

# FRAGILITY OF GOODNESS



**MUSIC  
WORTH  
SHARING**

## Vox Musica

*Daniel I. Paulson, founder/music director*

Beatnik Studios - Sacramento - Feb. 29, 2020

Beatnik Studios - Sacramento - Mar. 1, 2020

## behind the music

In planning our concert for the new 2020 year, we were drawn to the striking and sometimes eclectic musical elements of the Balkans and Caucasus regions: unusual modalities, dissonance and close harmonies, vocal placement and ornaments, complex rhythms, and unique choral arrangements. What we also found was a deep love of country, of community, and a strength in women's singing that is passionate in the arts and culture of these regions. Perhaps it is because these places have experienced some of the most devastating and tragic events in history—World War I and II; Holocaust; Armenian, Georgian, and Serbian genocides; and recent wars and unrest. People in the midst of these events communicated their stories, often secretly, through writing, singing, and art in an effort to be heard. More recently poets, musicians, and artists have emerged to revitalize old and new stories, adding their own creative elements and artistry. This unique music incorporates stories we can relate to now: the fragility of love, of trust, of peace, of goodness...how fragile we are.

Women's singing and choral music of Bulgaria have become a worldwide cult following, sparked by the impact in the mid-1980s of the first album of *Le Mystère Des Voix Bulgares* (The Mystery of Bulgarian Voices). The group was well-named. Part catalyst and part beneficiary of the world music movement at that time, the origins of the album are still shrouded in mystery. So, too, is the route by which the disc ended up a massive best-seller in Britain in 1986 and later in the U.S., a decade after its original release in Switzerland. Today, four albums later of *Le Mystère Des Voix Bulgares* and emergence of offshoot groups continue to transport and hook listeners, old and new. Their music and singing have been described as "timeless."

Polyphonic songs are perhaps the most extraordinary contribution to world heritage that Georgia has to offer. Against all odds, these ancient songs have survived and outlived the influence of the many conquering civilizations that have ruled over Georgia, including 70 years of communism. Today, Georgian singing continues to accompany every aspect of life, from work in the fields to funeral wakes, from weddings to baptisms; its polyphonic singing is recognized worldwide as a unique and exceptional non-Western musical form. In 2001 UNESCO declared Georgian polyphonic singing to be a "Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity." A Georgian polyphonic song was included on the Golden Record as an example of the finest musical achievements of human culture, launched into space on the Voyager Spacecraft in 1977.

## organization

### VOX MUSICA

1017 L Street, # 333 • Sacramento, CA 95814  
www.VoxMusica.net • 916.844.2586 • Info@VoxMusica.net

Founder/Music Director: **Daniel I. Paulson**

Front of House Manager: **Rachel Warner** • Production Manager: **Spencer Timmons**

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**Vox Musica** was founded in 2006 in a niche of untapped potential in Sacramento's budding classical music scene. Vox Musica is committed to excellence in performance of diverse and challenging choral literature for women's voices and is dedicated to promoting new works, including many premieres and commissioned works. Through collaborations with composers, conductors, choirs, and musicians from around the world, Vox Musica's featured concert projects have included collected works from the 18th century Venetian Ospedali; music from India, Persia, and Georgia; a concert project for Taiko Drums and Women's Choir; a concert project for DJ and Women's Choir; and a concert project for looping violin and Women's Choir. Vox Musica has released one compact disc and has been a featured artist for both the prestigious Old First Concert Series in San Francisco and the American Choral Directors Association's 2011 National Convention in Chicago, IL. More recently, Vox Musica was selected as the recipient of the 2015-16 American Society of Composers and Publishers (ASCAP) National Award for Adventurous Programming.

*"The recent arrival of the choir Vox Musica to the Sacramento music scene is also indicative of the talent moving into the area that highly values new music."*

- American Music Center, 2007

*"The singers and conductor Daniel Paulson threw down a breathtaking performance of my Three Nightsongs."*

- Joshua Shank, 2008

*"The ensemble breathed refreshing life into three contemporary arrangements of a 15th-century hymn 'Es Ist Ein Ros Entsprungen'."*

- Sacramento Bee, 2010

*"The music was effectively built from a hushed austerity to the more complex and Vox Musica drove us through the terrain with excellent taste and powerful emotion."*

- Sacramento Choral Calendar, 2015

*"Vox Musica undertakes the performance of insanely difficult music and does so successfully, time and again."*

- Sacramento Choral Calendar, 2017

**Arunima Kohli**, *soprano I*

**Samantha Harrison**, *soprano I*

**Rebekah Steiner**, *soprano I*

**Mira Huang**, *soprano I*

**Tabitha Lewis**, *soprano II*

**Marielle Petricevich**, *soprano II*

**Laura McLellan**, *soprano II*

**Allison Proffitt**, *alto I*

**Ema Gluckmann**, *alto I*

**Erin Brothers**, *alto I*

**Jennifer Crawford**, *alto II*

**Cat Fithian**, *alto II*

**Kate Kalthoff**, *alto II*

## founder/director

**Daniel I. Paulson**, founder & music director, holds a Bachelor of Music degree in voice performance from Sacramento State University, a Masters of Music Degree in Choral Conducting from the Three-Summer Masters of Music degree program at California State University, Los Angeles, and is a Doctoral student in Music Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. He has been a featured conductor on the *International Festival of New American Music* in Sacramento, CA, the *Old First Concert Series* in San Francisco, CA, and the *American Choral Directors Association's 2011 National Convention* in Chicago, IL. He is a student of Dr. William Belan, Professor Emeritus of Choral Studies at California State University, Los Angeles, and Donald Brinegar, Professor Emeritus of Choral Studies at Pasadena City College and former Adjunct Professor of Graduate Choral Conducting at the University of Southern California. His extended education includes studying early music with the Western Wind Ensemble, the King's Singers, and at the 2013 American Bach Soloist's Summer Academy. He was a featured presenter at the 2013 Sacramento TEDx Conference and spent the summer of 2014 teaching Choral/Vocal music at the University of Costa Rica. He is Professor of Voice and Choral Music at Sacramento City College, is a resident artist with the Tahoe Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, and serves as Founder & Music Director for Vox Musica.



*"Paulson has proved himself to be an astute programmer. He's not afraid of taking chances."*

- Sacramento Bee, 2007

*"Paulson coaxed a multi-layered sound from the singers, whose mysterious dimensions were delicately revealed."*

- Sacramento Bee, 2010

*"Paulson's 'Silent Night' was the most perfect rendition that I could ever imagine."*

- Sacramento Choral Calendar, 2017

*"Paulson consistently produces programs that thoughtfully translate and provide context for the cerebral music they tackle."*

- Sacramento Choral Calendar, 2018

# IS OUR MUSIC WORTH SHARING?

This season we are asking you to take an active role in the growth of our organization. There are plenty of opportunities for your talents and skills to be utilized:

**BOARDSHIP, FUNDRAISING,  
MARKETING, & SOCIAL MEDIA**

are some areas in which you can be of service.

Contact us today if you can help!

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## Collaborating Ensemble

Inspired by traditional Balkan folk singing, music, and dance, **Zado Eastern European Vocal Ensemble** is a Sacramento-based singing group performing traditional and contemporary arrangements of international folk songs, particularly those from the Balkans and Caucasus. Its mission is to educate and inspire others about the beauty, complexity, styles, and intimacy of the music; to research, record, and preserve high-quality international folk songs; and to present programs, recordings, and new art forms that feature contemporary expressions with unique folk harmonies and rhythms. Zado celebrates the splendor of the human voice, the cultural roots of the music, and the strength and intimacy of small group singing with a current goal of expanding its women's ensemble. Zado endeavors to inspire others to treasure their own heritage and traditions as well as those of others. **VOCALISTS: Barbara Bevan, Catherine Green, Roxanne Moger, Pat Moore-Pickett, Teresa Stahl, and Jan Volkoff (Director).**



Eastern European Vocal Ensemble

ZADO

To learn more or join Zado visit: [www.zadosings.org](http://www.zadosings.org)

## Guest Artists



**Tzvetanka Varimezova** was born in Bulgaria and received a B.A. degree in choral conducting and folk instrument pedagogy from the Academy of Music and Dance in Plovdiv. During the 1980s she directed the choir of a regional professional ensemble of folk song and dance in the town of Pazardzhik, Bulgaria. During the 1990s she was a soloist, teacher, and assistant choral director for a number of professional women's choirs in Sofia, including the National Ensemble Filip Kutev, Ensemble Trace-Plovdiv, Les Grandes Voix Bulgares, Cosmic Voices, and Trio Bojura. She has many solo recordings to her name and is well-known for the brilliant high-pitched tone quality of her voice and her interpretations of the highly ornamented songs from her native Pazardzhik-Thrace region.



**Ivan Varimezov** was born in Bulgaria and received a B.A. degree in folk instrument performance and ensemble conducting from the Academy of Music and Dance in Plovdiv. Raised in the traditions of his native region of Strandzha, he is one of the most outstanding gaida (bagpipe) players of his generation, and he has many solo recordings and awards to his name. During the 1980s Varimezov was the director of the instrumental ensemble of a regional professional ensemble of folk song and dance in the town of Pazardzhik. During the 1990s he moved to Sofia to become the soloist with the orchestra of folk instruments at Radio and Television Sofia, a position occupied for twenty-five years by his famous uncle, Kostadin Varimezov.



**Arunima Kohli**, *soprano*, is thrilled to be returning for her second season with Vox Musica. Her love for choral music sparked during her high school years at Palo Alto High School, and continued through her undergraduate and medical school career at Stanford University, where she sang and toured with the Stanford Chamber Chorale for seven years. She also studied voice with Amy Schneider and Wendy Hillhouse, presenting five vocal recitals, and was heavily involved with the Stanford Light Opera Company (formerly the Stanford Savoyards). She is one of the founding members of the Bay Area's Convivium Choir, under the direction of Eric Tuan. Arunima is currently in her third and final year of her Family Medicine Residency at UC Davis.

**Rebekah Steiner**, *soprano*, has been singing since before she could talk! Being raised in a musical family, Rebekah started playing piano at age five and fell in love with choral singing at age seven. She continued to sing in choir as well as perform in musical theatre productions, and Rebekah graduated from University of the Pacific with a degree in Music Therapy and a minor in Psychology. She is currently working as a music therapist for VITAS Healthcare serving people on hospice. When not singing, Rebekah enjoys painting, hiking, and playing with her dog! This is her second season with Vox Musica.



**Samantha Harrison**, *soprano*, is a graduate of Boston University where she received her Master's in Historical Performance. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from CSU Stanislaus. Along with studying and performing opera, Samantha has a passion for choral and chamber music. She has performed with the CSU Stanislaus Chamber Singers and Concert Chorale, and the Early Music Chamber groups and Graduate Vocal Ensemble of Boston University. As an avid recitalist, Samantha performs collaborative recitals regularly throughout California.

**Mira Huang**, *soprano*, just completed her undergraduate degrees in Vocal Performance, Psychology, and English at UC Davis. Mira loves both early and modern music, and especially enjoys attempting to sing while accompanying herself on viola da gamba. She was the first vocalist to win the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition in over a decade and is also the 2018 recipient of the Carol Lee Coss Memorial Scholarship, UC Davis' only school-wide award dedicated to those in the arts. When she is not singing or teaching, Mira enjoys writing young-adult fiction, and has been honored with several short story publications.



**Tabitha Lewis**, *soprano*, is a recent transplant to the Sacramento area. Formerly, she served as Lecturer of Voice and Theory at Georgia College and State University. A frequent performer, she has performed opera roles, oratorios, and recitals spanning wide musical variety. In 2017, she was honored to be a Marc and Eva Stern Fellow at SongFest in Los Angeles, where she performed the world premiere of Juliana Hall's cycle *When the South Wind Sings* (the topic of her doctoral dissertation). A frequent collaborator with composers, she has worked with Libby Larsen, Bernard Rands, Dominick DiOrio, and countless student composers. She made her directorial debut in 2017 with the Bloomington University Gilbert and Sullivan Society's production of *Patience*. Lewis holds a DM and an MM from Indiana University and a BM from Wheaton College (Wheaton, Ill.). Learn more about her at <https://www.tabithalewissoprano.com>.



**Laura McLellan**, *soprano*, is delighted to be singing amidst such talented peers in her third season with Vox. A Boston-bred Canadian American, Laura was lucky to be raised under exceptional batons, singing in choirs and playing the violin in orchestras from an early age. After receiving a degree in Environmental Studies from Brown University, she heeded the call of the West and found herself, happily, working for the State Water Resources Control Board. When she is not working or singing, Laura can be found on the water, rowing with the River City Rowing Club.

**Marielle Petricevich**, *soprano*, is excited for her second season with Vox! As a professional singer, she sings in and around the greater Sacramento area — in addition to Vox Musica, she sings with the Modesto Jazz Duo which takes a neo-classical approach to traditional jazz standards. She also maintains a regular recording studio appointment with PureJoyful Music, an entity focused on recording newly composed pieces for children's chorus, and four part acapella works. In 2018, in association with *Staatliche Hochschule für Musik, Trossingen*, she studied German Opera, History, and Vocal Pedagogy which rekindled her passion for professional singing.



**Emma Gluckmann**, *alto*, is excited to be starting her fifth season singing with Vox! While completing her B.S. in Biological Sciences with a minor in Spanish she sang with the University Chorus at UC Davis. Many years later she sang with the UC Davis alumni choir. Emma has sung with various local choirs and has even performed in some local musical theater. Her primary choral experience has been with the Congregation B'nai Israel Choir for the past 36 years! When not singing, Ms. Gluckmann's day job as a high school chemistry teacher keeps her quite busy.



**Allison Proffitt**, *alto*, is honored to be performing in her first season with Vox Musica. A native of Downers Grove, Illinois, she began her musical education at age 8 in the local children's choir. After singing in her middle and high school choirs, Allison joined the UC Davis Early Music Ensemble, where she discovered her love of oratorio. While living abroad, she performed with the prestigious Amici Musicae choirs in Zaragoza, Spain. She holds a B.S. in Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior from UC Davis. When she is not singing, Allison loves exploring redwood forests, practicing her Spanish, and dancing.

**Erin Brothers**, *alto*, is singing in her seventh season with Vox Musica and is an inaugural member of the group. Erin has been involved in music for longer than she can remember, playing and singing in various bands and choirs. She received degrees in both Music and Psychology from McMurry University in Abilene, TX. Currently she is the Director of Music Ministry at Dixon United Methodist Church. Her husband, Jeremiah is also a great musician and together they are raising a rock band, The Brothers Brothers: Eamon, Kellan and Garrett.



**Cat Fithian**, *alto*, caught the performance bug when she sang a solo at church camp at the age of 2. Since then she's sung in various choirs and in storytimes at the public library where she's enjoyed a long career. When not singing in Vox, Cat is the Vice Chair of the Board of Uplift People of Elk Grove, a non-profit that builds community around people working to pull themselves out of poverty. This is Cat's fourth season with Vox.

**Jennifer Crawford**, *alto*, is honored to be in her thirteenth season with Vox Musica. Her musical upbringing includes singing in church, school and community choirs, as well as playing flute, oboe, and piano in concert bands, jazz ensembles, and woodwind quartets throughout her school career. When not singing, Jennifer can be found writing computer code, fostering kittens, or knitting.



**Kate Kalthoff**, *alto*, is new to Sacramento and is thrilled to be singing in her first season with Vox. Kate began her musical career studying piano and violin but her first love has always been voice. While working on her degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Kate became the lead singer and musical arranger for a blues/pop/rock band and for more than 20 years was headlining at some of that city's most notable stages and clubs. After moving to Lake Tahoe, Kate joined Toccata Symphony and Chorus and was part of their 2017 tour in Salzburg, Vienna and Prague.



14<sup>th</sup> concert  
SEASON

# VOX MUSICA

## BRITTEN & RUTTER:

A VOX CHRISTMAS

Sunday, **DEC 15**

5:00pm concert

Beatnik Studios (Sacramento)

Monday, **DEC 16**

7:00pm concert

Beatnik Studios (Sacramento)

## FRAGILITY OF GOODNESS:

A CONCERT OF BALKAN MUSIC

Saturday, **FEB 29**

7:00pm concert

Beatnik Studios (Sacramento)

Sunday, **MAR 1**

5:00pm concert

Beatnik Studios (Sacramento)

## KATHERINE JOHNSON:

HER LIFE TOLD THROUGH MUSIC & NARRATION

Saturday, **MAY 30**

7:00pm concert

Beatnik Studios (Sacramento)

Sunday, **MAY 31**

5:00pm concert

Beatnik Studios (Sacramento)

## XEVENTS:

THE RIMSKY-KORSAKOV STRING QUARTET

Monday, **OCT 21**

7:00pm concert

Beatnik Studios (Sacramento)

Sunday, **APR 5**

5:00pm concert

Beatnik Studios (Sacramento)

[WWW.VOXMUSICA.NET](http://WWW.VOXMUSICA.NET)

**I. Dumaj Zlato** ( Думай, Злато )

Pirin region, Bulgaria (Traditional, arranged by Filip Kutev)

LOVE

**II. Gorice Sitna Zelena** ( Горице ситна зелена )

Rhodope region, Bulgaria (Traditional)

FREEDOM

**III. Što Si Goro** ( Що си, горо, повяхнала )

Pazardžik region, Bulgaria (Traditional, arranged by Filip Kutev)

PEACE

**IV. Trendafilčeto, Karamfilčeto**

(Трендафилчето, Карамфилчето)

Shope region, Bulgaria (Traditional, arranged by Nikolai Kaufman)

KINDNESS

**V. Znaeš Li, Janke** ( Знаеш ли Янке )

Strandzha region, Bulgaria (Traditional)

RESPECT

*Folk Music with Ivan & Tzvetanka*

**IX. Ergen Deda** ( Ерген деда )

Shope region, Bulgaria (Traditional arranged by Petar Liondev)

LAUGHTER

*Intermission*

**X. Batonebo** ( ბატონებო )

Guria region, Georgia (Traditional)

GENTLENESS

**XI. Exercise No. 1** ( ეგზერსისი 1 )

**Chorale** ( ქორალი )

Guria region, Georgia (composed by Ioseb Kechakmadze)

HARMONY

**XII. Sadats Vshobilvar** ( სადაც ვშობილვარ )

Guria region, Georgia (Traditional)

HOME

**XIII. Ia Patonepi** ( ია პატნეფი )

Samegrelo region, Georgia (Traditional)

CHILDHOOD

**XIV. Nanila** ( ნანილა )

Svaneti region, Georgia (Traditional)

CARING

**XV. Kirialesa** ( კირიალესა )

Samegrelo region, Georgia (Traditional)

PATIENCE  
& COMMUNITY

**XVI. Barem Sa Ergen, Mamo Nahodih**

( Барем са ерген, мамо, находих )

Dobrudža region, Bulgaria

(Traditional, Tzvetanka Varimezova, arranger and soloist)

FAMILY  
& JOY

**XVII. Shen Khar Venakhi** ( შენ ხარ ვენახი )

Kartli-Kakheti region, Georgia (Traditional)

LOVE,  
JOY & HOPE

## I. Dumaj Zlato ( Думай, Злато )

Pirin region, Bulgaria  
(Traditional, arranged by Filip Kutev)

**Filip Kutev** (Bulgarian: Филип Кутев), often anglicized "Philip Koutev," (1903 – 1982), was a Bulgarian composer, arranger, and music director. Born in eastern Bulgaria, he had a lifelong dream to bring his country's folklore tradition to the stage. He grew up studying music and later directed several choirs. In 1951, he and his wife, Maria Kuteva, founded Bulgaria's first professional, state supported ensemble, the State Ensemble for Folk Song and Dance, also known as the Filip Kutev Ensemble. He established the ensemble with the goal to integrate the rich heritage of Bulgarian folk singing with traditional dance music and created arrangements with harmonies that highlight beautiful vocal timbres and irregular rhythms. His style of arranging folk songs by fusing those traditional elements with western classical forms and harmonies pioneered a new Bulgarian choral tradition that became popular worldwide. His choir was one of four that appeared on the album *Le Mystère des Voix Bulgares, Volume Two*, which won a Grammy Award in 1989. **Dumaj Zlato** is based on a Bulgarian folk song about a young man's efforts to marry his sweetheart. The young man is talking to Zlata, who he is in love with.

### Transliteration:

*I dumaj Zlato du*  
*I mori dumaj na majkya si*  
*I teb na men dadat*  
*I mori teb na men da dadat*

*I dumala sŭm lu*  
*I mori dumala sŭm mlado*  
*I na majkya na tat-*  
*I mori na majkya na tatko*

*I men na teb ne da*  
*I mori men na teb ne davat*  
*I oti si siro*  
*I mori oti si si siromah*

*I na gurbet ke idam Zlato*  
*I mori pari ke spechelam*  
*I dumaj Zlato, dumaj Zlato*  
*I mori dumaj na majkyasi*  
*Zlato...*

### Translation:

Tell her, Zlata,  
Tell your mother  
Convince her  
To let you marry me.

I have spoken,  
Crazy young man,  
To my mother  
And to my father

But they won't  
Give me to you,  
Because  
You are too poor.

I will go far away, Zlata,  
And earn money.  
Tell her, Zlata,  
Tell your mother,  
Zlata...

### Cyrillic:

И думай, Злато, ду-,  
И мори, думай на макия си,  
И теб на мен да да-,  
И мори, теб на мен да дадат.

И думала съм, лу-,  
И мори, думаласъм, младо,  
И на макия на та-,  
И мори, на макия на татко.

И мен на теб не да-,  
И мори, мен на теб не дават.  
И оти си сиро-,  
И оти си сиромях.

И на гурбет ќе и дам, Злато,  
И мори, пари ќе спечелам.  
И думай, Злато, думай Злато  
И мори, думай на макия си.  
Злато

## III. Gorice Sitna Zelena ( Горице ситна зелена )

Rhodope region, Bulgaria  
(Traditional)

**Gorice Sitna Zelena** is sung as a solo, accompanied by the Bulgarian gaida. A gaida is a bagpipe typically played in Balkan and southeastern European countries (e.g., Bulgaria, Macedonia, Greece, Albania, Croatia, Serbia, Turkey, Slovakia). There are two types of gaida in

Bulgaria: A kaba gaida is the large, deep-sounding Bulgarian bagpipe played in the Rhodope mountain region and has a hexagonal and rounded drone. A dzhura gaida is the smaller, higher-pitched Bulgarian bagpipe played throughout Bulgaria and has a straight, conical drone.

**Transliteration:**

*Gorice sitna zelena  
češmice skoro gradena.  
Ja sa na tebe veruvah  
pâk ti si bila neverna.  
Pâk te ma v tebe fatiha  
v tebe ma rezilj storiha.  
Nahzadj mi râki vârza  
napreš mi pâten kazaha,  
ta ma v temnica vkaraha  
da broja devet godini.*

**Translation:**

Oh, dear forest,  
delicate and green,  
I trusted you,  
but you were unfaithful to me.  
I was captured,  
oh forest.  
They tied my hands  
behind my back  
And they made me look  
at the road ahead.

**Cyrillic:**

Горице ситна зелена  
чешмице скоро градена.  
Я са на тебе верувах  
пък ти си била неверна.  
Пък те ма в тебе фатиха  
в тебе ма резиль сториха.  
Нахзадъ ми ръки вързаха  
напреш ми пътен казаха,  
та ма в темница вкараха  
да броя девет години.

### III. Što Si Goro (Що си, горо, повяхнала)

Pazardžik region, Bulgaria  
(Traditional, arranged by Filip Kutev)

**Što Si Goro** describes the terrible toll of war by the invading Ottoman Turks. The history of Ottoman Bulgaria spans nearly 500 years, from the conquest by the Ottoman Empire of the smaller kingdoms emerging from the disintegrating Second Bulgarian Empire in the late 14th century, to the Liberation of Bulgaria in 1878. As a result of the Russo-Turkish War (1877–1878), the Principality of Bulgaria, a self-governing Ottoman vassal state that was functionally independent, was created. In 1885 the autonomous province of Eastern Rumelia came under the control of the Bulgarian Tsar. Bulgaria declared independence in 1908.

**Transliteration:**

*Što si goro povjahnala,  
Goro le, goro,  
Povjahnala posârnala?  
Dal te slana oslanilo  
Goro le, goro zelena?  
Il te požar požarilo,  
Goro le, goro zelena?*

**Translation:**

Why have your leaves wilted,  
My forest, have wilted,  
Why did you fade?  
Did frost cover you  
My forest, green forest?  
Or did fire destroy you  
My forest, green forest?

**Cyrillic:**

Що си горо повяхнала,  
Горо ле, горо,  
повяхнала, Посърнала  
Дал те слана осланило  
Горо ле, горо зелена,  
Ил те пожар пожарило,  
Горо ле, горо зелена

*Ni me slana oslanilo,  
Goro le, goro,  
Ni me požar požarilo.  
Naj minaha snošti večer,  
Goro le, goro zelena,  
Tri sindžira mladi robi,  
Goro le, goro zelena*

Neither did frost  
My forest,  
Nor did fire.  
Rather there were passing last night,  
My forest, green forest  
Three chain gangs of young slaves,  
My forest, green forest.

Ни ме слана осланило,  
Горо ле, горо,  
Ни ме пожар пожарило  
Най минаха снощи вечер,  
Горо ле, горо зелена,  
Три синджира млади роби,  
Горо ле, горо зелена

<i>Pārvi sindžir vse junaci,</i>	The first one all of them strapping lads	Първи синджир се юнаци,
<i>Goro le, goro,</i>	My forest,	Горо ле, горо,
<i>Vtori sindžir vse devojki,</i>	The second one all of them maidens,	Втори синджир се девойки
<i>Treti sindžir vse nevesti,</i>	The third one all of them brides,	Трети синджир се невести,
<i>Goro le, goro,</i>	My forest,	Горо ле, горо,
<i>Ostavili drebni deca.</i>	Who had left small children,	Оставили дребни деца
<i>Ot žal gora povjahnala</i>	Has wilted, has faded	От тях гора повяхнала,
<i>Goro le, goro zelena,</i>	My forest, green forest.	Горо ле, горо зелена,
<i>Povjahnala, posārнала,</i>	Because of that the forest has wilted	Повяхнала, посърнала,
<i>Goro le, goro zelena,</i>	My forest, green forest,	Горо ле, горо зелена
<i>Goro...</i>	Forest...	Горо...

#### IV. **Trendafilčeto, Karamfilčeto** (Трендафилчето, Карамфилчето)

Shope region, Bulgaria (Traditional, arranged by Nikolai Kaufman)

**Nikolai Kaufman** (1925–2018) was a Bulgarian musicologist, folklorist and composer, sometimes cited as Bulgaria's foremost scholar in his field. Kaufman was born in northeastern Bulgaria to an Ashkenazi Jewish Bulgarian family. He graduated in trumpet and music theory from the National Academy of Music in Sofia, worked at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences' Institute of Music, moved to the Institute of Folkloristics, and became a lecturer at the National Academy of Music. He was awarded a doctor's degree in 1973. Kaufman's compositions include over a thousand arrangements of Bulgarian, Ashkenazi, and Sephardi Jewish folk songs, his own songs composed in a Bulgarian folk style and piano pieces. Some of the Bulgarian State Television Female Vocal Choir's recordings were based on Kaufman's arrangements of Bulgarian folk songs, including two in the choir's Grammy Award-winning album *Le Mystère des Voix Bulgares, Volume Two*. Kaufman's work as a musicologist covers the recording of over 30,000 Bulgarian folk songs and tunes.

Nikolai Kaufman lived during the time of Bulgaria and the Holocaust. In February 1943, Bulgaria and Germany signed an agreement to deport Bulgarian Jewry to camps in Poland. Over 1,000 Jews of Thrace and Macedonia, then under Bulgarian administration, were detained and handed over to the Germans who sent them to death camps. Then Bulgarian police proceeded to round up 9,000 Jews within Bulgaria itself. An intense public reaction ensued. Significant and public protest involving key political leaders and the Bulgarian Orthodox Church moved King Boris III to cancel the deportation on the very day of its planned execution. While expelled from their homes and persecuted, Bulgaria's 48,000 Jews nonetheless escaped total destruction with the help of civic society. Nikolai Kaufman and his family were likely among those who were saved. **Trendafilčeto, Karamfilčeto** is about a young man proposing marriage to a young woman, Dona.

##### **Transliteration:**

*Trendafilčitu, karamfilčitu, done mamino,*  
*Ako me sakaš, pri men da dojdeš,*  
*Ja če te vodim na novi pazar,*  
*Tam če ti kupim sūrmena saja,*  
*Ti da ja nosiš ja da te gledam,*  
*Ja da te gledam prillega li ti.*

##### **Cyrillic:**

Трендафилчето, карамфилчето, доне мамино,  
 Ако ме сакаш, при мен да дойдеш,  
 Я че те водим на нови пазар,  
 Там че ти купим сърмена сая,  
 Ти да я носиш, я да те гледам,  
 Я да те гледам, прилега ли ти.

*Trendafilčitu, karamfilčitu, done mamino,  
Ako me sakaš pri men da dojdeš,  
Ja če te vodim na novi pazar,  
Tam če ti kupim žalti papuzi,  
Ti da gi nosiš ja da te gledam,  
Ja da te gledam prilugat li ti, Done!*

Трендафилчето, карамфилчето, доне мамино,  
Ако ме сакаш, при мен да дойдеш,  
Я че те водим на Нови пазар,  
Там че ти купим жълти папуци,  
Ти да ги носиш, я да те гледам,  
Я да те гледам, прилегат ли ти. доне!

### The text reads:

Oh, you flower, you carnation, Dona. I will go to the market and buy you golden shoes.

Oh you flower, you carnation, Dona. I will go to the market and buy you a richly embroidered dress.

## V. Znaeš Li, Janke ( Знаеш ли Янке ) & Other Folk Music:

*Tzvetanka Varimezova, soloist & tambura; & Ivan Varimezov, gaidas*

## IX. Ergen Deda ( Ерген деда )

Shope region, Bulgaria

(Traditional arranged by Petar Liondev)

**Petar Liondev** (1936–2018) was born in Harmanli in southern Bulgaria and made his name as a collector and editor of folk music in the 1960s and 1970s. He graduated from the State Academy of Music in 1961 majoring in folklore studies under Professor Stoyan Djudjev and in composition under Professor Alexander Raychev. He worked at the Institute of Musicology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for over 30 years. He notated over 40,000 traditional songs and instrumental melodies. In 2001 he was promoted to full professor at the University in Veliko Tarnovo. As a composer, he focused mainly on children's and choral songs. He authored over 900 children's choral songs and songs for the youngest, a great part of which won him recognition as well as prizes at competitions. He also wrote songs for the *Le Mystère des Voix Bulgares* choir. His song, *Kaval Sviri*, was included in *Le Mystère des Voix Bulgares, Volume Two*, and his song, **Ergen Deda**, was included in the first album of *Le Mystère des Voix Bulgares*. His works were also performed by American jazzman Chuck Corea and the Apollo Sax Quartet.

### Transliteration:

*Ergen deda, červen deda  
ej taka, pa taka  
nakrivil e kalpačeto  
ej taka, pa taka  
Nakrivil e kalpačeto  
nanagore-nanadole  
Nanagore-nanadole  
pa otide u seloto  
Pa otide u seloto  
pa se hvana na 'oroto*

### Translation:

Red-faced grandpa  
hey this way, that way,  
with hat askew  
hey this way, that way  
With hat askew  
up and down.  
Up and down,  
he went to the village,  
He went to the village,  
went to join the dance.

### Cyrillic:

Ерген деда, червен деда  
ей така, па така  
накривил е калпачето  
ей така, па така  
Накривил е калпачето  
нанагоре-нанадоле  
Нанагоре-нанадоле  
па отиде у селото  
Па отиде у селото  
па се хвана на 'орото

*Pa se hvana na 'oroto  
na 'oroto do momite.  
Na 'oroto do momite,  
svite momi pobegali.  
Svite momi pobegali,  
ostanala naj-malata.  
Ostanala naj-malata,  
naj-malata Angelina,  
naj-malata Angelina.  
EJ!*

Went to join the dance  
together with the maidens.  
Together with the maidens,  
All the maidens ran away.  
All the maidens ran away,  
the youngest remained.  
The youngest remained,  
the youngest one Angelina,  
the youngest one Angelina.  
Hey!

Па се хва на 'орото  
на 'орото домомите  
На 'орото домомите  
свите моми побегали  
Свите моми побегали  
останала нај-малата  
Останала нај-малата  
нај-малата Ангелина  
нај-малата Ангелина  
Ей

## X. Batonebo ( ბატონებო )

Guria region, Georgia  
(Traditional)

**Batonebo** is a type of many “Batonebi” songs, i.e., healing songs associated with the cult of Batonebi (children’s infectious diseases such as measles, whooping cough, chicken pox, etc.). They are known almost all over Georgia by different names – batonebo, iavnana, nanina, sabodisho, ia patonepi, and mobodishneba. These songs are based on mythological traditions that have survived in different parts of Georgia. The rituals to be performed during illness are associated with the cult of Nana, the Great Mother of Georgians and her children. The devotional rituals include walking around the sick person carrying gifts, offering apologies and seeing off the disease.

### Transliteration:

*Batonebo mouokhe,  
Mouokhe batonebo!  
Lamazi batonebia,  
la da vardi penia.*

### Translation:

Oh, lords, help,  
Have mercy, oh lords.  
Beautiful lords,  
Bedecked with violets and roses.

*Tetri tskhvarida tkhis jogi,  
Morbis tsikanm ikht'una.  
Gaukhardat batonebsa  
Da utsbat piri ibruna*

White sheep and a herd of goats,  
A lamb came jumping.  
The lords enjoyed this  
And turning away, left us.

## XI. Exercise No. 1 ( ეგზერსიზი 1 )

### & Chorale ( ქორალლი )

Guria region, Georgia  
(composed by Ioseb Kechakmadze)

**Ioseb Kechakmadze** (1939-2013) was born in Ozurgeti, located in the southwest Guria region of Georgia. He became a prominent composer and the Choral-Conductor Chair at the Tbilisi State Conservatory. He was the winner of the Shota Rustaveli and Zakaria Paliashvili State compositions contest and received the People’s Artist of Georgia award. He began actively composing toward the end of the 1960s. His writing continues the traditions of Niko Sulkhaniashvili, a classic composer of Georgian national choral music, yet his compositions have a progressive tone that has deemed him the founder of a new choral style. The introduction of modern means of expression in choir music in Georgia and the international renown of Georgian professional music are linked with his name. **Exercise No. 1** reflects a

haunting, contemplative mix of dissonance and ancient Georgian tonal harmonies, creating fascinating and mesmerizing sound qualities from a choir. **Chorale** reflects a miniature choral setting that paints a contemplative and idyllic atmospheric portrait, and in doing so creates a sense of tonal color more normally associated with stringed instruments.

## XII. **Sadats Vshobilvar** ( სადაც ვშობილვარ )

Guria region, Georgia  
(Traditional)

Guria is a region in the western part of Georgia, bordered by the eastern end of the Black Sea. This version of **Sadats Vshobilvar** was sung by the current Zedashe group. Malkhaz Erqvanidze and Davit Shugliashvili transcribed this song version and released it in 2004 under the title *Gurian Songs*.

### **Transliteration:**

*Sadats vshobilvar, gavzrdilvar,  
da misrolia isari;  
Sad mama-p'ap'a megulvis,  
imati k'ubos pitsari;  
Sadats siqmitve vchveulvar,  
chemi samshoblo is aris.  
Me mirchevnia sali k'lde  
tovlian-qinuliani,  
orbi rom budobs chanchkerits  
gadmohkukhs brolis ts'qliani;  
archvi da jikhvi meqopa,  
khortsi akvs mariliani.*

### **Translation:**

Where I was born, I grew up  
And shot an arrow  
Where my father-grandfathers' coffins lie.  
The place I was accustomed to  
In my youth is my motherland.  
I prefer a steep mountain  
Covered with snow and frost,  
Where vultures dwell  
And crystal waterfalls thunder.  
Chamois and Aurochs  
Are enough for me,  
Their meat is pleasantly salty.

## XIII. **Ia Patonepi** ( ია პატონეპი )

Samegrelo region, Georgia  
(Traditional)

Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti is a region in western Georgia which includes the historical Georgian provinces of Samegrelo (Mingrelia) and Zemo Svaneti (i.e., Upper Svaneti). **Ia Patonepi** is another type of "Batonebi" Georgian healing song. Nowadays, dramatic changes are taking place in rural life, and the social conditions for performing the rituals associated with the Batonebi cult have disappeared. Yet Batonebi songs still remain in the memory of those who adhere to Georgian traditions and ancient beliefs and concepts. Their centuries-old heritage of polyphonic singing and the traditional form of antiphonal performance lives on.

### **Transliteration:**

*Ia Patonepi\_o.  
Ia qipi nudo vardi, Ia Patonepi\_o.  
Chkimi takhdido, skani kuchuchi  
Ia Patonepi\_o.  
Skani lehkhisuh moushushi deda,  
Ia Patonepi\_o.*

### **Translation:**

Violets, o lords.  
Violets are scattered for you and roses.  
My couch and your buds,  
violets o lords.  
Mother, heal your sick ones,  
violets o lords.



## XIV. Nanila ( ნანილა )

Svaneti region, Georgia  
(Traditional)

Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti is a region in western Georgia which includes the historical Georgian provinces of Samegrelo (Mingrelia) and Zemo Svaneti (i.e., Upper Svaneti). This version of **Nanila** was sung by the Zedashe group who learned it from Shergil and Shmagi Pirtskhelani in 2005. It is often sung to the accompaniment of the bowed *chuniri*, and is a waking lullaby, sung to gently coax the child out of deep sleep.

### Transliteration:

*Nanila, nanaila...*  
*nana nanailas jakvne, ho.*  
*nana lerkvas sgalajkvemne, ho.*  
*nana ladagh siv lajkema, ho.*  
*nana nanailas jakvne, ho.*  
*nana ladagh siv lajkema, ho.*  
*nana zhu lajgenni agho, ho.*  
*nana lanqa valtajinne, ho.*

### Translation:

Nanila nanaila, nana,  
Grandma will sing you a lullaby,  
Grandma will take you for a walk,  
Grandma will give her life up for you,  
Grandma will sing you a lullaby,  
Grandma will bring you up,  
Grandpa will bring you toys,  
Grandpa lives for you.

## XV. Kirialesa ( კირიალესა )

Samegrelo region, Georgia  
(Traditional)

Eastern European villagers have known for centuries that when times get tough and winters are long, it is time for communities to come together to lift up their voices and spirits through singing. Frequently the theme of village songs with the start of a new year would be to wish good luck and prosperity to friends and neighbors, because they never knew what evil might be lurking around the corner. This New Year's song was learned from the Kitka Women's Vocal Ensemble who learned it from the Tutarchela Georgian women's choir, directed by Tamar Buadze.

### Transliteration:

*Kirialesa, sadavoi kirialesa*  
*Akhal tsanas migakhwamank,*  
*ghorontk goitanuas*  
*Ena jveshi shkhva akhali,*  
*dichelamo geekhlar*  
*Skan maghaza skani baghi,*  
*laitsihi epsha*  
*Zhio chit'i kopurini,*  
*sua kopchanapodas*  
*Shors mitini korunsuda,*  
*asho korcharapodas*  
*Ase meur shalasha,*  
*ash vammarten tsnasha.*

### Translation:

Enjoy everything, the old and the new.  
God bless the past year  
and the new one.  
Prosperity to you  
and to yours.  
May your storehouses  
be filled with corn.  
May the bird of your dreams  
flap its wings.  
May you soon see your loved ones  
who are far away.  
Now, I am going to the mountains,  
and will not be back until the next year.

## XVI. Barem Sa Ergen, Mamo Nahodih ( Барем са ерген, мамо, находих )

Dobrudža region, Bulgaria (Traditional, Tzvetanka Varimezova, arranger and soloist)

### Transliteration:

*Barem sa ergen, mamo, nahodih*

*Khubavi momi, mamo, po lyubi.*

*Khubavi momi, mamo, slivenki*

### Cyrillic:

Барем са ерген, мамо, находих

Хубави моми, мамо, по люби

Хубави моми, мамо, Сливен

### Translation:

"When I was a bachelor, Mama, I went everywhere kissing beautiful girls.

Beautiful girls from Sliven and slender, tall ones from Jambol.

Bachelorhood, dear Mama, is a carefree life.

Girlhood, dear Mama, is a privileged life.

That's how it is while still living with Mama."

## XVII. Shen Khar Venakhi ( შენ ხარ ვენახი ) Kartli-Kakheti region, Georgia

(Traditional)

**Shen Khar Venakhi** (Thou Art a Vineyard) is a medieval Georgian hymn. The text is attributed to King Demetrius I of Georgia (1093–1156). The composer of the music is unknown. Supposedly, Demetrius I wrote it during his confinement as a monk in the David Gareja Monastery. The hymn is dedicated to Georgia and the patronage of the Virgin Mary; it is also a prayer of praise to Mary in the Georgian Orthodox Church. Because the lyrics did not mention any saints or gods, this was the only church-song that was permitted to be performed in the anti-religious Soviet Union. There are East Georgian (Kartli-Kakhetian) and West Georgian (Gurian) versions of this chant with very different musical compositions. This version is from Rustavi Choir and the Telavi Women's Chorus, text by King Demetre I, composite arrangement by Tzvetanka Varimezova.

### Transliteration:

*shen khar venakhi, akhlad aqvavebuli.*

*norchi k'etili, edems shina nerguli.*

*(alva suneli, samotkhesa mosuli.)*

*(ghmertman shegamk'o, vervina gjobs kebuli)*

*da tavit tvisit, mze khar da gabrts'qinvebuli.*

### Mkhedruli:

შენ ხარ ვენახი, ახლად აყვავებული,

ნორჩი კეთილი, ედემს შინა ნერგული,

(ალვა სუნელი, სამოთხეს ამოსული,)

(ღმერთმან შევამკო ვერვინა გჯობს ქებული,)

და თავით თვისით მზე ხარ და გაბრწყინებული.

### Translation:

You are a vineyard newly blossomed. Young, beautiful, growing in Eden,

(A fragrant poplar sapling in Paradise.) (May God adorn you. No one is more worthy of praise.)

You yourself are the sun, shining brilliantly.

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