SONGS and DANCES of ARMENIA

DANCE SONGS • FOLK SONGS • LOVE SONGS
FOLK DANCES • ROUNDELAYS • RECORDED IN ARMENIA

FOLKWAYS RECORDS

FP 6806
SONGS and DANCES of ARMENIA

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Band 1. TOI NERGIZ. Dance Song. Ensemble directed by T. Altunian featuring tar and kemancha, traditional Armenian instruments.

Chorus: Toi, toi, toi, Nargiz (repeat)
Vyree geroong errgan veez
Gago, mahray, garkay zees.

Zees mee dar vahnah khochin )
Gerta kharshin morna zees: ) repeat

Chorus

Zees mee dar deerahtzu martum, )
Gerta dzamduz morna zees: ) repeat

Chorus

Zees mee dar tuikar martu, )
Ped ge dasha morna zees: ) repeat

Chorus

Zees dur cordzavor martu, )
Mecuk tala gancha zees: ) repeat

Chorus

HEY, NARCISSUS

Chorus: Hey, hey, hey, Narcissus (repeat)
Wild crane, long neck
Mother Gago, marry me.

Don't give me to the rich man of Van, )
He'll go to market and forget me: ) repeat

Chorus

Don't give me to the deacon,
He'll go to church and forget me: ) repeat

Chorus

Note: Mother Gago -- akin to Mother Goose or Mother Hubbard, a folk symbol
WHAT, WHAT SHALL I SAY?

Returning from the field at dusk
They were walking along with a friend,
Your heavenly face is radiating.
Shall I say it's the sun or the moon?
What, what shall I say to my beautiful beloved?

Singing of the love of her heart
Holding the saz in her hand,
Praising from her lips.
Shall I say it's nabad or sugar?
What, what shall I say to my sweet beloved?

Proof - she has left her cares
Still she praises her beloved,
She does not speak to me, she is moody....
Shall I say she is mute, or shall I say she is a nightingale?
What, what shall I say to my pretty beloved?

Note: Saz -- a long-necked instrument.

"nabad" -- sweets, as sugar or rock-candy.
Band 4. GEZALS KHROVE. Folk Song. S. Mkrtchian with folk instrumental ensemble.

Gezals khrove, intz hed chee khoum,
Kone chee yerevah badgere desnem, (repeat)

Belbul lezveetz anooch taynee chem lesum,
Kone chee yerevah, badgere desnem, (repeat)

Chorus: Turs aree maydan,
Sareree sayran,
Khavakkee gezal djan,
Yes kezee haran. (repeat)

Asee shod mee seeree, verchum adell ga,
Asee shod mee seeree, verchum seereell ga, (repeat)

Ashoogh shahenee hez kez badahelli ga,
Gezal djan, turs aree, badgerret desnem. (repeat)

Chorus

I said, don't love too much, there's hating afterwards,
I said, don't hate too much, there's loving afterwards. (repeat)

Like the minstrel el Shahem I sing hoping thereby to meet you,
Come outside, my beloved, so I can see your face. (repeat)

Chorus:

Note: The word "she" can be substituted for "he" depending upon who is singing. "Buttermilk" is affectionate term, like "darling" or "honey-lamb." "Belle of Chavakh" is a folk symbol. Shahem is a famous minstrel.

SIDE 2

Band 4. SHIRAKI GEVONDI. Folk Dance. Shirak Roundelay's Folk Instrumental Ensemble directed by A. Merangolian, featuring kemanche and kanoon. As the tempo of the music increases the dancers move faster and faster.

For additional information on Armenian folk music and middle east music culture see Ethnic Folkways Library record album notes on Music of the Middle East, U.S.S.R. P 416.

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