

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies

Lecture

**Collecting Music, Collecting Life Stories:
The Cypriot Fiddler Project**

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In this presentation I will discuss “The Cypriot Fiddler” project, my attempt to record the stories of Cyprus’s last surviving traditional fiddlers both in writing and in a documentary. I will focus on what musicians’ life stories can tell us about the music and society we are looking at, and about the importance of letting musicians tell their own story, in their own words. Finally, I will show extracts from *The Cypriot Fiddler* documentary, released in April 2016, and made possible with funds entirely collected through an online crowd-sourcing campaign.

Nicoletta Demetriou is Research Fellow in Ethnomusicology and Life Writing at Wolfson College, University of Oxford, and Tutor in Narrative Non-Fiction at Oxford’s M.St. Program in Creative Writing. She is currently a Fulbright teaching and research fellow at Stockton University. She has written on Cypriot traditional music, its history and historiography, and is co-editor, with Jim Samson, of *Music in Cyprus* (Routledge 2015). “The Cypriot Fiddler” project was funded by a British Academy/Leverhulme Trust Small Research Grant. In 2015, the project was chosen by the British Academy as a case study, and was profiled on the Academy’s blog.

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

4:30 p.m.

Scheide Caldwell House, Room 103

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