

JVC WORLD SOUNDS

JVC World Sounds is a series of CDs featuring the traditional music unique to many countries, music which people all over the world enjoy listening to and performing.

The most advanced recording techniques have been used in order to present the music in all its natural freshness.

This collection featuring musical voices from every corner of the globe is now being offered by Japan to the world.

Please note that some country names mentioned in the body of the text differ from their present names. This is because of changes in the names of countries, etc., that have taken place after the commentary was written.

GEORGIA

GEORGIAN POLYPHONY (II)

Martve Boys' Chorus

Sakartvelo is the local name for Georgia, the republic of the U.S.S.R. located to the north of Turkey between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. The polyphonic choral music of Sakartvelo is characterised by the plentiful use of irregular rhythms, solo recitatives accompanied by drones, harmony incorporating intervals of a minor second and a major seventh, and a method of vocal production without vibrato.

The Martve Boys' Choir

The Martve Boys' Choir was founded in 1978 by Nateli Dzhigauri,

director of the Tbilisi Academy of Art and Education, with Angzor Erkomainishvili as its musical director.

1) **Shairebi Kahuri**

This piece begins with an exchange between two boys which is followed by a section for the full choir. *Shairebi* means “joke song”.

2) **Varado Apkhazuri**

This song, supported by a drone, describes a soldier who has died in battle.

3) **Modi Ak Dadjeki Shvilo**

The title means “My son, come and sit by my side”. The text of the song suggests that it was intended to be sung on occasions such as the intervals between work in the fields and when relaxing at home.

4) **Nana**

This lullaby has its origins in the Kachreti district in the easternmost part of Sakartvelo.

5) **Imeruli Mhedruli**

The boy sopranos sing the main melody after a low unison passage. The song describes a man riding on a horse.

6) **Batonebo**

A song sung by a group of people gathered around the bed of a sleeping child suffering from a malady.

7) **Kartvelo Heli Hmals Ikar**

This is a song of encouragement for soldiers about to march off to battle. The title means “Georgians, take up your swords!”

8) Chiche Tura

The title means "Little Fox". This is a comical song with a text describing a fox which makes its way stealthily one night into a chicken pen, but awakens the people in the house and is forced to beat a hasty retreat. The people then chase after the fox.

9) Gaprindi Shavo Mertzhalo

The title of this piece means "Fly, black swallow!" The text portrays the nostalgia for his homeland felt by a soldier at war far away from home.

10) Garekahuri Mgzavruli

This is a travel song from the easternmost district of Georgia describing a journey along a mountain pass.

11) Didi Hnidan Gagitsani

The title of this song means "We met so long ago". It is a love song describing a young and beautiful girl.

12) Mravalzjamieri

This is a song of welcome expressing the desire for longevity and sung especially at banquets.

13) Garekahuri Sachidao

This song is sung by the spectators at wrestling contests held at village festivals. The contest begins as soon as the song is over.

14) Aragvispiruli Lashkruli

This is a song intended to encourage soldiers in battle.

15) Gogo Shavtvala

The title means "Girl with black eyes". This is a love song describing a

beautiful girl.

16) Tsangalada Gogona

This comical song is performed in the form of an exchanges between the choir divided into two sections.

17) Tsintskaro

This song describes a man who meets a beautiful girl by the side of a spring, but his attempts at wooing the girl prove to be in vain.

18) Kalos Helhvavi

This work song is sung when cultivating and harvesting corn fields.

19) Naduri

This is also a work song sung when cultivating the corn fields.

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