

Malouf
Traditional Tunisian Music

Tunisian Arabic transcript:

في الليل سهريّة العود يعني الملوّف لغنيّ التونسيّ التقليديّ آآ الملوّف الاكثريّة في لمدينة العربيّ. كتقول لمدينة العربيّ تقول يعني... الروح لقديمة في تونس، الفنّ لقديم مش آآ يعني مش كيما الفنّ لجديد تهو ألي طالع كله متأثر ب آآ كلمات آآ مصريّة و الحان مصريّة. يعني تقول فنّ تونسيّ، فنّ تونسيّ آآ الملوّف عنده جذور آآ تركية بما انه الامبراطورية العثمانية تعادت و خلّت اثرها في تونس. الملوّف هو من احد الاشياء ألي خلّتها الامبراطورية العثمانية في تونس و متزج بالروح التونسية... المزيج كان رائع يعني تقول... الملوّف تقول لغنيّ التقليديّ، لغنيّ لقديم مش الشعبيّ طبعاً، الملوّف.

English Transcript:

At night, there is the typical Tunisian party with traditional Tunisian music, which is for the most part *malouf*. If you say the Old City, you talk about the old spirit of Tunis and the old music – not like the new form of music, which is influenced by Egyptian lyrics and rhythms. In this case, if you say Tunisian music, it is Tunisian music. *Malouf* has Turkish roots because the Ottoman Empire had influence on Tunisia and *malouf* is one of the things left from the Ottoman Empire. It then mixed with the Tunisian spirit and this mixture was great. If you say “*malouf*,” you speak of the old and traditional songs and obviously not the popular ones.

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