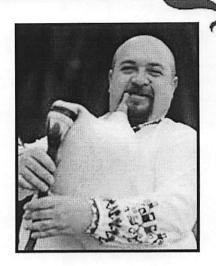
Some of the Bitov tunes taught by

Vassil Bebelekov

To his many students

In Memory of Vassil Bebelekov (1960 – 2016)

Vassil Bebelekov, 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.

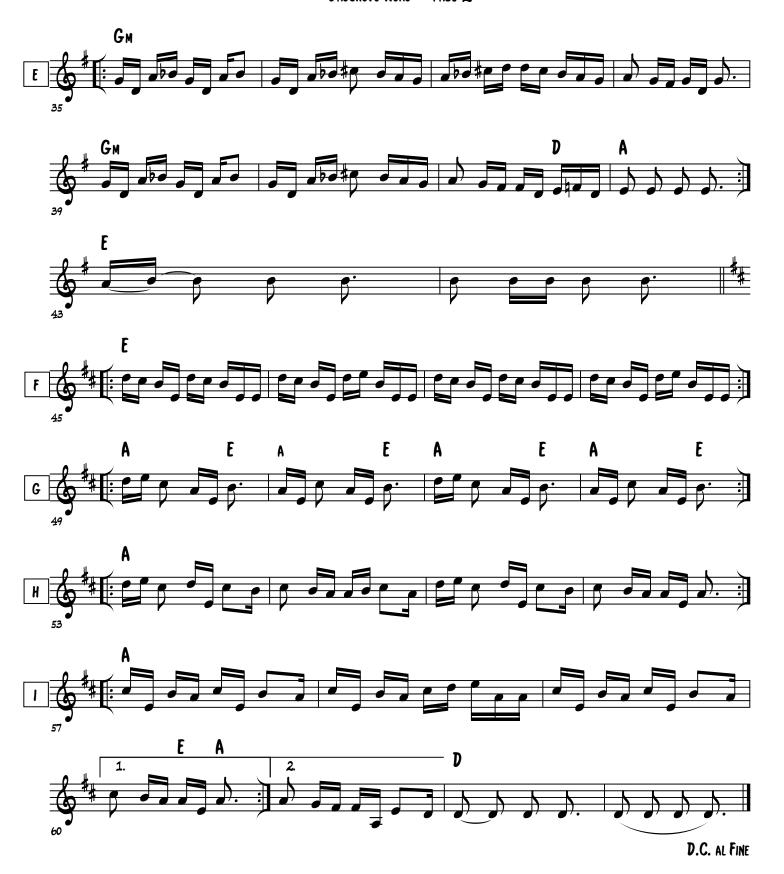
Once in America, he served as a visiting professor in the Ethnomusicology Department at UCLA. He was a frequent teacher at the Eastern European Folklife Center's Balkan Music and Dance Workshops, on both the East and West coasts. Always a performer, he continued to participate in traditional Bulgarian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

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

Dajchovo Horo



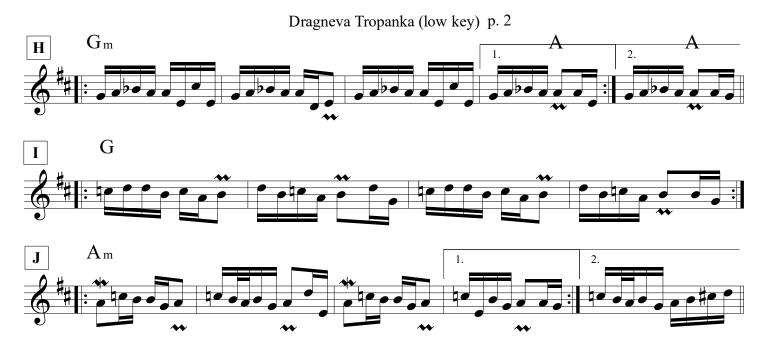


UPDATED: 2017.0CT.29

(orig. key a fourth higher)

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





Updated: August 18, 2020

Georgi Petrov

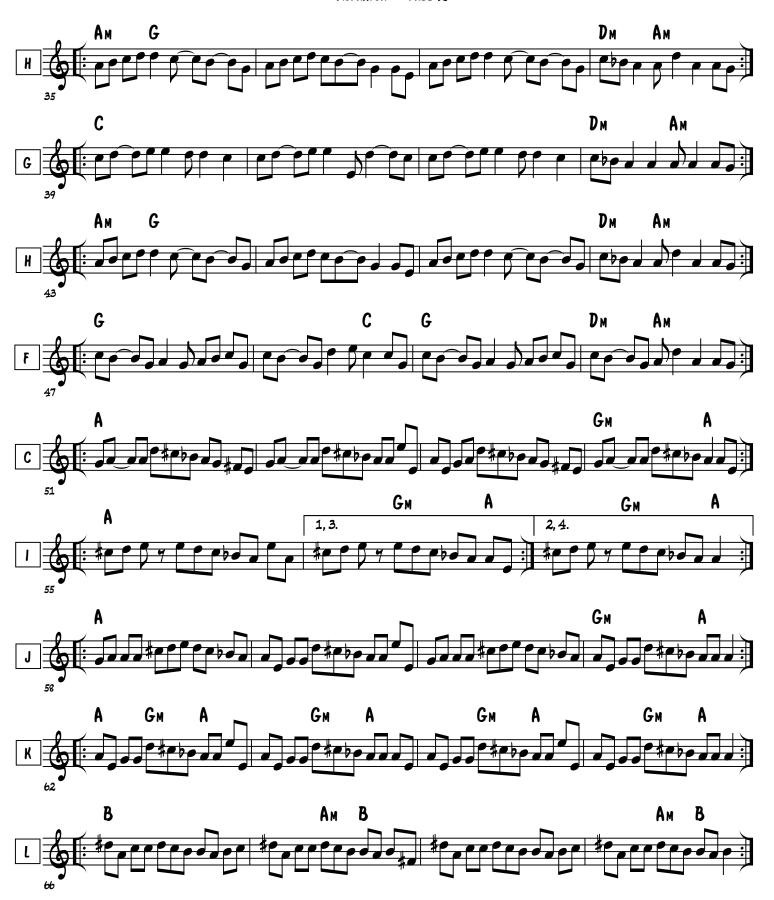
2021 Kolo Festival Pg 7 Arranged by Georgi Petrov based on Ibro Lolov melodies. August 2009





UPDATED: JUNE 14, 2020 Kopanica VASSIL BEBELEKOV SEQUENCE: MENDOCINO 2001 & 2003 ABAB, TO END DM Gm





Sequence: ABCD AB->EFG ABCD

Piperovo Horo

Strandzhanskata Grupa

Mostly as transcribed by Marcus Moskoff, changes are with his permission & agreement



Piperovo, pg 2

