NATIONAL HELLENIC MUSEUM



OBJECT ID	2012.9.2
OBJECT NAME	Photograph
OBJECT COLLECTION	Spiros Safrithis Collection (is part of)
DATE CREATED	1913 – 1929
OBJECT ENTITIES	Safrithis, Spiros (is related to) Safrithis, Spiro (is related to) Robertson, Christina (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	liturgical liturgical music Music

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

A photograph of the orchestry put together by donor's grandfather, Spiros Safrithis between 1913 and 1929.

Photograph is black and white, and in relatively poor shape having been ripped down the middle and taped back together. There are also torn edges and corners on th eleft, top, and bottom sides, a smaller crease 1/2 way down the right 1/2 of the photograph, and various stains and splotches scattered throughout. There is a photographers's seal in the bottom-right corner of the picture.

Donor's grandfater, Spiros Safrithis, is seated dead center, first row, holding the baton.

ORIGIN

Spiros Safrithis came to the US from Greece in 1912 as a self-taught musician and composer of choral music.

He originally arrived in Washington D.C. where he pioneered a new style of liturgical music wich incorporated polyphonic aspects. For this he was branded a "heretic" and barred from playing in many choir orchestras.

However, over the years, his style gained acceptance and he traveled to Baltimore, Jacksonville, Florida, St. Louis, New York, and Chicago to train and lead Greek Orthodox choirs.

Spiros Safrithis passed away in Chicago, in 1938, at the age of 57.

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CITATION

Photograph, 1913 – 1929, Spiros Safrithis Collection, *National Hellenic Museum*, https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/. Accessed 11/10/26.