

## Michalis Lanitis

Graduate of the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports Science of the Athens University (T.E.F.A.A)

Dance teacher of National Folk Dances (Specialist in Cypriot and Greek Dances)

President of the Cyprus Committee of the International Council of Folklore Groups (IGF)

Vice President of the Cyprus Committee of the International Organization of Folk Art (IOV)

Vice President of 'DIONYSOS' Cultural Dancing Association

Vice President of the International Committee of Folklore Groups (IGF)

Member of the Europeade international Committee (IEC)

Member of the Greek Dances Archive (Company dedicated to Research, Study and Promote Greek Folk Dances)

Partner of the International Organization of Folk Art-Greece (D.O.L.T)

Cyprus Representative of the European Folk Art Organization (EFCO)

### Michalis Lanitis - Curriculum Vitae

Michalis Lanitis was born in June 1967 in the town of Limassol, Cyprus.

From a very young age he gets involved with traditional dances, and is devoted to them until today – still passionate and willing to learn even more.

He studied at the Faculty of Physical Education and Sport Science of the Athens University (**T.E.F.A.A**), receiving his Specialist Diploma in Folk Dances with distinction. He also received a Diploma with distinction in Physiotherapy Massaging. Returning to Cyprus he undertakes initiatives as Dance Teacher at 'DIONYSOS' Cultural Dancing Association.

He is Vice President of 'DIONYSOS' Cultural Dancing Association and of the Cyprus Committee of the International Organization of Folk Art (IOV). He is partners with the International Committee of Folk Art – Greece and a member of the Greek Dances Archive (Company dedicated to Research, Study and Promote Greek Folk Dances). He is also a member of the International Committee of the Europeade (IEC). He is President of the Cyprus Committee of IGF and Vice President worldwide (International Council of Folklore Groups).

He takes part in various seminars in Cyprus and abroad, either as an observer or as a teacher. He has taken part in numerous events such as banquets, lectures and meetings both as a dancer and as a speaker. He has organized large events in cooperation with various supporters of his valuable work. As a member of the Organizing Committee, he has been the artistic director of the 6 Euromediterranean Folk Dance Festival organized by the Limassol Municipality.

He collaborates with the 'DIASTASIS' Cultural Group on a regular basis giving performances both in Cyprus and abroad.

As a dancer he had the chance to earn many prizes and honorable mentions from all around the world.

Today, he teaches the Greek culture to over 200 children of different ages, always using older reliable sources as examples in an effort to pass on the genuine form of expression to the new generation, in a trial to preserve our rich cultural treasure. In

addition he gives performances with Dionysos main dancing group, which is made up of 80 adult dancers, in Cyprus and abroad always with great success.

**He believes that his aim in preserving and promoting our genuine cultural heritage is a perfect function, from the moment that excitement, specialized knowledge, organization and experience is present.**

**December 1, 2012 in the cultural capital of Europe Guimaraes (Portugal), a solemn ceremony of the World "Oscar Folklore 2012."**

**"Folk Award - the highest award in the field. It is awarded for the preservation of folk heritage and active in folk art. Those who are not words but deeds proving a real commitment to folklore!" - Said president of the association. One of the recipients in the list is representative of our country in the International Folklore Association IGF Vice President, Michalis LANITIS.**