THE ANCIENT SHEPHERD PIPES
PLAYED BY HILLEL
HILLEL RAVEH, now in his early fifties, was brought to Israel as a baby and grew up as the country began to mature. While in his teens, he joined the Hagannah, the Underground movement from which the present-day Israeli army evolved. During the Second World War, Hillel was a member of the Jewish Brigades that fought with the British Artillery. While on duty with these “shock troops,” Hillel lost a leg and was, therefore, disqualified for further service. The “shock troops” of these special Jewish Brigades subsequently developed into the “Palmach,” the Israel Defense Army.

HILLEL RAVEH is no stranger to the Folkways label. Together with his wife, Aviva, he has made three other albums of Israeli music for Folkways:

FW3051 HILLEL RAVEH sings SONGS OF THE ISRAEL DEFENSE ARMY
FW6841 SHEPHERD and other FOLK SONGS OF ISRAEL
FW6842 SONGS FROM THE BIBLE
FW6847 SONGS OF ISRAEL

On these recordings, Hillel plays the shepherd’s pipe (the Chalil) which has been traditional to the Middle East for thousands of years. Hillel’s Chalil, however, is no mass-produced instrument. Since he was 10 years old he played and made his own pipe from reeds found along the banks of the Jordan River. One of Hillel’s pipes has been passed on to the American folksinger, Pete Seeger, who has learned to use it expertly and generally includes some chalil selections on most of his concert programs.

SIDE 1
1. Night Galilee ©Hillel
2. Twilight ©Hillel
3. Coo Coo Song (Polish)
4. Quiet Village
5. Mountain Landscape ©Hillel
6. Negev Blues
7. What a Beautiful Day ©Hillel

SIDE 2
1. The Fields in the Valley
2. The Legend of the Sea of Galilee (Israel)
3. Meditation (Japan)
4. Samurai Song (Japan)
5. They Have Good Land Beyond the Mountain (China)
6. They Can Smile Over the Dreams
7. Villa Lobos: Brasilieros (Brazil)
8. Sea of Galilee
9. Robert Schumann: Dream

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