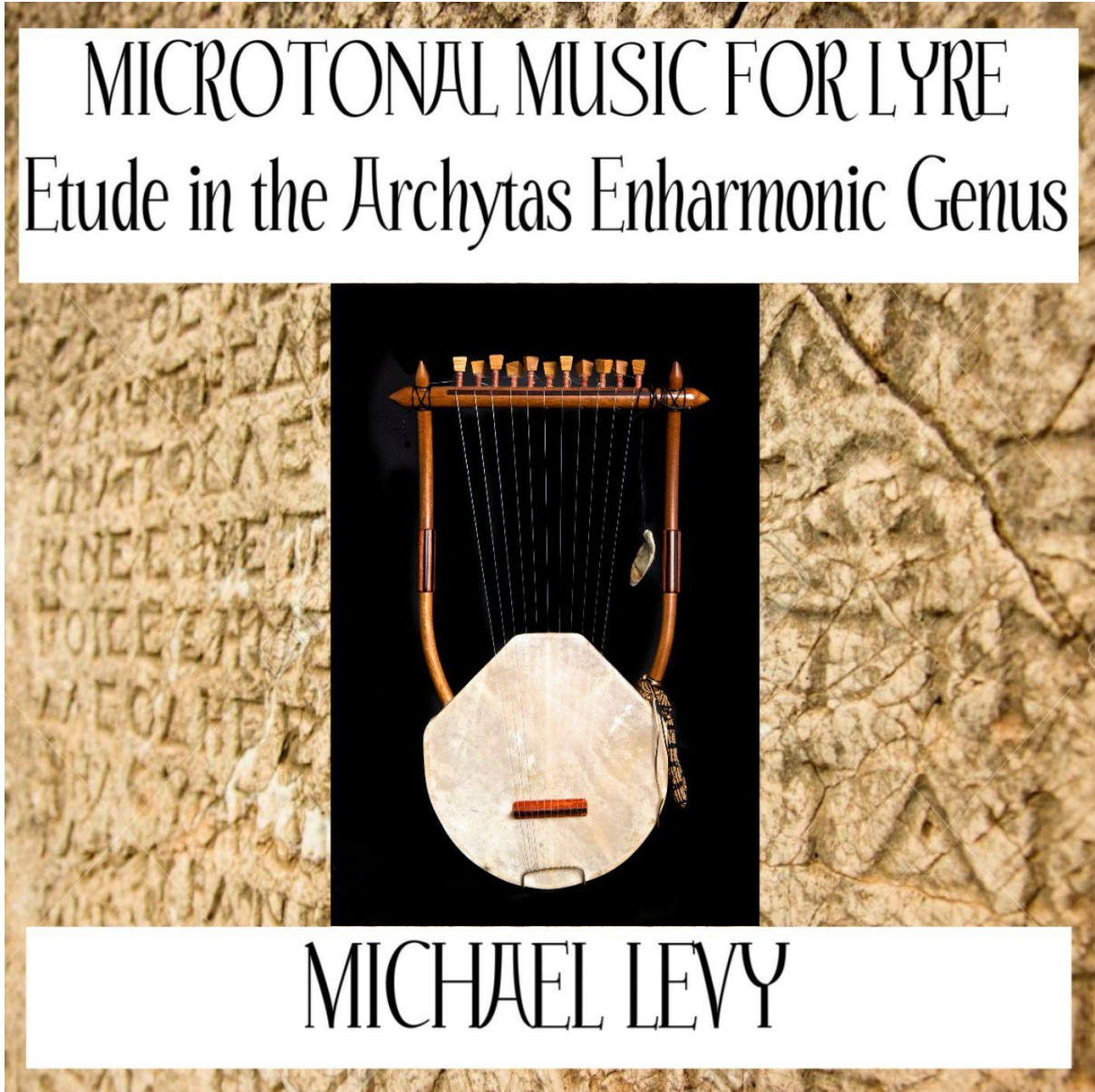


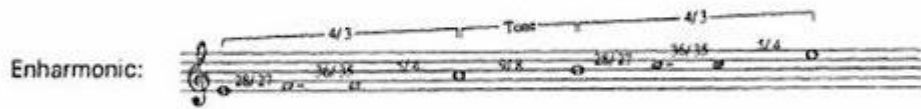
**MICROTONAL MUSIC FOR LYRE
(ETUDE IN THE ARCHYTAS ENHARMONIC GENUS)**

MICROTONAL MUSIC FOR LYRE
Etude in the Archytas Enharmonic Genus



MICHAEL LEVY

This single features a completely spontaneous improvisation for solo replica [ancient Greek chelys \(tortoise shell form\) lyre](#) based on a hauntingly evocative documented microtonal scale from ancient Greece, known as the "*Archytas Enharmonic Genus*":



www.ex-tempore.org/ARCHYTAS/ARCHYTAS.html

The use of quarter tones in this ancient Greek scale adds an intensity to the resulting music improvised in it in an entirely different dimension to the artificial constraints of our monotonously standardized 12 note chromatic system. The feeling of intensity in this microtonal scale is further enhanced by the authentic use of the clearly focused intervals, tuned here in [just intonation](#).

The lyre I am playing is a replica ancient Greek chelys (tortoise shell form of lyre) - the "*Lyre of Apollo III*", hand-made in modern Greece by [Luthieros](#):

en.luthieros.com/product/the-lyre-of-apollo-iii-ancient-greek-lyre-chelys-11-strings-top-quality-handcrafted-musical-instrument



In this improvisation, I also demonstrate the rhythmic potential of the reconstructed tortoise shell form lyre by using the greater mass of my replica ancient Greek carved bone plectrum to also occasionally beat rhythm on the skin soundboard; in much the same manner that acoustic guitarists today can

beat rhythm on the soundboard of their guitars whilst they play:



I sincerely hope that Apollo would approve of my effects to bring both his lyre and his long-forgotten ancient Greek musical scales new life!
