

The "Semitic Suite"

by A. U. Ben-Zion

This work was written in 1945, and is perhaps the inaugurating work of an Israeli style of music, or an "Eastern Mediterranean idiom" of music. It isn't folklore but, at most a "folk-like imaginative

Rhythm, ~~and~~ short melismas

and "instrumental ornaments

~~on~~ on one side, and an almost

complete lack of homophony or

polyphony on the other side

are the main features of this

music: It is then monophony

in its heterophonic form.

The "Semitic Suite" is an "out-door-music", basically a pastoral

20112
1/21/2011
VI 116 P 100.1
2003

The "Semitic Suite"

by A. N. Ben-Zion

This work was written in 1945, and is perhaps the inaugurating work of an Israeli style of music or an "Eastern Mediterranean idiom" of music. It isn't folklore but, at most a "folk-like imaginative Rhythm, ~~and~~ short melismas and instrumental ornaments ~~on~~ on one side, and an almost complete lack of homophony or polyphony on the other side are the main features of this music. It is then monophony in its heterophonic form.

The "Semitic Suite" is an "out-dance-music", basically a pastoral in variations, but an andalucian

pastorale and not that in the
baroque-sense of the term.
The parts of the "Penitential Suite"
are:

prelude,
"higgayon" (meditation)
"Amainigal" (folk-dance-provenance)
"pastorale" (God's Landscape),

toccata,
"Hodayal" (thank ^{praise} giving dance)

The "Penitential Suite" original
version is for grand orchestra;
there is a 4 hands on one
piano-version, and
a 4 hands on two pianos.

A. U. Benveniste