

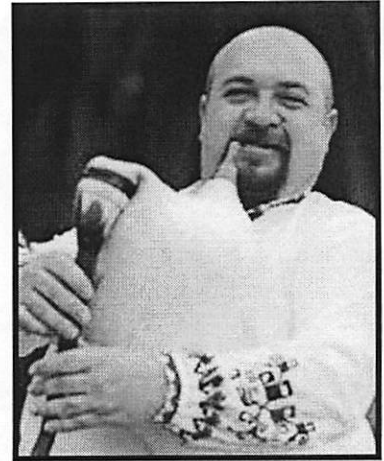
**Some of the Bitov
tunes taught by**

Vassil Bebelev

To his many students

In Memory of Vassil Bebelev (1960 – 2016)

Vassil Bebelev, beloved husband, adoring father, cherished son, loving brother, gracious friend, generous teacher, and master musician passed away suddenly on July 31, 2016 in Mendocino, CA, where he was performing and teaching at Lark Camp. Always loving, encouraging, supporting, and challenging his family, friends, students, and colleagues, Bati Vasko brought out the best in us. The songs in this booklet are a small part of Vassil's wonderful legacy to the community.



In honor of Vassil, here is a glimpse into his life and legacy:

A pillar of the global Bulgarian community and true bearer of the living Bulgarian heritage, his musical legacy impacted countless students and peers. Born in the Rhodope mountain town of Devin, he was inspired to a life of folk music by village traditions and his grandfather, who played kaba gajda, a low pitched majestic sounding bagpipe specific to his home region in southern Bulgaria. Vassil joined Sto Kaba Gaida, an ensemble of 100 bagpipes, at age 11. He went on to graduate from the folk music school in Shiroka Luka, a special high school dedicated to preserving traditional music, songs, and dance. Vassil continued his musical education and graduated with honors from the Plovdiv Folk Music Conservatory, the highest level of traditional music education obtainable in Bulgaria.

Vassil toured with the well-known Ensemble Trakia throughout Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, appearing in more than 300 performances. He also performed and produced records, cassettes, and CDs during three seasons with the Philipopolis Ensemble and recorded extensively for National Radio Sofia and Radio Plovdiv. He taught at the Shiroka Luka Music School for many years, before immigrating to the United States.

Once in America, he served as a visiting professor in the Ethnomusicology Department at UCLA. He was a frequent teacher at the Eastern European Folklife Center's Balkan Music and Dance Workshops, on both the East and West coasts. Always a performer, he continued to participate in traditional Bulgarian music tours throughout the Americas with Sredets, Kef Orchestra, Bebelevovi Family, Trio Zulum, Bulgarika, and Grupa Maistori ensembles.

His consummate musicianship shown ceaselessly through his open heart and open mind, not to mention his exquisite playing. One of the greatest musicians many of us have ever met in any genre, he embodied his tradition with respect, bravery, innovation, humor, and inimitable soul. His work as a performer and educator brought Bulgarian traditional music into the hearts, souls, and hands of countless people, both in Bulgaria and in his adopted home here in the United States.

Georgi Petrov

Pravo Horo

Arranged by Georgi Petrov
based on Ibro Lolov melodies.
August 2009

1

G C 1,3 G D 2,4 G

2

C G D G

11

C G D G

1

G C 1,3 G D 2,4 G

2a

C G D G

1

C G D G

2

C G D G

3

C G D G 1,3 G 2,4

4

A Gm A 1,3 A 2,4

5

Gm A Gm A 1,3 A 2,4

4X

6 

7 

4X

8 



4X

9 

10 

4X

11 



4 

5 

CHETVORNO

A

Am Dm Am 1. Am 2.

B

Dm Am Dm Am 1. Am 2.

C

Am Dm G Am 1. Am 2.

D

Dm Am G Em Am 1. Am 2.

E

1: Am 55 2: C Am 55 D Am 65 Dm Am 55 G Am 55 G

F

A E A E A E A

G

Gm OR GOPEN A

H

A E A E A 1, 3 A 2. A 4.

UPDATED: NOVEMBER 8, 2020

SEQUENCE:
ABAB, THEN STRAIGHT DOWN
THE PAGE, AB, FINE

DAJCHOVO HORO

A

1 2 3 4

5

5 6 7 8

B

9 10 11 12

13

13 14 15 16

C

17 18 19 20

22

21 22 23 24

D

25 26 27 28

31

29 30 31 32

DAJCHOVO HORO -- PAGE 2

E **G_M**

35

Musical staff 35-38: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 35 starts with a repeat sign. Chords G_M and A are indicated above the staff.

G_M **D** **A**

39

Musical staff 39-42: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chords G_M, D, and A are indicated above the staff.

E

43

Musical staff 43-44: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chord E is indicated above the staff.

E

45

Musical staff 45-48: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chord E is indicated above the staff.

A **E** **A** **E** **A** **E** **A** **E**

49

Musical staff 49-52: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chords A, E, A, E, A, E, A, E are indicated above the staff.

A

53

Musical staff 53-56: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chord A is indicated above the staff.

A

57

Musical staff 57-59: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chord A is indicated above the staff.

E **A** **D**

1. 2.

60

Musical staff 60-63: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chords E, A, and D are indicated above the staff. First and second endings are marked with '1.' and '2.'.

D.C. AL FINE

SEQUENCE:
ABC 2x DE
ABCDE A FINE

RUCHENITSA FOR THE GODFATHER

VASSIL BEBELEKOV
MENDO 2009
TR: UNKNOWN

A

1 5 9 13 17 21

B

C

25 29

RUCHENITSA FOR THE GODFATHER -- PAGE 2

D

4x A D A D A E

33

E

4x A D A D D E

37

(orig. key a fourth higher)

transcr. P. Yacono from
recording by Vasil Bebelev
(from recording "From Generation to Generation")

♩ ≈ 100

freely

Dragneva Tropanka (low key)

gajda solo

A *accel.* *rit.* *tâpan* *basic rhythm* *a tempo* 1., 3. *sm.* 2., 4. *b*

B *4x* *Gm* *A* *Gm* *A*

C *A* 1. 2.

D *A* *Gm* *A* *Gm* *A*

E *E* 1. 2.

F *E* *4x* *A* *E* *A* *E*

G *A* *E* *A* *E*

Dragneva Tropanka (low key) p. 2

H G_m A A

System H: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The piece begins with a repeat sign. The first measure has a G_m chord. The melody consists of eighth notes with a flat (Bb) and a natural (B). The system concludes with a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.), both marked with an 'A' chord above the staff.

I G

System I: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The piece begins with a repeat sign. The melody consists of eighth notes with a natural (B) and a flat (Bb). The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

J A_m 1. 2.

System J: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The piece begins with a repeat sign. The melody consists of eighth notes with a natural (B) and a flat (Bb). The system concludes with a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.), both marked with an 'A_m' chord above the staff.

KOPANICA

A **A** **Dm** **Gm**

4

A **Gm** **A**

7

Gm **A**

11

A **Gm** **A**

15

G **D** **G** **D**

19

G **D** **G** **D**

23

A **Gm** **A**

27

G **C** **G** **Dm** **Am**

31

C **Dm** **Am**

31

H 35 Am G Dm Am

Musical staff H, measures 35-42. Chords: Am, G, Dm, Am.

G 39 C Dm Am

Musical staff G, measures 39-46. Chords: C, Dm, Am.

H 43 Am G Dm Am

Musical staff H, measures 43-50. Chords: Am, G, Dm, Am.

F 47 G C G Dm Am

Musical staff F, measures 47-54. Chords: G, C, G, Dm, Am.

C 51 A Gm A

Musical staff C, measures 51-58. Chords: A, Gm, A.

I 55 A Gm A Gm A

1, 3. 2, 4.

Musical staff I, measures 55-62. Chords: A, Gm, A, Gm, A. Includes first and second endings.

J 58 A Gm A

Musical staff J, measures 58-65. Chords: A, Gm, A.

K 62 A Gm A Gm A Gm A Gm A

Musical staff K, measures 62-69. Chords: A, Gm, A, Gm, A, Gm, A, Gm, A.

L 66 B Am B Am B

Musical staff L, measures 66-73. Chords: B, Am, B, Am, B.

UPDATED: NOV 10, 2018

VARNENSKI KJUCHEK

ARR: VASSIL BEBELEKOV

SEQUENCE:

ABAB, TO END, AB FINE

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

TRANSCRIBED BY DAVID JOHNSTON 7/06

TRANPOSED DOWN A FOURTH BY JIM MCGILL 10/18/16

SEQUENCE:
ABAB, CDCD, EF, AB

VASSIL'S RUCHENITSA

TR: JIM MCGILL
9/10/2013

AS LEARNED FROM VASSIL BEBELEKOV AT MENDOCINO, 2013

A

5

B

C

D

E

F

UPDATED: NOVEMBER 8, 2020

MAKAMLIJSKO HORO

SEQUENCE:
ABAB, CDEFG, EF

TRAKISKATA TROIKA
BHM 6101-II

A

1 2 3 4 5 6

Bm F#m Bm F#m

7 8 9 10 11 12

B

13 14 15 16 17 18

D Bm F#m

19 20 21 22 23 24

C

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

Bm F#m

33 34 35 36

D

37 38 39 40 41 42

Bm F#m

43 44 45 46 47 48

MAKAMLIJSKO HORO -- PAGE 2

A

E 41

45

A

F 49

1, 3. 2, 4.

TAMBURA SOLO B

G 54

1, 3. 2, 4.

TUTTI

A

E 59

63

A

F 67

1, 3. 2, 4.