

1. paris 5:18
2. tel aviv 4:47
3. buenos aires 7:43
4. vienna 4:51
5. manhattan 4:33
6. scarborough 10:03
7. moscow 6:13
8. somewhere in italy 6:38
9. berlin 2:00

Gilad Atzmon: alto & soprano saxophone; clarinet; accordion & vocals.

Frank Harrison: piano; Fender Rhodes; harmonium; synthesizer; glockenspiel & vocals.

Yaron Stavi: double bass & vocals.

Eddie Hick: drums & vocals

All music composed by Gilad Atzmon except Scarborough Fair (traditional).

Recorded at Eastcote Studio, London 30 September– 2 October 2012 by Philip Bagenal

Assistant engineer Joel Davis, mixed by Philip Bagenal and George Murphy, mastered by Andrew Tulloch at The Blue Studio, London.

Band photos: Tali Atzmon, Album design: Jenni Doggett

Gilad Atzmon plays Selmer Paris Alto Reference 54, Morgan Fry mouthpieces and Marca Reeds.

www.gilad.co.uk

www.myspace.com

[giladatzmon Facebook](#)

gilad atzmon & the orient house ensemble ***songs of the metropolis***

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* Gilad will be embarking on a 40 date UK tour Jan 2013 to promote *Songs of the Metropolis* <http://www.gilad.co.uk/live/>

* The Orient House Ensemble celebrate their 13th year as a working band. *Songs of the Metropolis* is their 7th album to date

* The 'hardest working band in jazz' are constantly touring internationally

* *Songs of the Metropolis* celebrates Gilad & the Orient House Ensemble's lyrical musicality and demonstrates the strength and depth of their song writing

* Gilad's best selling book *The Wandering Who?* published in 2012, is now available in 10 different languages

* The film *Gilad And All That Jazz: a documentary about Gilad's life and music* by film maker Golriz Kolahi was voted Winner of the Best Feature Documentary, Logan Film Festival 2012

* Gilad has also recorded with Robert Wyatt, the Waterboys and many others including, as a member of the Blockheads: Ian Dury, Robbie Williams, Sinead O'Connor and Paul McCartney.

* Gilad was described by Robert Wyatt as the best musician in the world today in a 2009 Guardian feature

SONGS OF THE METROPOLIS

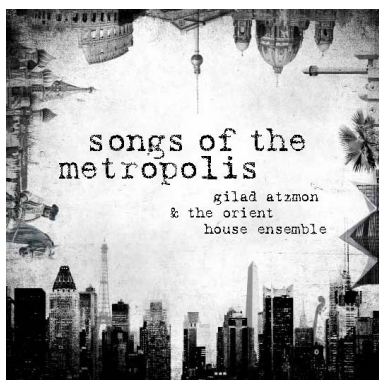
Once upon a time and actually not that long ago, our cities conveyed some meaning, they were a unique reflection of ourselves: they were home to our thoughts, ideas and yearnings.

When we were young, our cities belonged to us: their colours were our shades, their smells our scents; but more than anything else, their sounds were our songs. Each city had a melody, a resonance, a bell, an instrument, a voice. This album is a pursuit of the sound of the city. It is an attempt to find that magic instant where melodic texture evokes familiar feelings, when a harmonic shift brings you home, when a crescendo conjures memories of a kiss, when a glissando flies the American to Paris.

Now, our planet weeps. Beauty is perhaps the last true form of spiritual resistance. The song is there to counter detachment and alienation. Let us start with the song of the metropolis, the songs of our cities.

Paris, in the name of love; Tel Aviv, the birth of the tragedy; Buenos Aires, for the pathos; Vienna, for the charm of sweetness; Manhattan, in loving memory of America; Scarborough, as opposed to London; Moscow, in honour of greatness; Berlin, as a farewell to productivity; Somewhere in Italy but not too far from home.

Gilad Atzmon



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Gilad Atzmon was born in Israel in 1963 and had his musical training at the Rubin Academy of Music, Jerusalem (Composition and Jazz). As a multi-instrumentalist he plays Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Baritone Saxes, Clarinet and Flutes. His album Exile was the BBC jazz album of the year in 2003. He has been described by John Lewis on the Guardian as the "hardest-gigging man in British jazz". His albums, of which he has recorded 14 to date, often explore political themes and the music of the Middle East.

Until 1994 he was a producer-arranger for various Israeli dance & rock projects, performing in Europe and the USA playing ethnic music as well as Rock 'n' Roll and Jazz.

Coming to the UK in 1994, Atzmon revived an interest in playing the music of the Middle East, North Africa and Eastern Europe that had been in the back of his mind for years. In 2000 he founded the Orient House Ensemble in London and started re-defining his own roots in the light of his emerging political awareness. Since then the Orient House Ensemble has toured all over the world. The Ensemble includes Eddie Hick on Drums, Yaron Stavi on Bass and Frank Harrison on piano & electronics.

Also, being a prolific writer, Atzmon's essays are widely published. His novels 'Guide to the Perplexed' and 'My One And Only Love' have been translated into 24 languages. Gilad's latest book, The Wandering Who? is a study of Jewish Identity political identity.

The film 'Gilad And All That Jazz': a documentary about Gilad's life and music by film maker Golriz Kolahi was released in 2012 and voted Winner of the Best Feature Documentary, Logan Film Festival.

Over the years Gilad Atzmon's music has moved more and more towards a cultural hybrid. As a bandleader and reed player he has been amazing his listeners with a powerful personal style that combines great bebop artistry and Middle-Eastern roots in a sophisticated, sometimes ironical manner. Influenced by Coltrane's powerful approach on the sax, Gilad's live performances are simply breathtaking and overwhelming.

"Atzmon's fluid lyricism is in full flow on songbook classics and worldly originals. But as sweet romance morphs to modernist uncertainty, the bittersweet balance and rich emotional palette equally impress." Financial Times *** March 2009**

It's a typically riotous mix of oompah music-hall cavortings, slurred-pitch Middle Eastern rhapsodising, luxuriously sensuous clarinet love-songs, and stormy collective blasts reminiscent of the 1960s John Coltrane quartet. ** John Fordham, Guardian 2011**

"Like the best of albums" Jazzwise ** March 2009**

"Atzmon always manages to tell a story" Uncut ** March 2009**

"...one of the most exciting small groups on the European scene." BBC Music Magazine 2011

Where does Gilad Atzmon find the time?...This month he's behind the dreamlike Robert Wyatt collaboration For The Ghost Within and this blistering, beautiful set...a multicultural balm of Gilad to soothe all aching souls. * Andrew Male, MOJO 2011**

"Another top notch saxophone-led set...by the prodigiously talented Gilad Atzmon and his band...By turns provocative, wistful and pugnacious, it bristles with intrepid invention and convincingly demonstrates that Atzmon's definitely at the top of his game right now." ** Record Collector, Christmas 2010**