

«Buffet-Type Tunes and Practices of Music and Dance in Crete

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Abstract

This paper deals with the «buffet-type» tunes and options, problems and new perspectives on practices of music and dance in Crete. The analysis was based on emic and etic analysis of ethnographic material (1998-2008). The “buffet-type” tunes are characterized by different stages of improvisation. They have different structure every time a lyre-player or a violin-player plays the tune. “Cell-structure”-tunes can be proved an indicator of societies’ changes. The “buffet-type” tunes are characterized by freedom and restrictions at the same time the societies they produce these tunes are characterized by freedom and strict rules, as well. How do the practices of music and dance can change music and these tunes? The buffet-type tunes can be an indicator of social changes. Which is the role of the “codes” and the re-composition of music in the context of the different villages and towns of Crete?

Keywords: “buffet-type tunes”, “performance”, music practices, dance practices, «signs» and codes, ethnographic research, music-idioms.