



The L.R.B. "Νυχτες Μαγικες" was formed in February 2008 by Andrew Liondaris, Andrew Theodorou and Nicos Tsiakollas in order to rediscover our musical roots. We realized that there was a musical 'gap' that people were no longer satisfied with this diet of 'pop' music they were listening to. People were saying "Modern Greek music doesn't satisfy us-we need to hear Bouzouki.

For far too long the Greek and Cypriot community have been presented with a mixture of 'pop' sounds and influences which have moved so far away from our musical roots that it can no longer be regarded as "Greek" music, but as western 'pop' with Greek words. These influences have not only effected Greek music but musics from around the world in fact it is sometimes very difficult to distinguish any particular type of music from anywhere except by the language in which it is being sung, so here we are with a pan-cosmic 'Eurovision' style of music that no longer represents the cultural and musical heritage of any one ethnic group!

Faced with an ever widening divide we started to listen again to the music that made us decide to learn to play the Bouzouki, for there was something in this music that effected us all to the core. We listened again to Tsitsanis, Papaioannou, Mitsakis, Vamvakaris. We watched Costas Ferris' film "REMBETIKO" We re-discovered the Channel 4 documentary and the 1980's Greek t.v. series "Minore Tis Avghis". Then there was Anthony Quinns own 1970's documentary on the subject, in fact the more we got into it the more we got out of it. We then heard about a pub owned by Greek Cypriots in the heart of the community, made some enquiries and it has now become the LRB's base where we rehearse every Monday. A few phone calls to interested parties and we had a core of around seven members turn up on our first Monday session and with each passing week the band soon grew to twenty + members each dedicated to re- creating the sound and atmosphere of Rembetika and Classika Laika that made Greek music GREAT.

The L.R.B. is available not only for concerts and paid functions but prides itself on the fact that we are happy to play at 'Charity' events in order to put back into the community what the community has given to us over the years and we look forwards to presenting the story of Rembetika through our concerts and gigs as there is a wonderful heritage for us all to explore together. It belongs to all of us and we would like to take you all on this journey of re-discovery.

L.R.B.