in English

The early light has howled, vibrating the dream
Pitch darkness has faded and the skies are on fire
It set the demons on fire and drove away the ghosts
The night is the fey's attire

It's a girl in a garb
In vanity sways the leafage

With a single breath the sun's brightness he drew
The shadows, cross-eyed, called him a drunkard
A colourful apostate against the canvas of the day
The fairies are chanting a midday air

A different kind of wind brings him over
Tonight he's tricking the stars

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0PbIWSPVvk>

Pay attention to the:

- opening motif
- rhythmic and melodic patterns and scale used
- building of a music structure based on layering or combination of different patterns
- the sound experimentation and effects
- the role of the voice
- the prevailing mood

Band Website: <https://www.monsieurdoumani.com/>

BIOGRAPHY MONSIEUR DOUMANI

Described by The Guardian as ‘One of The Most Entertaining, Confident and Inventive Groups In The Scene’, Multi-Award Winning Three Member Group **Monsieur Doumani**, with Antonis Antoniou (Vocals, Tzouras*, Electronics), Demetris Yiasemides (Trombone, Flute), Andys Skordis (Guitar, Loops, Backing Vocals) was formed in 2012 In Nicosia, Cyprus. Angelos Ionas was a band member from 2012-2018 when composer Andy Skordis joined the group.

Coming from different musical backgrounds, but influenced by the Cypriot tradition at various levels, **Monsieur Doumani** compose music that draws inspiration from contemporary Cypriot society as well as from the shaky conditions of our era. The initial identity of the project was determined by the adaptation of Cypriot traditional pieces, with a special contemporary colour and experimentation in sound and mood, forming a style distinctively of their own. With their fourth record *Pissourin* (Glitterbeat, 2021) they push their trademark ‘Mediterranean sonics’ into a deep ‘psychedelic and avant-folk direction’.

Their live appearances in festivals and venues across the world (ESNS, WOMEX, WOMAD, Trans Musicales, Sziget, Havana World Music Fest, Sur Jahan India) have been very well-received by diverse audiences and their music has been extensively featured on radios and TV stations around the globe.

During their 9-year career Monsieur Doumani have received numerous awards including the ‘Best Group Award in Songlines Music Awards 2019 and the ‘Critics Award’ in Andrea Parodi World Music Awards. They have also been awarded with the German Records Critics Award (Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik) for their album *Angathin* (2018), which has also been awarded as ‘Best Album of 2018’ in the Transglobal World Music Charts”.

Monsieur Doumani have released 3 studio albums independently which gained them worldwide recognition. For their 4th album *Pissourin* (2021) they were signed to the acclaimed German label Glitterbeat Records, marking the beginning of a new era in terms of their sound and style.