

STEREO  
ALSO PLAYABLE MONO

MFS 404

# SONGS OF A RUSSIAN GYPSY

## ALYA

sings  
Gypsy  
Favorites  
with  
Sasha  
Polinoff  
and his  
Ensemble



# SONGS OF A RUSSIAN GYPSY

## ALYA

### SIDE ONE

#### 1. LYOTSA PYESNYA — Song of the Gypsy

The gypsies are free and happy. Their life is filled with music, songs and love.

Vesyoloi, volnoyu tolpoyu  
Tsyganey taborem idut,  
Vsyegda s gitaroi pod rukoyu,  
Vsyegda igrayut i poyut.

Refrain:  
I lyotsa pyesnya  
Svobodno, zvonko,  
I v styep unosit  
Likhoi napyev.  
Tsygan igrayet,  
Poyot tsyganka,  
I vtorit im  
Vyes tabornyi napyev.

V syelenyi,  
Vdol styepnoi dorogi,  
Tsyganku paryen polyubil,  
I syertse polnoye trevogi  
V adin akord  
S gitaroi slil.

Refrain.

#### 2. KOLYECHKO — The Ring

The small ring on my finger is all that is left of my dreams of happiness. You loved me for a short while, then you went away and my heart asks the same question over and over: will you ever come back to me?

Na ruke mayei vyotsa  
kolyechko,  
Eto vsyo, chto ostalos  
ot schastya,  
Ot nochei nad tumanoyu  
rechkoj,  
Ot negadano vspykhnushei  
strastj.

Refrain:  
Akh, kak bolno,  
Bolno syertse byotsa,  
Otbivaya goryestnyi vopros,  
Otchevo zh moi milyi  
Nye vernyotsa,  
Akh, otchevo v lyubvi  
Tak mnogo slyoz?

On priyekhal osyenyu nochkoi  
V tishine zazvyenela uzdyechka  
V etu noch,  
Zaglyanuv v moyi ochi,  
On adyel mnye na palets  
kolyechko.

Refrain.

On uyekhal,  
On skazal, chto nye lyubit,  
I rydaya nad sonoyu rechkoj,  
Ponyala ya,  
Chto schastya nye budet,  
I myertsalo kak slyozy  
kolyechko.

Refrain.

#### 3. CHTO MNYE GORE — No Sorrow For Me

A gypsy song about the futility of life. As long as there is music and wine nothing else matters.

Pust gitara zvuchit  
nyeustanaya,  
Pust rydayet struna  
za strunoi,  
Mozg tumanyat glaza  
tvoyi pyanyie,  
Pod napev i pod smekh  
rakovoi...

Refrain:  
Chto mnye gore? Zhizni more  
Mozhno vyipit nam do dna!  
Ei, sertse tische! Vyshe, vyshe,  
Kubki starovo vina.

Uzh nye slyshitsa pyesnya  
tsyganskaya,  
Vsye tsyganey usnull davno,  
No poka yest v bakalakh  
shampanskoye,  
Zhizn il smyert  
Dlya myenya vsyo ravno...  
Refrain.

#### 4. TOLKO RAZ BYVAYUT V ZHIZNI VSTRYECHI — Only Once In A Lifetime

We are together day and night; day and night your words ring in my memory; only once in a lifetime can two people be that much in love. But everything comes to an end and I wonder where you are now.

Dyen i noch ranyayet  
syertse laski,  
Dyen i noch kruzhitsa  
golova,  
Dyen i noch vastorzhenoyu  
skazkoj  
Mnye zvuchat tvoyi slava.

Refrain:  
Tolko raz byvayut v zhizni  
vstryechi,  
Tolko raz sudboyu ryvotsa  
nit,  
Tolko raz v kholodnyi  
zimnii vyecher  
Mnye tak khochetsa lyubit.  
Gasnyet luch purpurnovo  
zakata,  
Sinyevoi oblity nyebesa.  
Gdye zhe ty, zhelanyi moi  
kagda-to?  
Akh, gdye zhe ty, moya myechta?  
Refrain.

#### 5. KAK STRANNO — How Strange

How strange it is that we are simply acquaintances now. Only a short while ago we meant everything to each other but we parted and now we meet as strangers.

Spokoino i prosto  
My vstryetilis s vami,  
V dushe zazhila  
Uzhe staraya rana,  
I propast razryva  
Lyegla mezhdz nami.  
My tolko znakomy.  
Kak stranno...

Kak stranno vsyo eto,  
Sovsyem vyed nyedavno  
Byla nasha blizost  
Byezmerna, byezgrana.  
A nnyne, akh nnyne,  
Bylomu nye ravno,  
My tolko znakomy.  
Kak stranno...

Zavyazka vsya skazka,  
Razvyazka — stradanye,  
No dumat vsyo vryemya  
O nyom nyeustano...  
A mozhet byt, vprochyem,  
Zachem? Do svidanya?  
My tolko znakomy.  
Kak stranno.

#### 6. DVYE GITARY — Two Guitars

The sounds of two guitars remind me of my youth. My heart is full of anxiety. I love to be with the gypsies but the parting is always sad.

Dvye gitary za stenoi  
Zhalobno zanyli  
S dyetstva pamyatnyi  
napyev,  
Ekh, milyi, eto ty li?

Refrain:  
Ekh, raz, yeshcho raz,  
Yeshcho mnogo, mnogo raz!  
Ekh, raz, da chto tam raz,  
Yeshcho mnogo, mnogo raz.

Vyecher, poyezd, agonki,  
Dalnyaya doroga.  
Syertse noyet ot tosiki,  
Na dushe tryevogova.

Refrain:  
Khorosho na gorke zhit,  
Trudno padnimatsa.  
Khorosho tsygan lyubit,  
Trudno rastavatsa.

Refrain: (twice)

#### 7. TVOYI GLAZA ZYELYONYIE — Your Green Eyes

For the last time I want to believe, I do not care what happens afterwards. Your green eyes, your beguiling words and this ringing song are driving me out of my mind.

Kak khochetsa khot raz,  
V paslyednii raz pavyerit,  
Nye vsyo-li mnye ravno,  
Chto sbutyetsa patom.  
Lyubvi nyelzya ponyat,  
Lyubvi nyelzya izmyerit,  
Akh tam, na dnye dushi,  
Kak v omutye rechnom.

Refrain:  
Pust eta dal tumanaya,  
Pust eta glub byezdonaya,  
Syevodnya nityu tonkoyu  
Svyazala nas sudba.  
Tvoyi glaza zyelyonyie,  
Tvoyi slova abmanyie  
I eta pyesnya zvonkaya  
Svyeli myenya s uma.

Probyotsa solntsa luch  
Skvoz zapyertyie stavni,  
No vsyo yeshcho slyehka  
Kruzhitsa galova.  
V ushakh yeshcho zvyenit  
Nash razgavor vcherashnii,  
Kak strunyi pyerezvon,  
Zvuchat tvoyi slava.

Refrain.

### SIDE TWO

#### 1. EKH, DOROGI — The Roads

The dusty roads in a strange land are cold and uneasy. The decisions of fate are unknown to all. A shot rings out and my friend is dead.

Ekh, dorogi,  
Pyl da tuman.  
Kholoda, tryevogi,  
Da stepnoi buryan...  
Znat nye mozhesh  
Doli svoeyi,  
Mozhet krylya slozhish  
Posredi stepei.

Refrain:  
A doroga dalshe mchitsa,  
Klubitsa, pylitsa,  
Krugom zyeemlya dymitsa,  
Chuzhaya zyeemlya.  
Ekh, dorogi,  
Pyl da tuman.  
Kholoda, tryevogi,  
Da stepnoi buryan...

Vystrel gryanyet,  
Voron kruzhit,  
Moi druzhok v buryane  
Nyezhivoi lezhit.

Refrain.

#### 2. SVYETIT MESYATS — The Moon is Shining

The moon is shining, the gypsy camp is asleep. A young gypsy waits for her friend. She lives untroubled in her nomad tent and sings all day long.

Svyetit mesyats,  
Svyetit yasnyi,  
Tabor nash davno uzh spit.  
Gdyezh ty,  
Sokol moi prekrasnyi,  
Po tyebe dusha bolit.

Refrain:  
Sredi lyesov i polya  
V kibitke ya zhiyu,  
Nye znaya slyoz i gorya,  
Ya tselyi dyen poyu.

Mnye s toboyu,  
Drug moi milyi,  
Suzhdeno sudbu uzhat,  
A poetomu byezpyechno,  
Budyem tselyi dyen plyasat.

Refrain: (twice)

#### 3. VYERNIS! — Come Back

Come back and everything will be forgiven. I loved you, I belong to you, so why did you leave me? I think of the past, I bless and damn you. Oh, do come back!

Vyernis! Ya vsyo proshchu:  
Upryoki, podozrenya,  
Muchitelnyuyu bol  
Nevyplakanykh slyoz,  
Ukor ryechei tvoikh,  
Bezumnyie mechtanya,  
Pozor i styd tvoikh ugroz.

Ya uprekat tyebya nye stanu,  
Ya nye smeyu,  
My tak vnezapno,  
Tak nyelyepo razozhshis.  
Lyubila ya tyebya,  
I ya byla tvoyeyu,  
Zachem, zachem zhe ty ushol?  
Vyernis!

O skolko, skolko raz,  
Vechernyeyu poroyu,  
V zapushchenom sadu  
Na kamennoi skamye,  
Rydala ya, zabytaya toboyu,  
O milom, dorogom,  
O rozakh, o vyesne.

Ya schastye proshloye  
blagoslovlyayu,  
O yesli-by myechty moyi  
sbylis!  
Da, ya lyublyu tyebya,  
Lyublyu i proklinayu,  
O dai, o daimnye snova zhit!  
Vyernis!

#### 4. FANARIKI — The Street Lamps

In my youth I strolled through the streets of my native town with my beloved till daybreak and the street lamps shone happily for me. Now I am alone and old in a strange land and the sleepless nights are long but the street lamps shine as ever.

Na rodine v lyubimom gorode  
Yunost schastlivaya moya  
proshla,

Vyeseloyu i byezabotnoyu  
V rodimoj khatushke  
Zhizn moya tyecla.  
Pa ulitsam s lyubimoi  
dyevushkoi

Gulyal ya nochyenki  
V plot do zari,  
Svyetili mnye tye ochi siniye  
A na uglakh zolotyie fanari.

Refrain:  
Fanari, fanariki moyi,  
Vyesolyie agni zazhgut,  
Pro lyubov, pro siniye glaza,  
Pro dyevushku moyu payut.  
Budut goryet ani vsyu noch,  
Zluyu tosku atgonyat proch.  
Fanari, fanariki moyi,  
Vyesolyie agni zazhgut.

Proshli ani, tye gody yunyie  
I v vyechnost kanula lyubov  
moya.

Idyot, pridyot para unylaya,  
Vdali at rodiny stradayu ya.  
I tyanutsa nochi byesonnye,  
S vinom i muzykoi vplot do

zari,  
A utryechkom ulitsy sonnyie,  
A na uglakh zolotyie fanari.

Refrain.

#### 5. DO SVIDANYA — Farewell

Farewell, my friend, I am leaving this world without a word, without a handshake. The candles have burnt down, I waited for you all my life and did not find you, and now I must go alone into the darkness.

Do svidanya, drug moi,  
do svidanya,  
Mnye tak tyazhko zhit  
sryedi lyudei,  
Kazhdyi shag moi styeregut  
stradanya,  
Akh, v etoi zhizni schastya  
nyet nigdye.

Tak do svidanya,  
Byez ruki, byez slova,  
Tak i luchsne budyet i  
nyezhnyei,  
V etom mire umirat nye novo,  
No i zhit tak tozhe nye  
novoi.

Tak do svidanya,  
Dogaryeli sveyechi,  
Mnye tak zhutko ukhodit  
va tmu,  
Zhdai vsyu zhizn  
I nye dazhdatsa vstryechi  
I usnet naveki mnye adnoi.  
Do svidanya, do svidanya...

#### 6. BIRYUZOVYIE KOLECHKI — The Turquoise Rings

The turquoise rings are lost in the high green grass. You went away and that means the end of happiness for me.

Biryuzovyie zalaty-kolechki  
Raskatilis pa luzhku,  
Ty ushla i tvoyi plyechiki  
Skrylilsya v nochnuyu tmu.

Pa zelyonoi travushke-  
muravushke  
Nye sobrat rastyeryanykh  
kolyets,

MFS 404 (STEREO)

Complete Russian Text Enclosed

#### 7. DVYE SLYEZINKI — Two Little Tears

I cannot forget you, Your face and voice haunt me. The past cannot be restored. The two little tears are the reward to me for everything that we called "love."

Tyebya mnye nye zabyt,  
Ya vsya v myechtakh s taboi,  
Tvoi prizrak daragai  
Pryeslyedyet myenya.  
Porvala s proshlym nit,  
No golos milyi tvoj  
Pryeslyedyet myenya,  
Tak suzhdyeno sudboi.  
Dvye slyezinki konyets  
nashei skazki,  
Zavtra novoye solntse  
vzoidyot,  
Pozabudutsa slyozy i laski  
Sryedi gorkikh zhiteiskikh  
nyevzgod.

Refrain:  
Zatumanatsa nyezhnyie vzo-  
nye vyernutsa proshlomu vno-  
Dvye slyezinki mnye budut  
nagradaoi,  
Za vsyo to, chto my zvali  
lyubov.

Ya vernus, ya vernus  
V kraj rodiny,  
Gdye beryozy lyut slyozy  
vesnoi,  
Ya vernus, ya vernus lyubimyi,  
Chitob navek nye rastatsa s  
taboi.

Refrain.

English Text by  
ANNA MICHAELS

#### MEMBERS OF THE ENSEMBLE

Sasha Polinoff, Balalaika  
Lonya, Accordion  
Constantin Poliansky, Domra  
Alexis Hramoff, Bass-Balalaika

#### ABOUT ALYA

In every large city of the world there is at least one, and generally more than one, cafe or night club devoted to Gypsy singing. The Gypsy may be from Russia, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Hungary or somewhere else, but the idea is the same: a colorfully costumed singer with flamboyant gestures; an utter involvement with the nostalgic or despairing or gay mood of the song-text; and a universal communication with the audience despite the foreign tongue.

ALYA was born in Yugoslavia, of Russian parentage; she is fluent in four languages, sings in ten. She comes by her Gypsy singing through study and contact with great Gypsy singers (unhappily almost extinct today!) of Central Europe. In the few years since coming to the United States Alya has appeared on network television shows, club dates from coast to coast and currently sings and dances at the Two Guitars, the well-known nitery in lower Manhattan.

For complete catalogue, "Music of the World" and classical listing write:

**MONITOR RECORDS**

156 FIFTH AVE.  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10010

Printed in U.S.A.

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## 5. КАК СТРАННО

Спокойно и просто  
Мы встретились с вами,  
В душе зажила  
Уже старая рана,  
И пропасть разрыва  
Легла между нами.  
Мы только знакомы.  
Как странно...

Как странно всё это,  
Совсем ведь недавно  
Была наша близость  
Безмерна, безгранна.  
А ныне, ах ныне,  
Былому не равно,  
Мы только знакомы.  
Как странно...

Завязка вся сказка,  
Развязка - страданье,  
Но думать всё время  
О нём неустанно...  
А может быть, впрочем,  
Зачем? До свиданья?  
Мы только знакомы.  
Как странно.

## 6. ДВЕ ГИТАРЫ

Две гитары за стеной  
Жалобно заныли  
С детства памятный напев,  
Эх, милый, это ты ли?

Припев:

Эх, раз, ещё раз,  
Ещё много, много раз!  
Эх, раз, да что там раз,  
Ещё много, много раз!

Вечер, поезд, огоньки,  
Дальняя дорога.  
Сердце ноет от тоски,  
На душе тревога.

Припев:

Хорошо на горке жить,  
Трудно подниматься.  
Хорошо цыган любить,  
Трудно расставаться.

Припев: (2 раза)

## 7. ТВОИ ГЛАЗА ЗЕЛЕННЫЕ

Как хочется хоть раз,  
В последний раз поверить,  
Не всё-ли мне равно,  
Что сбудется потом.  
Любви нельзя понять,  
Любви нельзя измерить,  
Ах там, на дне души,

Как в омуте речном.

Припев:

Пусть эта даль туманная,  
Пусть эта глубь бездонная,  
Сегодня нитью тонкою  
Связала нас судьба.  
Твои глаза зелёные,  
Твои слова обманные  
И эта песня звонкая  
Свели меня с ума.

Пробьётся солнца луч  
Сквозь запертые ставни,  
Но всё ещё слегка  
Кружится голова.  
В ушах ещё звенит  
Наш разговор вчерашний,  
Как струнный перезвон,  
Звучат твои слова.

Припев.

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## СТОРОНА № 2.

### 1. ЭХ, ДОРОГИ

Эх, дороги,  
Пыль да туман.  
Холода, тревоги,  
Да степной бурьян...  
Знать не можешь  
Доли своей,  
Может крылья сложишь  
Посреди степей.

Припев:

А дорога дальше мчится,  
Клубится, пылится,  
Кругом земля дымится,  
Чужая земля.  
Эх, дороги,  
Пыль да туман.  
Холода, тревоги,  
Да степной бурьян...

Выстрел грянет,  
Ворон кружит,  
Мой дружок в бурьяне  
Неживой лежит.

Припев.

### 2. СВЕТИТ МЕСЯЦ

Светит месяц,  
Светит ясный,  
Табор наш давно уж спит.  
Где ж ты,  
Сокол мой прекрасный,  
По тебе душа болит.

Припев:

Среди лесов и поля



