



Toasaves **Zwerver**

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Style	World Music / Orient

Toasaves is a Belgian music collective with a fascination for archaic Flemish folk songs and their relationship to early music and Eastern music. Toasaves is written phonetically and means “home ports” in the Antwerp dialect. The band was founded in early 2021 by oud player and artistic director Tristan Driessens. It brings together nine musicians from Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Turkey and Cyprus, each with a broad artistic background and expertise.

On the first album “Zwerver” (wanderer in Dutch), Toasaves starts from the compositions and the ‘Groot Liedboek’ by Wannes van de Velde (1937-2008), the singer-songwriter who blew new life into the oldest surviving ballads and litanies in his home port of Antwerp. Tristan Driessens wrote new arrangements of both anonymous medieval songs and original work by Van de Velde. It goes without saying that an eclectic dialogue with the East, which runs like a red thread through Driessens' career, was not missing. It ties in with the nomadic spirit and openness of Wannes van de Velde, and reveals and reinforces the primal power of the early music repertoires.

The Toasaves' exceptionally rich and rare set of instruments fulfills a connecting function. Thanks to virtuoso performances on traditional instruments from East and West – Medieval flutes, drums, cisterns and fiddles, Oriental violin, Turkish lutes (lavta and 'ūd) and frame drums (daf, bendir, pandero cuadrado), hurdy-gurdy, Flemish and Irish bagpipes, Indian dilruba and bansuri, Afghan rebab, Persian santur, ... – new light is shed on the actual source of musical traditions that, separated in time and space, often contain the same poetic and musical secrets. Starting from the folk repertoire of Wannes van de Velde, the travelling companions surprise us by mixing it with early music, traditional dance music from the Greek islands, classical court music (makam) from Istanbul and even folk music from Afghanistan.

Miembro del grupo

Dick van der Harst	bodhran, pandero cuadrado, tambourine, bells and sticks
Driessens, Tristan	'ūd, lavta, vocals, arrangements, artistic direction
Eugénie De Mey	vocals
Harald Bauweraerts	hurdy gurdy, vocals
Michaël Grébil Liberg	bow cistre, Corsican cetera, Medieval lute, fiddle, Afghan reb
Michalis Kouloumis	violin
Miriam Encinas Laffitte	dilruba, recorders, fiddle, daf, pandero cuadrado, bendir, san
Pierre Hamon	Medieval flutes, tambourin, bansuri
Raphaël De Cock	vocals, flemish bagpipes, uilleann pipes, mouth harp

Tracklist

1. Als ik zou sterven

07:17

	M: Wannes van de Velde	
2.	Sanderjon en de boerin	03:48
	M: Wannes van de Velde	
3.	La Tierche Estampie Roial	02:50
	M: Anonymous, France (13th century)	
4.	De Zwerver	05:31
	M: Wannes van de Velde	
5.	Het Regent Zeer	04:45
	M: trad	
6.	Het Daghet In Den Oosten	03:39
	M: trad	
7.	't Zoud een meiske gaan om wyn	06:03
	M: trad	
8.	Ik sta al jaren in de regen	07:59
	M: Wannes van de Velde	
9.	Romance de Isabel	04:20
	M: trad	
10.	Belicha Istanpitta	05:30
	M: Anonymous: Firenze, 14th century	
11.	Onder de Lindeboom Groene	03:50
	M: trad	
12.	Cypriotische dans	01:36
	M: trad	