



OBJECT ID	2012.9.4
OBJECT NAME	Photograph
OBJECT COLLECTION	Spiros Saffrithis Collection (is part of)
OBJECT ENTITIES	Saffrithis, Spiros (is related to) Saffrithis, Spiro (is related to) Robertson, Christina (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	liturgical liturgical music Music

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

A photograph of donor's grandfather, Spiros Saffrithis, seated on a table, holding a guitar. Photograph is in relatively good condition with only minor stains on the left and bottom areas, and no rips or tears.

ORIGIN

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

CITATION

Photograph, Spiros Saffrithis Collection, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 04/27/24.
