

STEREO
ALSO PLAYABLE MONO

FILE UNDER: BALKAN GYPSY MUSIC

MFS 496

SONGS OF A MACEDONIAN GYPSY

*FEATURING ESMA REDŽEPOVA AND USNIJA JAŠAROVA
with Stevo Teodosievski & Nasko Džorlev Ensembles*



monitor
MUSIC OF THE WORLD

DESIGN: EDWARD BUXBAUM

RETURN TO ARCHIVE

CENTER FOR FOLKLIFE PROGRAMS
AND CULTURAL STUDIES
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION 496

STEREO
ALSO PLAYABLE MONO

SONGS of a Macedonian GYPSY

featuring
ESMA REDŽEPOVA
&
USNIJA JAŠAROVA



USNIJA JAŠAROVA

Although most Americans associate the Gypsy with a Hungarian or Russian derivation, the Gypsies were scattered throughout southeastern Europe. Wherever the Gypsies went they added words of the local dialect to their own Romany language. Similarly the music also shows, in its rhythms and inflections, the influence of the "host" country. The Gypsy performers on this recording are from Macedonia and, not surprisingly, sing in Macedonian, Greek and, of course, their own Romany language. The music is a fascinating blend of Near-Eastern musical cultures.

The voice of Esma can be heard on two previous Monitor recordings: Gypsy Esma (MFS 480) and Turkish Delight (MFS 481); Usnija, another great singer, makes her American debut on this recording.

Side One

1. **DA ME MOLAT NE SE ŽENAM** (2:20)
I Won't Get Married
(Sung in Macedonian)

A humorous song about a man who does not want to get married. He cannot make up his mind because he does not know what kind of girl to choose. If he takes a young one she would never be in the house; if she is an older one there would be a lot of quarrels; if he takes a village girl she would call him daddy; if she is a widow she would bring him a number of children; if she is a divorcee she would run away within a few days; if she is a town girl she would make him go away. And, in conclusion, since he has not yet married he is not going to marry, anyhow!

2. **BUDA DIKLJUM I Have Seen Much** (3:00)
(Sung in Romany)
I have seen much and I have suffered much.
3. **AH, DEVLJA Oh, My God** (3:20)
(Sung in Romany)

This song is about an earthquake which has destroyed the singer's home and killed his wife. His wife had died young and pregnant and he himself remained alone with-

out family and house. He expresses his sadness through his violin playing to other Gypsies, singing that he would never again live in Skoplje (the capital of Macedonia).

4. **SOBORSKO ORO Macedonian Hora** (3:20)
(Instrumental)
5. **ME SUNESTE ALJAN Sweet Dreams** (2:17)
(Sung in Romany)
6. **DAVAJ, DAVAJ ČIČO The Tip** (2:37)
(Sung in Macedonian)

A young girl has dreamt that her boyfriend had arrived, loved her, whispered sweet words and that she had been happy. When she gets up she realizes disappointedly that all this had been merely a dream.

A young boy asks an old man to give him a tip for performing a dance. The boy persuades the old man to drink more "vlasotinsko" wine.

Side Two

1. **UŠTI, UŠTI BABA Get Up, Father** (2:55)
(Sung in Romany)
2. **DŽULO, DŽULO** (4:10)
(Sung in Romany)
3. **SIKOU HÓRESPE MAZI MOU** (2:26)
Get Up and Dance
(Sung in Greek)

A young bride tries to awaken her father on Sunday morning because this is the day of her wedding and the wedding party is coming to her home. The wedding party comes but father is still asleep.

A mother speaks to her little son, born out of wedlock, whose name is Dzulo, about the love troubles she has had in her life. When Dzulo grows up he asks his mother where his father is and why he does not live with them.

Get up and dance, my doll, so that I can see and adore you. Get up and dance with me.

4. **UŠTILI ČAJ RANO SABAJLE** (3:25)
The Young Bride
(Sung in Romany)

A young bride got up early on Sunday morning, the day of her wedding. She hastens to make herself up in order to be more beautiful when the wedding party arrives at her home to take her to her future husband.

5. **PJESMA I DEVOJKA** (2:20)
The Song and the Girl
(Sung in Macedonian)

6. **AČILJUM ČORORI** (1:55)
Unhappy Loneliness
(Sung in Romany)

This song is about a little girl who found herself alone in the world early in life. When she grows up she is again unhappy in life and love, too.

Vocals: ESMA REDŽEPOVA (Side One, Bands 2, 3, 6; Side Two, Bands 3, 5)

USNIJA JAŠAROVA (Side One, Band 5; Side Two, Bands 2, 4, 6)

DIMITAR DUSEV & ŽIKA NIKOLIČ (Side One, Band 1)

SLAVICA PAVLOVIČ & JOVANKA IVANOVSKA (Side Two, Band 1)

with The Stevo Teodosievski Ensemble (Side One, Bands 2, 3, 6; Side Two, Bands 3, 5)

The Nasko Džorlev Ensemble (Side One, Bands 1, 5; Side Two, Bands 1, 2, 4, 6)

The Urosevič Ensemble (Side One, Band 4)

A Jugoton recording

Cover photo: Esma Redžepova with young drummer.