Guela Gill, of Palestine, is the singer in a musical family. She appeared as soloist with the Tel-Aviv Choir and toured Israel entertaining audiences with her own program of Israeli folk songs. In the United States she has been on radio and TV as well as concertizing with Dov Seltzer and the Tzabar Group. She has successfully toured Canada and the USA as well as Latin and South America. A native Sabra, Guela has added songs of many countries to her repertoire of Yemenite and other folk songs of Israel.

Dov Seltzer who accompanies Guela Gill and arranged the music, is well known in Israel as composer, arranger and performer; particularly for his work with the "Nachtal Theatre Group" as music director, and his participation in musical programs for the "kibuzim" (cooperatives), youth groups, agricultural settlement festivals and the Israel Radio. In addition to touring the US and Canada he has been featured on radio and TV.

Accompaniment is by:
Michael Kagan - Drums
Jonathan Seck - Chalil
Gene Glickman - Guitar

And Special Accompaniment by:
Amir Neeman: Chalil in "Noded", "Semnu La Midbar", and "Tebka"
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TAAM HAMAN (The Taste of Manna)

May my words fly to my love who is beautiful and pleasant like the taste of Manna.

Bukharian Melody
Words: traditional

SA E NOO (Song of the desert)

A very old oriental melody, the text describing the way of a Caravan in the desert.

BEIN NHAR PRAT

There is a story that somewhere between the rivers Euphrat and Hidkeel, there is a golden bird. Go little golden bird and look for my beloved; tell him I am waiting for him.

Persian Melody
Words: Ch. N. Bialek

SLOHEM ESHA LA

Song of praise to God the Creator of light and the high priest of the holy service.

Yemenite melody and words

OP KOED (Persian)

One who is homesick for his fatherland and like a lost bird wants to return to his nest.

BEBUCHARA

Satiric song, criticizing the justice and cleverness of the Emir of Bukhar.

MIPEL

Song praising God, Moses, The Torah and finally all children of Israel. Each verse starts with another letter of the Hebrew alphabet in consecutive order.

Sepharadic Melody
Words: traditional

B'MOTZAEI YOM Y'NUCHA

Part of the service of Havdalah (the ushering out of the Sabbath.)

Bukharian Melody
Words: prayers

HITNAGUT

If there is a quiet place in the world where a mother can sing a lullaby to her child underneath an almond tree, I would like to fly there one evening and count the stars in the firmament.

Sepharadic Lullaby
Words: Y. Karmi
SHUR DODI  (come my beloved)
A song of love for Zion comparing Mount Zion to a beloved.
Yemenite melody and words

KIZTANEY SHALOM  (Birds of Peace)
From my land, peace and justice will grow.
Sepharadic Melody
Words: Y. Navon

KICHLOT YEY NY  (Drinking song)
IBN GAHIROL, One of the most outstanding Hebrew poets of Spain (XIVth Century) wrote this couplet to protest against a wine seller who was mixing his wine with water. By using the Hebrew alphabet of letters and numbers, he writes a satiric poem which starts.....

There were 70 heroes (70 = to the word YAYIN = wine) That were swallowed by 90 officers (90 = to the word MAIM = water)....

He continues that he feels dry and can't write any poetry from drinking water and although he's a good friend to frogs, he knows better the taste of wine than of water.

DEBKA  (Druse Dance)
The Druse are a sect living in Israel and in Syria. They are not moslems and do not have many ceremonies similar to any of the existing religions. They have a vast folkloric tradition and their festivities (sometimes several days without intermission) are very famous in the entire Middle East.
The words for this Druse dance were written by a young Israeli poet.
SIDE I, Band 2: SA-E-NOO

El ha-mid-bar yi-sa-e-noo
Al dab-shot g'ma-lim.
Al tzav-rey-hem
Yi-ts'al-tze-lu pa'a-mo-nim g'do-lim.

CHORUS:
Sa-e-noo
La-mid-bar sa-e-noo
Li li li ....

Ha-li-la la-chem te-ha-le-loo
Ro-im na-md
Oo-ba-leY-lot al hash-vi-lim
Ha-ko-chavim roa-zim.

(CHORUS)

To the desert we shall hie.
On the humps of camels.
On their necks will peal large bells.

CHORUS:
Let us hie
To the desert
Li li li ....

Praise unto you - let them praise -
The shepherds are dosing.
And in the nights on the paths
The stars are gleaming.

(CHORUS)

SIDE I, Band 3: BEIN N'Har Prat UN’Har Hidekel

(Between the river Proth and the river Hidekel)

Words by Chaym Nahman Bialek ... Melody: Persian

Bein n’Har Prat un’Har Hidekel
Al ha-har mi-to-mer de-kel
U-ba-de-kel Bein a-fu-av
Tish-kon la shem du-chi-fat za-hav.

Ts’i-por za-hav u-fi-hu-gi
Tze-i u-vak-shi li ben zu-gi
U-ba-a-sher tim-tza-lu-hu
Kif-li o-to ve-ha-vi-hu.

Ach im ein lach hut ha-sha-ni
Dab-ri sha-lam el ha-ta-ni
U-ma ta-gi-dil 10 hu-gi-di
Naf-shi lo-tzet el is-di-di.

Im-ri lo ha-gan po-re-ah
Na-ul hu v’rein po-te-ah
Hl-mon pas sham ishein a-lav
Ach ein ml she-la-va-rech a-lav.

‘Twixt the river Proth and the river Hidekel
On the hill there stands a date-tree
And there among the blossoms
Nests a small golden swallow.

Golden bird go fly about
Go out and find my destined mate.
And wherever you may find him
Bind and bring him (unto me).

But if you do not have a red thread, 
Bespeak you peace unto my bridegroom.
And whatever you may tell him, 
Say my soul goes out to my destined one.

Tell him the garden in bloom is locked, 
And no one else can open it. 
Among its leaves is a golden pomegranate, 
But no one's there to make the blessing over it.

SIDE I, Band 4: ELOHIM KESHALA (THE LORD I'LL ASK)

El-o-him esh’a-la yo-tzer ma-or-im
Ve-ha-ho-hen she-hu ga-dol ke-e-chan
Je-be lo-veh
K’lil oo-sm v’too-sm.
The Lord I'll ask, Creator of lights,
And the priest who is greater than his brothers
He will clad himself in
A mantle of Uriah and Yamin
(Breastplate of High Priest)

SIDE I, Band 5: OF HO-DED (BIRD WITHOUT REST)

Words by D. Shimoni ... Melody: Persian

Mi yit-ne-nil of
Tri-por-ka-maf ke-ta-na!
Bin-doo-da-di en sof
Naf-shi na al-ta-na.

Mi yit-ne-nil of
Tri-por ka-maf ke-ta-na!
A-sher ba-ken ha-tov
Ta-noo-ach sha-na-na?

A-ha ko-of ne-dod
A-ni gam kein
La-noo-ach eyn li keyn.

Who has endowed me with flight -
A bird with tiny wing -
Of my wandering there is no end -
How tormented with yearning is my soul!

Who has endowed me with flight -
A bird with tiny wing -
That is its good nest
Rests in quietude?

I shall be like one left homeless -
I too shall wander on.
Ah, 'tis a time of great flight -
For to rest, I have no nest.

SIDE I, Band 6: BE-BOO-CHA-RAH (IN BUKHARA)

Be-boo-cha-rah ha-ya-fa
Zoo ih-ri be-roo-chat ha-she-mesh
Che-rev ha-mish-pat shloo-fa
Shom be-she-a-re ha-ir
Ha-e-met ta-tzoof ka-shemen.

Ve-he-dad lo la-o-mir, la-e-mir he-dad
Shney ah-chim rah-vim oh-soht ah-sir
Ha-e-mir et rosh shney-chem ah-sir
Ve-ha-e-sir hoo ha-sir shel ha-a-mir

CHORUS:
Ez-ra-chim pitz-choona ba-shir
Ki-o-met v'tze-dek mish-po-toh shel ha-a-mir.

Ma ka-shen li be-moh-noh
V'be-chas-rav eyn ma-chat
E-lef yesh be-har-moh-noh
Ve-cha-yahv ka-shim

Ach moo-chohn li atx-moh
Chal al-pu-yim rosh la-ka-chat.
Ki o-buv hoo et a-moh
Be-i-kar na-shim.

Yam eh-choh a-raf et rosh ha-av
Ve-et bat ze-ko-nav lookach ey-lav.
Bal tit-bohi ha-kam-la-la cher-pat ra-av.

(CHORUS)

In Bukhara the beautiful.
This my city blest by the sun,
The sword of Justice is unsheathed;
There in the gates of the town
The truth lights up like oil.

And they cried unto the Emir, unto the Emir they cried -
Two brothers quarreled about a captive -
The Emir cut off both their heads -
And the captive - was captive of the Emir.

CHORUS:
The home-folk broke into song -
For true and just is the judgment of the Emir.

How hard it is in his dwelling!
And in his hall no pleasure is.
1,000 there are in his harem (palace)
And his life is hard.

Yet he for his part is prepared
Another 100 heads to cut off,
For he loves his people -
Especially the women-folk.
One day he cut off the chief's head
And his youngest daughter took unto himself
Lest the unfortunate one should suffer the shame of hunger.

(Bukharite Tune ... Words by K. Khafar)
SIDE II, Band 1: MI-PI-EL (FROM THE LIPS OF GOD)

Eyn A-dir ke-e-lo-him
Eyn ba-rooeh de-Ben Amram.
Eyn ge-do-laah ka-to-rah
Ve-eyn de-go-gu-lim ke-yis-ra-el.

CHORUS:
MI-PI-EL,
MI-PI-EL
Ve-vo-raah kol Yis-ra-el.

Eyn ha-dur ke-el-o-him
Ve-eyn va-tik ke-Ben Amram.
Eyn za-kah ka-to-rah
Ve-eyn la-ma-nim ke-yis-ra-el.

CHORUS:

There's none so mighty as the Lord.
None is so blest as Ben Amram.
There is no greatness like the Lord's And none so precious as Israel.

CHORUS:
From the lips of God,
Blest be all of Israel.

There's none more glorious than God And none more pious than Ben Amram.
There's none so pure as the Torah, And none so wise as Israel.

SIDE II, Band 2: HAYDVALAH

(From the Havdalah ritual marking the end of the Sabbath)

Bukharian tune

Somroe hilulah lo-me-idamam ehayim
(Torrachim toshavim)

CHORUS:

Upon departure of the Day of Rest, That for Your People finds success Send the Tishbite (Elijah) for delight And banish sorrow and deep woe.

CHORUS:

There will come to you the Creator To gather together our scattered nation From the hands of cruel folk That had dug for me a grave.

 않은 אריר כאלים
אין ברוך בכון עופר
אין גאלת חodesk
ואין试剂ים כימרלא.

애רן אתים לא Yöי
יברך אתים

אין אריר כאלים
אין ברוך בכון עופר
אין גאלת חodesk
ואין试剂ים כימרלא.

אהבה
(תנומת - בוכרי)
(משה)
(משה)

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מקסאא' יוד スワト
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לבקש אותו בורובה
לא רגול סברבה
יהי דתוקות והאר
לישועת והרותה.
In the Lord's time will be aroused
To save the nation that has asked
To behold Your goodness when comes the Redeemer
To the sheep scattered and astray.

(Chorus)

SIDE II, Band 3: HIT-RÁ-GOOT (SERENITY)
Words by J. Kenny ... Melody: Sephardic

In yesh ey sham ra-chok
Nah-re ka-han sha-kot
Ve-loh go-nuh-ta shol etz
Ve-el ya-loh sha-hed.

In yesh ey sham ra-chok
Ve-lyo-nay-ocht par-na
Say-ta le-ray-da-ta
To-shir shir ar-cha.
Ha-rey a-ootz le-chem
Bo-va-ched ha-a-ro-vim
Ve-shoc' n'ney yach-uov
His-par ha-ko-cha-vin.

If there is a distant dwelling
Catty, small and quiet,
And it has a balcony of wood,
And near it is an almond-tree -

If there is a far a ledge
And it has hundreds of acres
And a grandma under it to her grandchildren
Sings a cradle-song -

We shall fly to the hills,
And there some evening
We'll sit and count together
The multitude of stars.

SIDE II, Band 4: SHUR DO-DI (SYMBOLIC) (SONG OF MY
BELOVED)

Shur do-di ha-dar tziv-ya a-zoo-va
Bein a'dud a-ra-yot
Tir-tze am-cha
Ra-a-le har Tri-on
Ba-shir ve-zim-ra.

Listen, oh Lord,
Who keeps the empty city still shining,
Although it is surrounded by a herd of lions,
If you want we will ascend Mount Zion
With chant and song.

SIDE II, Band 5: NITZ-A-HI SHA-LOM (SPARKS OF PEACE)
Words by I. Haven ... Melody: Sephardic

Itz-ma sha-lom rav es-ar-tzi
Ha-ve sha-lom lir chem-da-ti
Cholik kol a-zim yiv-noo pir-tzi
Yo-doo kol a-zim chem da-ti.

Al yi-sa goy al goy yo-loh
L'tov ool-sa-da yit-cha-roo
Yi-yeh-goo emet v'ya-gl-doo
Tzid-kot a-mi chish ya-ki-roo.

Ha-vi m'roo-dam l'im-cha-la
Arz-a a-vot bey: ra-va-chim
Oon-fo-tzi sha-ba-go-la
Shi-nem ha-ya b'miv-ta-chim.

Let mighty peace grow from my land -
Beautiful peace from the land of my love.
Restitude and justice let them set up -
Let all peoples know the delight of my faith.

Let no nation raise its hand against another.
The Good they'll learn and will grow free.
There'll be a just nation, they will say.
The justness of my people they will admit.
Let us bring the oppressed to their heritage.
To the land of their fathers amid a throng of brethren,
And those scattered in exile -
Their names will be among the rescued.

SIDE II, Band 6: IKHCH-LOT YEH-NI
Words by Ib'n Gabirol (15th Century)

CHORUS:
Kikh-lot yeh-ni, te-red eyni
Pal-gey ma-yim.

Shi-ye-ha ma-gib-o-rim
V'iach-hi-dim tish-im sa-ram
Shab-tu shi-ram ki pi sa-ram.

Le-chem le-e-chol eyn am
0 eich ma-chal el cheyek i-nam
Eyt ha-gvi-im lifnei ha-am
Yo-tan ma-yim?

Mi yam suf Ben Am-ram ho-vish
V'-lo-re Mitz-ra-yim hiv-lish
A-chen ki zeh No she ha-lish
Ta-sel ma-yim.

Na-sir y-e-yeh lif-ney mo-to
Kiv-ne rey-chov ti-ye da-to
Y'hi-ba-nav oov-ney bey-to
Sho-ve ma-yim.

(CHORUS)

When ends my wine, my eyes - they drip
Pools of water.

Seventy were they - the heroes -
And wiped out ninety officers.
I have left off singing, for the mouths of the officers were filled with water.

Bread to eat - how pleasant it is!
Or how can a meal taste good to the palate
While the wine-cup of the people
Is filled with water?

Part of the Red Sea Ben Amram dried up
And stark up the Nine of Egypt.
Indeed this was the man Moses
Who released the water (from the rock).

A holy hermit he'Il be before his death
Like Yithra's sons' will be the law -
His sons and members of his household shall be
Drawers of water.