

Armenian Variety Show



NEWSLETTER:
ISSUE 4
February 2010

ARMENIAN RADIO HOUR REACHING ALL ARMENIANS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
EVERY TUESDAY BETWEEN 6 AND 7 PM ON VANCOUVER COOP RADIO CFRO
102.7 FM OR ONLINE AT WWW.COOPRADIO.ORG

Our Best Albums of Year 2009



Vagharshapat
ARA GEVORGYAN



Heartbeat of My Land
ANOUSH & INGA



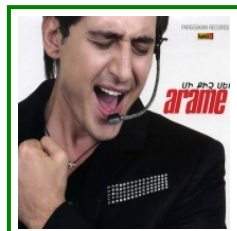
Tak Tak
JOSEPH KRİKORIAN



You Are the Best
TATA SIMONYAN



Comeback My Darling
HASKIK LEYLOYAN



Mi Qich Ser
ARAME



The Road
ARMENCHIK

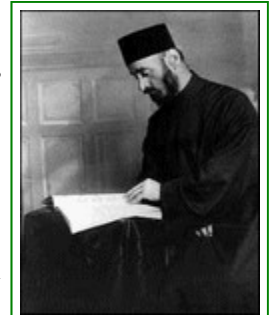


Acheris Nayir
GARO GABOUDAGIAN



Very Best of
SILVA HAKOBYAN

Gomidas Vartabed (1869-1935): He was one of the most renowned Armenian Churchmen and musician of modern times. He was born as Soghomon Soghomonian in Kutahya. His life had an interesting turn of events, when at the age of eleven, he was orphaned, and at a young age he was sent to a Seminary in Etchmiadzin to study. Because of his singing prowess, he decided to teach music at the Seminary after he completed his studies. Soghomon was ordained a Priest or “Vartabed” and assumed his new name Gomidas. He learned a great deal of music from the monks and continued to study music with the famous composer Kara-Mourza, which eventually led him into both secular and religious music. Gomidas studied music in Germany, and in 1896, was awarded a doctorate degree in musicology. He later returned to Etchmiadzin as a choir director. Gomidas wrote over 3000 songs in Armenian, Arabic, Kurdish, and Persian. His main contribution was to rediscover Armenian folk music. He spent years traveling throughout the provinces and visiting many villages listening to native songs and dances, and making notes of them for further analysis. His work in arranging and collating the folk music he had collected over the years eventually became excellent songs for chorus music, and made the public aware of the existence of true Armenian music. In addition, he arranged the entire music of the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Church, for male voices. He was the first non-European to be a member of the International Music Society. Gomidas performed concerts in Paris, Geneva, Berne, Constantinople, Venice, and Alexandria. In the spring of 1915, during the imprisonment of leaders of the Armenian community, Gomidas too was taken into custody. Through the efforts of Henry Morgenthau, Ambassador from the United States of America, and the Turkish poet Mehmet Emin Yurdakul, who admired his work, Gomidas was released. After the 1915 massacres of the Armenian people by the Turks, he succumbed to mental and physical anguish and never fully recovered. The revered holy man died in Paris in 1935 in a mental hospital. One year after his death his ashes were transferred to Yerevan. Gomidas Vartabed is considered one of the immortals of the Armenian Church and Nation and is remembered in the minds and hearts of Armenians. The Armenian Variety Show had a special program about Gomidas on December 1, 2009 to celebrate the composer’s 140th birth anniversary.



IF YOU MISS ANY SHOW, GO TO WWW.ACABC.CA AND LISTEN TO THE
ARCHIVED PROGRAM

Artists of the Newsletter: Inga and Anush Arshakyan

Anush Arshakyan was born on December 24, 1980 in Yerevan. She studied and graduated from S. Aslamazyan music school, class of piano. In 1994, she gained the first place and was awarded audience prize in "Sonorous voices" competition that took place in Omsk city. In this period, she started promoting her activity as composer/author. Later on, her creations had great success. As soon as she graduated from the music school, she entered and graduated A. Babajanyan Music College, class of piano. In 1999, she made her debut as a soloist together with Armenia State Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus. In 2005, she graduated from Yerevan State Conservatory, jazz-vocal class. **Inga Arshakyan** was born on March 18, 1982, in Yerevan. She also graduated from S. Aslamazyan music school and A. Babajanyan music college, class of violin in 1997. In 1998, Inga joined her sister and together they promoted their activities as duet singers. She entered Yerevan State Conservatory, jazz vocal class and graduated in 2005. In 2000, Inga and Anush entered State Song Theater of Armenia. Both of them performed national and ethnic songs and toured different cities in Armenia. In September 2002, they left for US for a concert tour. After the concerts at "Alex" Theatre in Los Angeles, the sisters immediately got an offer to appear on the same stage with solo concerts. Since then, they held many concerts in many countries. In 2003, their first album "*We and our Mountains*" was released. Their second album "*Tamzara*" was released in 2006 that won several awards. The Arshakyan were chosen by the Armenian public in Feb 2009, to represent the country at the Eurovision Song Contest 2009 to be held in Moscow, Russia, with the song "*Jan Jan*". The song successfully won a place in the Eurovision final, winning one of ten spots. Finally, Inga and Anush's third studio album "*Heartbeat of my Land*" was released in 2009. The album's single *Menq Enq Mer Sarerê*, was selected as the 2009 song for the annual Armenian Telethon.



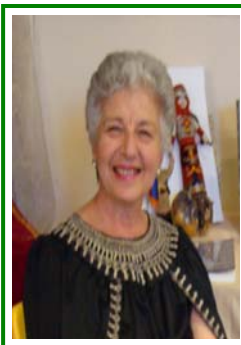
The Armenian Variety Show is a bilingual program in Armenian and English where you can listen to great selection of Armenian music, talks about Armenian literature, history and culture, coverage of major Armenian news, interviews with guests from the community & announcements of local Armenian events!

Our Recent Guests on the Program



Tineke Van Geel

The Armenian dance instructor from the Netherlands was on the Show to talk about her Armenian dance workshops



Nadia Hamian

Was on the Program to talk about the fundraising auction event in order to buy gifts for orphans in Armenia



Father Gabriel De Chadarevian

The Armenian Priest from Vancouver was on the Show to talk about his life and mission as a Catholic priest



Lori Kullahian

This four years old talented girl was a guest on the Christmas Show. She was amazing with her songs, prayers and poems



This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of the Armenian soprano singer **Seta Zarifian** from Vancouver

Fall 2009 Membership Drive

✓ Armenian Cultural Association of BC	\$500	✓ Teghararian Anna & Hovan Lucy	\$50
✓ St. Gregory Armenian Church	\$100	✓ Yaghdjian Koko & Astra	\$50
✓ St. Vartan Armenian Church	\$100	✓ Ashjian Koko & Hrip	\$30
✓ Jesswein Sophia & Lindsey	\$100	✓ Bedrossian Vahakn & Sona	\$25
✓ Tossonian Razmig & Azniv	\$100	✓ Demirdjian Isgouhi	\$25
✓ Anonymous Donation	\$100	✓ Koundakjian Sona	\$25
✓ ACYOC	\$50	✓ Petrossian Eddis & Cathy	\$25
✓ Der Hagopian Hagop & Gareen	\$50	✓ Teghararian Antranig	\$25
✓ Hamian Jacques & Nadia	\$50	✓ Anonymous Donation	\$20
✓ Papazian Eddie & Donna	\$50	✓ Sarkissian Serpouhi	\$20
		✓ Tchakedjian Rubina & Taleen	\$20



The Armenian Variety Show and the newsletter are proudly sponsored by the Armenian Cultural Association of British Columbia.

For your announcements and suggestions you can contact the programmer: **Dr. Harout Tossonian**; Phone: 604-240-8513; Email: htossonian@yahoo.ca