

D O U N I A

(Palestine – Sicily)

Monkey Tour



Faisal Taher - vocals

Vincenzo Gangi - guitar and backing vocals

Giovanni Arena - doublebass and backing vocals

Riccardo Gerbino – percussions

Four musicians, from various artistic backgrounds, came together in 1996 and formed Dounia. The desire to explore more profoundly the panorama of the World Music began to evolve from their live appearances.

Considering the backgrounds and the ideals of the members, Dounia centre their musical project on a predominant acoustic base giving each individual instrument the privilege to express, through its own timbre, the fascination and suggestion which are part of the world, its traditions and the evolution of all of the musicians who are part of it. Dounia blends the peculiar middleoriental voice of Faisal Taher with a special amalgam of melodies, harmonies and rythms from all over the world.

The result exceeds any form of contamination creating Dounia's little world where, each sound is given importance, even a meagre chord. Thus causing a surge of emotion for the listener, letting them feel free in this open and interactive listening space: imagination.

Dounia have continued with their musical and artistic path, which is evident from the release of their first cd "New World" (Altrosud/il manifesto/Officina - 2001), and from their live concerts in Italy and abroad. On stage their performances are poetic and suggestive. They are a determined group with a clear vision, that is to produce music which reaches every single member of their audience. In concert, music is taken from "New World", the new album "The monkey", and from traditional middleoriental music but interpreted by the unique sound of Dounia. Dounia has succesfully taken part in various national and international festivals, as Rossini Opera Festival 2002, Pesaro (Italy); Womad 2001, Reading (UK); 2° World Music Festival, Belo Horizonte (Brasil); Womad 2000, Palermo (Italy). The group participates on the compilation "Mediterraneo" (PdM), "SilainFesta" (il Manifesto/AltroSud), and "Mastrarua" (Musica&suoni/RTI). They have composed music for theatre such as Antonio e Cleopatra, Medea, Che farai Frà Jacopone, Il mio nome è Caino (by the roman of Claudio Fava, and actually on tour), all directed by Ninni Bruschetta.

Two of their pieces form part of the soundtrack of the fiction film "Un'isola d'inverno", in which the group also appear and which was produced by RAI (italian national network television) and was directed by Gianluigi Calderoni. Their music is also used as a soundtrack for the film "In Casablanca Angels Don't Fly" (Morocco/Italy), by Mohamed Asli, presented at the 2004 Cannes Film Festival, in the 43th Cannes' International Critics Week. They are the producers of "Far lunari" (MM&b/World Music.) by Cecilia Pitino in wich they also play and composed most of the songs on the cd. Dounia with the Tunisian poet Moncef Ghachem performed a poetry readind "Dalle sponde del Mare Bianco" (From the shores of the White sea) recorded live on cd that accompanes the book, with the same title, edited by Mesogea.

Discography

Monkey - il manifesto 2005

Dalle sponde del mare bianco (with Moncef ghachem) - Mesogea 2003

New world – Altrosud/ il manifesto/ Officina 2001

Compilations

AA.VV – *Mediterraneo* – PdM 2004

AA.VV - *Disseminazioni - Silainfesta live* - Altrosud/ il manifesto 2000

AA.VV - *Mastrarua* - Musica&suoni/ RTI 1998

Pictures, video, bio, technical rider, mp3, etc. available on: <http://www.dellamore.it/dounia/>

DELL'AMORE MANAGEMENT