

POPULAR MUSIC

GREECE

PO-GR1 Greece 1969

ΝΥΧΤΕΡΙΔΕΣ ΚΙ ΑΡΑΧΝΕΣ

(BATS AND SPIDERS)

Popular – Vocal

Mus: Stelios KASANTZIDIS & Hr. NIKOLOPOULOU

Lyr: Kosta NIRVOU

Perf: Stelios **KAZANTZIDIS** (vocal)
(with orchestra)

Prod. Co: Minos Records; Athens, Greece

Time: 3:08

1. Original Single **45:**

Odeon (?)

2. Reissue **45:** (Title: ΝΥΧΤΕΡΙΔΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΡΑΧΝΕΣ)

Standard STR 7001

Flip Sd: ΔΕΝ ΜΟΥΔΕΙΞΑΝ ΛΙΓΗ ΣΤΟΡΓΗ

3. Original **LP:** ΚΑΖΑΝΤΖΙΑΔΗΣ – Νυχτερίδες κι αράχνες (1974)

Margophone MARGO 8069

12" 33rpm (Sd 1 – Bd 1)

4. Reissue on compilation **LP:** ΚΑΖΑΝΤΖΙΑΔΗΣ– 15 ΜΕΓΑΛΕΣ ΕΠΙΤΥΧΙΕΣ (1982)

Minos MSM 422

12" 33rpm (Sd 1 – Bd 1)

5. Reissue **CD:** ΚΑΖΑΝΤΖΙΑΔΗΣ – Νυχτερίδες κι αράχνες

Minos – EMI 7243 8 34439 2 5 (Tk 1)

6. Reissue on compilation **CD:** Στέλιος ΚΑΖΑΝΤΖΙΑΔΗΣ– 15 ΜΕΓΑΛΕΣ ΕΠΙΤΥΧΙΕΣ

(Stelios Kazantzidis – 15 Great Hits)

Minos 7243 8 34826 2 7 (Tk 1)

Notes: A very popular song in the late 60s by one of Greece's most popular and famous singers. It tells of melancholic longing as a man returns to an abandoned empty house to find only "bats and spiders." The chorus runs –

Chauve-souris et araignée, ma douce

On consruit un nid

Dans notre maison déserte et vide

Pendant que tu es loin, tu manque ici.

He calls for his loved one to return into his arms, as he suffers, and not to deny him.

À mon ombre, je demande chaque nuit

Si jamais je vais te voir

Pour que tu donnes de la joie dans ma vie

Et stimule mon coeur.

Bats and spiders, my gentle ones,

Have built a nest

In our deserted and empty house

While you are far away, absent from here.

To my shadow I ask every night,

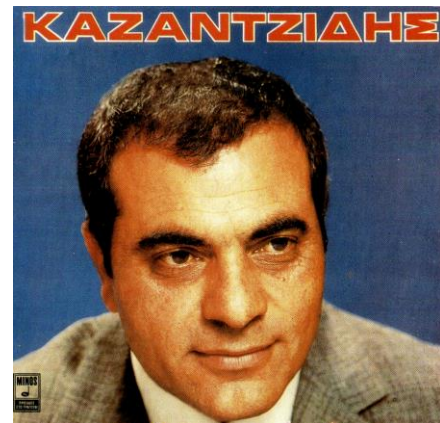
If ever I go to see you,

That you give joy to my life

And stir my heart.

In Greek mythology, bats and shadows have a certain correlation with death. The Greek word "nykterida" (*bat*) can be broken down into two words that metaphorically can mean "night life," with slightly macabre overtones.

Kazantzidis became a legendary popular singer in Greece, especially among poor people. During the 1950s and 60s, his fame grew from his songs that recounted the sorrows of the working classes. This was



a troubled period in Greek history and many young people were leaving the country to work elsewhere. When Kazantzidis died in Sept. 2001 one only had to be in Greece to see how much he was loved.

Ref: Anon., Πανελληνια, ΦΩΣ, 15 Sept. 2001, p. 1 & 2

Anon., Stelios Kazantzidis, music legend, dies; *Kathimerini*, Sept. 15-16, 2001, p. 1 & 7

Antomakou, Danaé 2004, Transcription and Translation of lyrics to French, 1 Dec 2004, Boulogne sur Seine

Stelios Kazantzidis 1931-2001, Biography, [Stelios Kazantzidis blogspot](#)

Stelios Kazantzidis, ΝΥΧΤΕΡΙΔΕΣ ΚΙ ΑΡΑΧΝΕΣ, [Music Bazaar](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

PO-GR2 Greece 2005

ΣΠΗΛΙΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΡΑΚΟΥ (SPILIA TOU DRAKOU) * (GROTTE DU DRAGON)

Popular – Vocal & Instrumental

Comp: Malamas DE YANNIS MELISSIDIS or Foteini LAMBRIDIS

Perf: Sokratis **MALAMAS** (vocal)

Babis Papadopoulos (guitar)

Yorgos Christianakis (synthesizer)

Dimitri Baslam (bass)

Alexis Apostolaki (percussions)

Prod. Co: Lyra

Time: 5:04

CD: TO ADEIO DOMATIO (EMPTY ROOM)

Lyra CD 5004 (Tk 10)

Notes: The singer, Sokratis Malamas, lives in Thessalonica.

The Dragon Cave referred to by the title could be any one of at least three Greek caves: the Drakou Cave near Piraeus (celebrated in Yiorgos Batis' rebetiko song – see [WD-GR-REB7](#)) or the Dragon Cave near Vathi on the Isle of Astypalea in the Aegean Sea (Dodecanese Province) over 80 kms off the coast of Turkey. But most likely it is the Cave of the Dragon (Spilia tou Drakou) at Kastoria, some 140 kms west of Thessalonica in northern Greece. This show cave extends for over 500 meters and has a few small lakes that are on the same level as Lake Kastoria. (Petrochilou 1984)

A complete audio sample had a dramatic synth melody and slow, steady beat with short stanzas in a foreboding mood and crash cymbals during bridges. No transcript of the lyrics was found.

Ref: Anon. 2009, Dragon's Cave in Kastoria, Athens News Agency, [hri.org/news](#)

Cave of the Dragon, Kastoria, Discovery & History, [spilaiodrakoukast.gr](#)

Petrochilou, Anna 1984, *The Greek Caves*, Ekdotike Athenon S.A., Athens, p. 143-144

Sokratis Malamas, Biography, [Wikipedia](#)

Sokratis Malamas, To adeio domato, Bibliography (in French), [pagesperso-orange.fr](#)

Sokratis Malamas, To adeio domato, Spilia tou Drakou, [deezer.com/fr](#) (◀COMPLETE AUDIO SAMPLE)



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