

... the "suitcase" got into cars, trains, planes and travelled (and it took me with it) all over the world. Unspeakable joy, concerts, music, new friends and suddenly ... pause. "It's the end of the world as we know it", and everything changed before we realize it. Having to stay inside the house, without being able to communicate, play live music, generally live. There's the opportunity to create. This is how "spicy Margarita" came to life. Music that was born during the lockdown. Some tracks we have already played live with the "drom", some were born during the quarantine, recorded and prepared, waiting to be played "live" like their older "brothers".

Many thanks to my musician friends and sound engineers who so lovingly gave a piece of themselves into my music. To Theodosii Spassov and Vlatko Stefanovski for the inspiration. To Giannis Papadimitriou who did the music arrangements in (1, 7, 13) and actually dressed the tracks in such a beautiful way, lending me his beautiful harmonious world. To my fellow travellers and friends, practically brothers from the "drom" (Christos, Giannis, Giotis, Vassilis) who have always been by my side in whatever I wanted to do, no matter how crazy. To Mario and Elias for the support – you know why guys! Finally, to my family and my Stella for the "light". Enjoy the record until we have the chance to play for you live.

**Thanos Stavridis**

...η «βαλίτσα» μπήκε σε αμάξια, τραίνα, αεροπλάνα και ταξίδεψε (και με ταξίδεψε) σ' όλο τον κόσμο. Χαρά ανείπωτη, συναυλίες, μουσικές, νέοι φίλοι και ξαφνικά... παύση. «It's the end of the world as we know it», κι όλα αλλάξαν πρώτου το καταλάβουμε. Κλεισμένοι μέσα στο σπίτι, χωρίς να μπορούμε να επικοινωνήσουμε, να παίζουμε μουσική live και ν' ανταλλάζουμε ενέργεια. Ευκαιρία για δημιουργία. Κάπως έτσι προέκυψε το "spicy Margarita". Μουσικές που φτιάχτηκαν στην περίοδο του lockdown. Κάποια κομμάτια ήδη τα παίζαμε live με τους drom, κάποια γεννήθηκαν στον εγκλεισμό, ηχογραφήθηκαν κι ετοιμάστηκαν περιμένοντας να παιχτούν κι αυτά "ζωντανά" όπως τα μεγαλύτερα "αδέρφια" τους.

Ευχαριστώ πολύ τους φίλους μουσικούς και ηχολόγητες που με τόση αγάπη βάλαν ένα κομμάτι απ' τον εαυτό τους στις μουσικές μου. Τον Theodosii Spassov και τον Vlatko Stefanovski για την έμπνευση. Τον Γιάννη Παπαδημητρίου που έκανε τις ενορχηστρώσεις στα (1, 7, 13) και ουσιαστικά έντυσε με τόσο όμορφο τρόπο τα κομμάτια δανειζοντάς μου τον όμορφο αρμονικό του κόσμο. Τους συνοδοιπόρους κι αδερφικούς φίλους drom (Χρήστο, Γιάννη, Γιώτη, Βασίλη) που πάντα είναι δίπλα μου σε ότι σκεφτώ, όσο τρελό κι αν είναι. Τον Μάριο και τον Ηλία για την στήριξη, ξέρετε εσείς! Τέλος την οικογένειά μου και την Στέλλα μου για το "φως". Καλή σας ακρόαση μέχρι να τα πούμε κι από κοντά.



"There are many accordion players in the Balkan region. But very few of them have the talent and vision to put together balkan music, classical music, jazz, pop and rock, into a very creative fusion. Thanos Stavridis is no doubt, one of them... It is not only the technique of his playing, but the finesse, and emotions that he puts into his work. I am pleased and privileged to be part of this album. Good luck, and enjoy playing and listening..."

**Vlatko Stefanovski**

In these times it is a wonderful feeling to hear nice music created from the depths of the soul. Music that makes you dream, that makes you feel like dancing and even flying, that fills your heart with pride that you belong to the world of the Balkans, the Aegean Sea, and even to Europe, India and America. I felt it all while listening to Thanos Stavridis' latest music album. It is very diverse in shades, influences and forms of expression, created with great aesthetic taste and musical niceness. It is an honor and privilege for me to participate as a kaval player in the play "1000 + 1 tales". Thank you so much Thanos for creating this wonderful musical adventure for the mind, soul and heart of the listeners and your fans! Good luck with your new album!

**Theodosii Spassov**

