InterContinental Concerts

Inter-Continental Concerts (aka I.C.C) is a multicultural multimedia production organization that produces concert, music, motion pictures, music videos, short movies and other types of multimedia cultural products.

The organization’s name originates from the concept of “oneness and unification” proposed by co-founders of the project, as the orientation of their products is to represent the beauty of Love, Life and Peace through the medium of performing arts, motion pictures and Music. One of the key components of I.C.C is Diversity. The products of Inter-continental concerts are produced through participation of people from different continents with different nationalities. Therefore, the Organization was named Inter-Continental Concerts in order to magnify the commitment of the organization to its original goals. Shahed Mohseni Zonoozi and Sam Mosallaei Pour (aka Sam M. Pour) founded Inter-Continental Concerts in 2011 during their education years at Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU). They gathered a group of talented students from over 10 nationalities in order to produce themed multicultural musical programs. Later on, the domains of their activities was expanded to different types of cultural programs. Finally, Inter-Continental Concerts turned into a multicultural multimedia production organization, which is active in various genre of performing arts. Up until the present day, Inter-Continental Concerts has produced several live concerts, music albums, short movies and music videos with the participation of more than 120 people from over 22 nationalities.

The Journey

The journey is the title of the first official music album of I.C.C. This album is a representation of I.C.Cs fundamental desires, philosophy and prospects towards life.

In this album, a large variety of styles from different regions of the world are covered, therefore, listening to it, takes the listener into a geographical tour from Far East through Mediterranean Rim to Africa. On the other hand, a concept wise view over the contents of the pieces in this album reveals another type of journey, the spiritual one. This album is not only a musical product. It uses art and music to address important issues such as love, unity, peace, education, social concerns, geopolitical concerns and the whole nine yards. By this means, the name “Journey” points at two aspects of an evolution path (inner and exterior) that any human may take.

Production of this album was successful from the generous participation of a large number of people who cooperated in writing, creating, playing and producing the pieces. The album was recorded between 2011 to 2014 and post produced in 2015.

Welcome to The Journey …
Shahed Mohseni Zonoozi
Founder & Producer

(Aka Shahed M. Zonoozi, Born in 1986), is an Iranian composer and media producer. He displayed musical talent at a young age playing Santur at age 8. Soon after, he picked up a special interest into music composition and audio recording.

As a Maestro, he has recorded several patents and won various festival prizes for invention and innovation. Studying in a multi-cultural environment at North Cyprus and observing talented people from different nationalities with different cultural backgrounds, encouraged him to create and propose a media program designed in an artistic form to accommodate diverse skills and talents in the art. This initial idea was culminated in the establishment of Inter-Continental Concerts in 2011.

Production of album “The Journey”, is the outcome of his efforts in finding, gathering and cooperating with a large number of talented armatures and professionals at Eastern Mediterranean University from 2011 to 2015.
Album

1. The Cyprus Station 3:36
2. Eternal Love 4:49
3. Life (жизнь) 3:48
4. Persian Nowruz (نوروز پارسی) 3:08
5. Gale Eshgham (Гули ишкам) 3:58
6. Far Away 4:56
7. Power of Love 3:51
8. The Fellowship 6:35
9. My Life is Çok Güzel 3:40
10. Unrecognized Country 5:20
It is said that everything happens for a reason. If this saying is true, then living in Cyprus for Inter-Continental Concerts team has been one of those meaningful things. For the I.C.Cs members, this Island has been like a transit station that while nobody stays at it forever, still it provides them the chance of tasting the flavor of unity and see the beauty of diversity in the world through cooperating with other people, from different parts of the world and with different cultural backgrounds.

A great opportunity that however, is valid only for a limited period. This special situation of the island has influenced the life of I.C.Cs members dramatically. The Cyprus Station has provided the Inter-Continental Concerts team an incredible chance for joy, fun and maturity. The song “The Cyprus Station” is about this journey…
Eternal Love

All the planets
And all the stars
Having their axis
To rotate around
Look how they keep turning
This much strong
This is the meaning of
Eternal love

We live in a galaxy that is called “the Milky Way”. It’s called a barred spiral galaxy which means, it has a spiral shape with a bar of stars across its middle. This mass of stars, gas, planets and other objects are all spinning just like a pinwheel.

Scientists have mapped the spin. They examined spots where stars were forming and paid particular attention to those areas where gas molecules enhance radio emission. These areas shine brightly in radio waves. As Earth moves in its orbit, the shift of these molecules can be mapped against more distant objects. Measuring this shift shows how the entire galaxy rotates. Ergo, it is all very neat **, the Galaxy and all of planets in it, spine around their axes while they spine around their Sun.

This spine move exist in everything down to the molecular level and it is not only about the Milk Way, it is true for the whole universe. But what is the power that holds our rotating world together with such a great regularly?

The song Eternal Love suggests that, what makes and keeps the being as it is, is the existence of so-called eternal love which is the retentive for this regularity.
The song Life is addressing an important issue of our modern time; Perplexity of the human being. It points at this fact that we are responsible for building our own life in the way that serves best to our salvation path. It suggest that the key of success in this matter is to look inside ourselves and find out our dreams, believe in them and endeavor for making them come true. Only by then, the light inside our heart will be alive and lead us towards salvation and gratitude.

This song is a joint production of 3 artists; Shahed Mohseni Zonoozi and Salar Hamzei from Iran and Mana Musaeva from Kyrgyzstan written in Russian language. The amazing guitar solo is played by Salar Hamzei who wrote the melody of the song as well.
Persian Nowruz (نوروز پارسی)

An equinox is an astronomical event in which the imaginary plane of Earth's equator passes the center of the Sun. As a result, the northern and southern hemispheres are equally illuminated. There are two equinoxes every year, in March and September, when the Sun shines directly on the equator and the length of night and day are nearly equal. The equinoxes, along with solstices, are directly related to the seasons of the year. In the Northern Hemisphere, the vernal equinox (March 19, 20 or 21) conventionally marks the beginning of spring in most cultures.

The arrival of spring is called “Nowruz” in Iran, which means “the new day”. Nowruz that marks the first day of spring originated in Persia (Iran) in one of the capitals of the “Achaemenid empire”. This day is celebrated by the cultural region that came under Iranian influence and has been celebrated by people from diverse ethnic communities and religious backgrounds for thousands of years. It is a secular holiday for most celebrants and is enjoyed by people of different faiths, but remains a holy day for Zoroastrians.

The UN’s General Assembly in 2010 recognized the International Day of Nowruz, describing it as a spring festival of Persian origin, which has been celebrated for over 3,000 years. During the meeting of The Inter-governmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Heritage of the United Nations, held between 28 September – 2 October 2005, Nowruz was officially registered on the UNESCO List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.*

The song “Persian Nowruz” is composed in Persian 6/8 rhythm which is the rhythm for the happy Iranian pieces. Additionally “Santur” and “Zurna” which are original Iranian instruments are played in this song with a modern arrangement.

*Mahshid Alavi
Love exist everywhere, it knows no nationality and no geographical boundaries. “Gole Eshgham” is a love song from the northern part of Asia, an expression of Love with Tajiki language flavor which is composed in 6/8 rhythm. The song is a harmonic crossover between two variation of 6/8 rhythm, Tajiki 6/8 and Persian 6/8. The Persian lyrics of “Gole Eshgh” is sang with Tajiki dialect.
Far Away

Once upon a time
In a big town
In spring under the lovely sun
Oh, what a beautiful destiny
We faced for the first time
Long time I tried to reach you
The hardest I ever do
I could hear each of
My heart beats
Even when I was
Thinking of you
Yes, I fell in love
Oh, such a strength sense
Flames of feels was
Burning in my heart
By staring in your eyes
New horizons I saw
Only thinking of you
Imagine being with you
What was the awesome nights
Remember the evening
I spent my time with you
I wish time stopped
And cannot continue
The best ever hours of my life
Yeah, there was just me
And you by my side, Oh yeah
Beautiful eyes, beautiful face
Even now I fall with you again
Sweet smile sweet magic words
Which makes me fall for you
More and more
It was like a dream
The moments I spent with you
Not so long and now it’s all over
You’re gonna be so far away
But why should I carry
Just your memories now
Oh no, don’t leave me now
Don’t pass me by
I can’t stand with
The empty feeling of your touch
Why should I live by
Just dreaming of you
How I don’t watch your face
for rest of my life
I’m gonna lose my whole
But remember
I’ll come for finding you

The temporary residence in a place, as if you have to live a student life, has many aspects. One of them is facing an inevitable departure, among the people who have developed an attachment towards each other.

“Faraway” addresses this bitter fact, it narrates the story of those people who met in “Cyprus station” and developed an emotional attachment to one another. However, after this station, the destinations are different. Political issues, cultural issues, financial issues and even having a different goal, causes people to be departed from each other. This issue has definitely a strong impact on the people with this experience, although, the respond to it, is quite different depending on the personality and experience of them. This song is written upon a true story and describes one of these responses.
Power of Love

We are love
We are souls
We are glows of one shine
So, leave your desires and
See what brings for you your life

Happiness is all around
But why do you prefer not to see
All is yours, in your hands
But you prefer not to keep
Let’s leave your unreal thoughts
Darkness is just in our minds
Keep away, free your heart
We should be in touch
With the world around

We are living in the world of illusions. The illusions that are created from the systems that feed our minds. In our illusions, the reality that we observe is only our own interpretation of the external facts. But where is the truth? What are the answers to the ultimate questions?

The song “Power of Love” suggests that answers to these questions are in everything that faces us, we just need to stop the illusion that has covered our sights, then, the call can be heard and the truth behind the curtain will be revealed.

This song is the live recording of the Concert in 2013 with cooperation of the EMU choir. Live interaction of several nationalities on stage has reinforced the message of the song significantly.
The Fellowship

Sky fades and snow flakes fall
My memories flash
Like a shining sun
Best friends ever
Upon all the times
We were there from
Four corners of the world
We sang songs
We studied hard together
We shared a part of
Our heart together
Each of us with
Some uniquenesses
We built up our world together

“Nubi kyu” was our captain
In “Y,E,M,I” band the first of all

“Mazyn” is the strictest one
A real friend who backs you up
“Gizem” the one who
Studies hard
With warm smile
And a patient heart
“Emad”, “Nancy” happy twins
And “Ali” with his violin

“Mijo” is the brightest girl
Like a sunshine
Lights your world up
She’ll be your friend
An angle and keeper
She also loves Justin Bieber!
“Sabina” and “Behten”
In love for ever

They were meant to be
Always together
Not only best friends
But also best couple
They won’t leave you
Alone in troubles
“Ayesel” will come and
Hug you tight
Will always listen
And then cry
No need to know her
For a long
She is the best
The only one

“Mero” is beauty
Inside and out
A wife and a mother

The Fellowship of is the story of a couple of young men and women of BFF type who live and study in North Cyprus, as they navigate their way through life and learn to grow up as they approach their thirties. With the help of each other, they get through the obstacles that life naturally has for them. There is a strong connection between them but they don’t bick in each other’s life. Moreover, even though there is always fights and arguments between the friends, they never really break up and always make it back together. Anyone in this group has his/her own special type of character and personality and is famous for a property, such as wisdom, intelligence, artistic quality, being passionate etc.

The idea of the song was born by Sam M. Pour and Shahed M. Zonoozi upon one of the graduation-
We’re so proud  
Even far away for  
A thousand miles  
With only one message  
She will make you smile  
“Karine” is your friend for life  
Don’t even try to find  
Someone alike  
For you against the world  
She will stand  
She knows well  
What it means to be friend  
While I’m growing old  
I’ll keep thinking about you all  
Will remember how much  
We had fun  
You make me feel like

I am young  
“Shahid” never hard to find  
Curly hair and a big laptop  
Music, Media, singing songs  
King of stages in all festivals  
Canon and Apple for  
Graphic design  
Guitar and piano for  
Music awards  
His operation is now done cause  
He is finally hunted the ghazal!  

“Sam” is the one a kind  
In his eyes a true friend  
You will find  
With a heart which is

Pure and wise  
Will always help you  
With a piece of advice  
While I am growing old  
I’ll keep thinking about you all  
Will remember how much  
We had fun  
You make me feel like  
I am young

Ceremonies when most of their friends were about to graduate. They decided to create something that could be remained as an appreciation gift for all of them. For that reason, they asked everybody to describe his/her most favorite friend in his/her own words. Based on these descriptions, the lyrics of the song was written. In the lyrics, the period of life that they have spent together is described as well. In this song, for a better transmission of the feelings, depending on the personality description of a person, a specific harmony structure and orchestration was designed. In certain parts, when there has been some special type of connection between two people, their harmonic structure is identical. For “The Fellowship”, a short movie-music video entitled “The Fellowship of EMU”, with participation of friends, appearing in their own role at Cyprus, is directed in 2013.
My Life is Çok Güzel

Sun is rising everyday
I get down on my knees to pray
Things uncertain on this land
But still I forge out full of faith
Sometimes all I get is pain
Other times I get to gain

The road ahead
Not always straight
Still I find these words to say
My life is çok güzel
My life is çok güzel
Life is beautiful so so beautiful
Çok güzel, çok güzel, çok güzel

Every time you look around
See their faces with the frowns
People lower than the ground

Waiting for things turn around
Give a brother a helping hand
Make an Eden of this land
Çok güzel could be a trend
Send this message to a friend
My life is çok güzel
My life is çok güzel
Life is beautiful so so beautiful
Çok güzel, çok güzel, çok güzel

And if your life is çok güzel
Put your hands up
Even when the sea dries up
Mountain start to feel right up
We get life we get hope
We get ourselves a tomorrow
All we need are positives

“Çok Güzel” (chok (gouzal)), is a Turkish phrase meaning “Very Nice” or “Very Beautiful”. The official language in North Cyprus is Turkish, using the word “çok güzel” in this lyric is a tribute to the culture and community that provided the Inter-continental Concerts the existence opportunity.

This song is somehow the Inter-Continental Concerts point of view towards the daily life; our thinking affects our living, and associations and activities shape our thoughts. the urge to always surround ourselves with people that share this reasoning and find ways to get the most out of the rich association available in such communities. The song “My Life Çok Güzel” describes this philosophy in an excellent way.
The inter-communal violence in Cyprus finally led to the separation of the island into the north part and the south part. The South is controlled by the Republic of Cyprus, which is officially recognized by the international society. However, the North part, Turkish Republic of North Cyprus (TRNC) has not been that lucky; this part of Cyprus is only recognized by Turkey. As far as the rest of the world is concerned, the North is only an unrecognized region.

Previously in several cases it was mentioned that this so-called unrecognized country has had a great influence on the life of the people who have been living in it. The piece “Unrecognized Country” is here to send this message to the world that these people have a life in this unrecognized region, study here and can create all of this beautiful music to be heard by the rest of the world.
Musicians:

ACCORDION: Sefkai Sagajmer
BASS: Emmanuel Paul, Shahed Mohseni
DRUMS: Samson Tinj
ELECTRIC GUITAR: Babak Mahbaei, Emmanuel Oluga
ELECTRIC PIANO: Izaj David
FLUTE: Behzad Heidarshenas, Iqil Aapkic
GUITAR: Salar Hamzei, Shahed Mohseni
PIANO, SYNTHS & SANTUR: Shahed Mohseni
PERCUSSIONS: Ihsan Shafiee, Mehrdad Jadidzadeh, Okon Sadfoyi
VIOLIN: Sam Qaimari

BACK VOCALS: Aseel Kalybekova, Karina Nesterova, Rachael Odisami, Shedrack Peter

VOCALISTS (SONGS ORDER): Judith Okon, Shahed Mohseni, Shakhnoza Kurbanshoieva, Chinedu Anyiobi, Qais Nedal Rahal, Sam M. Pour, Mizhgona Pilodi, Nibi Kayode, Tambe Maria, Gais Roziu, Yasaman Behshad
CHOIR CONDUCTOR: Chidiebere Nwosu


RAP ARTISTS: Maria Musaeva, Olaniyi Teiti (DJ Java)

MUSIC COMPOSERS: Shahed Moliseni, “THE CYPRUS STATION” & “LIFE” SPANISH
GUITAR SOLOS BY: Salar Hamzei, “MY LIFE IS ÇOK GÜZEL” BY: Nubi Kayode


ARRANGEMENTS & ORCHESTRATION: Shahed Moliseni

Emmanuel Owoeye Oluga
RECORDING / MIX ENGINEER: Shahed Mohseni
GUITAR RECORDING FOR "UNRECOGNIZED COUNTRY" Parilla Records (Tehran) By Amir Tafrashi. MIXING OF "THE FELLOWSHIP" Art Studio (Shiraz) By Ashkan Changizi, Shahed Mohseni

SCRIPT WRITERS: Sam M. Pour, Shahed Mohseni

RUSSIAN & TAJIK LANGUAGE CONSULTANT: Bazhan Rostamov

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Amir Hesarakhi, Baris Kemal Krik, Burak Derabasi, Nogman Ghavampazadeh, Nami Almohamed, Sara Hosseini, Shahed Mohseni

PRODUCED BY: Shahed Mohseni Zonoozi 2011 to 2015, Famagusta, Northern Cyprus
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The following resources are used in some of the definitions, which are given in this booklet:

* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nowruz
** http://www.universetoday.com