

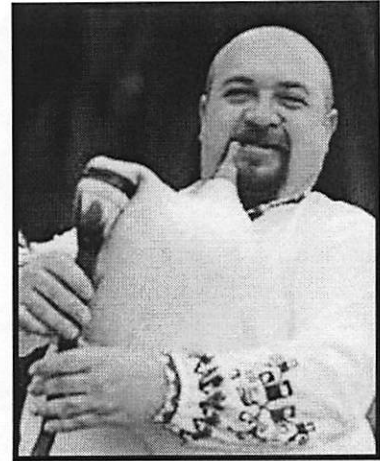
**Some of the Bitov
tunes taught by**

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, Bebelevi 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.

CHETVORNO

The musical score for 'CHETVORNO' is written in 7/16 time and consists of eight systems, labeled A through H. Each system contains a single melodic line with guitar chords indicated above the staff. The piece features several repeat signs with first and second endings. The key signature changes from one sharp (F#) to two sharps (F# and C#) between systems F and G, and then returns to one sharp (F#) between systems G and H.

System A: Chords: Am, Dm, Am (1.), Am (2.)

System B: Chords: Dm, Am, Dm, Am (1.), Am (2.)

System C: Chords: Am, Dm, G, Am (1.), Am (2.)

System D: Chords: Dm, Am, G, Em, Am (1.), Am (2.)

System E: Chords: 1: Am, 2: C, Am, D, Am, Dm, Am, G, Am (1.), Am (2.)

System F: Chords: A, E, A, E, A, E, A

System G: Chords: Gm, A (1.), A (2.)

System H: Chords: A, E, A, E, A (1, 3.), A (2.), A (4.)

UPDATED: OCTOBER 16, 2020

Chichovata

1

D G A⁷ D

2

3 D G A⁷ D D⁷ G A⁷ D

3

5 D G A⁷ D

4

7 D G A⁷ D D⁷ G A⁷ D

5

9 D A⁷ A G A⁷ D

11 D Em A⁷ D D Em A⁷ D

1.3. 3 3 3 3 2.4. 3 3

6

13 D A⁷ D B⁷ Em A⁷ D

7

15 D G A⁷ D

8

17 D⁷ G A⁷ D D⁷ G A⁷ D

9

19 D G A⁷ D

10

21 D⁷ G A⁷ D D⁷ G A⁷ D

23 **11** D A⁷ A G A⁷ D

25 1.3. D Em A⁷ D D Em A⁷ D 2.4. 3 3

27 **12** D A⁷ D B⁷ Em A⁷ D

29 **13** Em 3

30 Em 1.3. Em 2.4. 3 3

32 **14** Em D G D G 3 3

34 Em D G A⁷ D Em 3

36 **15** Em D G 1.3. A⁷ D 2.4. A⁷ B⁷ Em 3

39 **16** Em D G D G 3 3

41 Em D G A⁷ D Em 3

43 **17** Em D G 1.3. A⁷ D 2.4. A⁷ B⁷ Em 3

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 **GM**

35

GM **D** **A**

39

E

43

E

45

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

49

A

53

A

57

E **A** **D**

1. 2.

60

D.C. AL FINE

Djunguritsa

- Pirin, Bulgaria

Transcribed by Ryan Francesconi
as learned from Vasil Bebelev, 7/03

A

1st: E⁵
2nd: Em

/A /B E⁵ E⁵ Am Bm Em
C D G D/F# G C D G

B

Am D G Am A D Bm C G Am Bm Em

D.C.

C

E⁵ D D⁷ D/F# G

Cm D/F# G Am D G Am Bm Em

E

E⁵ Am D G Am A D Bm C D/F# G Am Bm Em

2 MEASURES OF E

F

E Dm E Am E

G

Dm E E Dm E Am E Am Dm

E Dm E Am E Dm E

2

H

27 Am E Dm E

29 Am E Am E Dm E

I

KOLYO

31 Am G C C Am D (G) C Am D G Am Bm Em

J

35 Am Cm D G Am (Bm) Em Am D G C Am Bm Em

K

39 Am D G Am Em Am Cm D G Am Bm Em

L

D.S. I

43 E Dm E

45 Am E Dm E

M

47 E Dm E

49 E Am E Dm E

FINE

(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 (B_b). The system ends with a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.), both marked with an 'A' chord above the staff. The first ending concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots, while the second ending concludes with a double bar line and a fermata.

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 flat (B_b). The system ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

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 flat (B_b). The system ends with a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.), both marked with an 'A_m' chord above the staff. The first ending concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots, while the second ending concludes with a double bar line and a fermata.

DULGOPOLSKA DEVIATKA

A 


B 

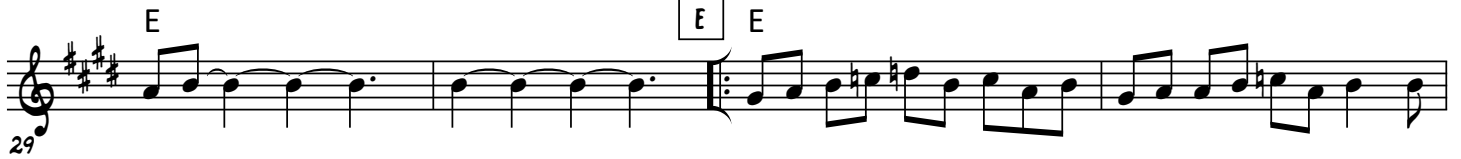
C 





D 







F 

G 



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 

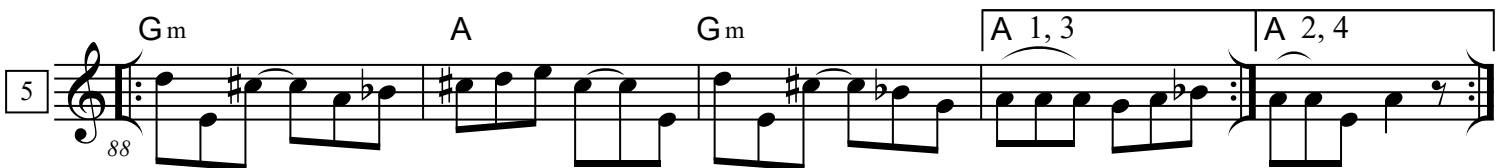
10 

4X

11 



4 

5 

UPDATED: JUNE 14, 2020

SEQUENCE:

ABAB, TO END

KOPANICA

VASSIL BEBELEKOV

MENDOCINO 2001 & 2003

The musical score for 'KOPANICA' is written in 11/8 time and consists of 32 measures. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into eight systems, each with a letter label (A through G) and a measure number. Chords are indicated above the staff, and melodic lines are written in treble clef. Wavy lines above notes indicate vibrato. The sequence of chords and measures is as follows:

- System A:** Measures 1-4. Chords: A, Dm, Gm, A.
- System B:** Measures 5-8. Chords: Gm, A.
- System C:** Measures 9-12. Chords: Am, Gm, A.
- System D:** Measures 13-16. Chords: G, D, G, D.
- System E:** Measures 17-20. Chords: G, D, G, D.
- System F:** Measures 21-24. Chords: A, Gm, A.
- System G:** Measures 25-28. Chords: G, C, G, Dm, Am.
- System H:** Measures 29-32. Chords: C, Dm, Am.

H 35 Am G Dm Am

G 39 C Dm Am

H 43 Am G Dm Am

F 47 G C G Dm Am

C 51 A Gm A

I 55 A Gm A Gm A

1, 3. 2, 4.

J 58 A Gm A

K 62 A Gm A Gm A Gm A Gm A

L 66 B Am B Am B

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

Bm F#m

29 30 31 32

D

33 34 35 36

Bm F#m

37 38 39 40

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.

Sequence:
ABCD
AB->EFG
ABCD

Piperovo Horo

Strandzhanskata Grupa

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

Orchestra

A

Am

7 G C D Dm Am

13 Am G Am

19 Am G Am

Solo Gadulka & Tambura

B

Am

1, 3 2, 4

Orchestra

C

A

1, 3 2, 4

D

A

1, 3 2, 4

Solo Gajda

E

A

1, 3 2, 4

Piperovo, pg 2

45 A

1, 3 2, 4

Solo Kaval

50 E

1, 3 2, 4

Gadulka joins Kaval

55 E

1, 3 2, 4

Solo Gadulka & Tambura

60 A

1, 3 2, 4

65 A

1, 3 2, 4

SEQUENCE:
ABC 2x DE
ABCDE A FINE

RUCHENITSA FOR THE GODFATHER

VASSIL BEBELEKOV
MENDO 2009
TR: UNKNOWN

A

1 5

B

9 13 17 21

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

SOS MA KARASH MAICHINKO

ARR: VASSIL BEBELEKOV

BREAK Em Am Em Em Am Em D Em

9

SONG G D G

14

D G

18

G D Em

23

Am Em Am Em

(ONLY PLAYED FOR REPEATED VERSES)

UPDATEE: NOV 10, 2018

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

E

A

A

E

A

E

A

5

E

A

E

A

E

A

A

D

A

A

D

A

A

D

A

A

D

A

D

A

E

A

D

A

D

A

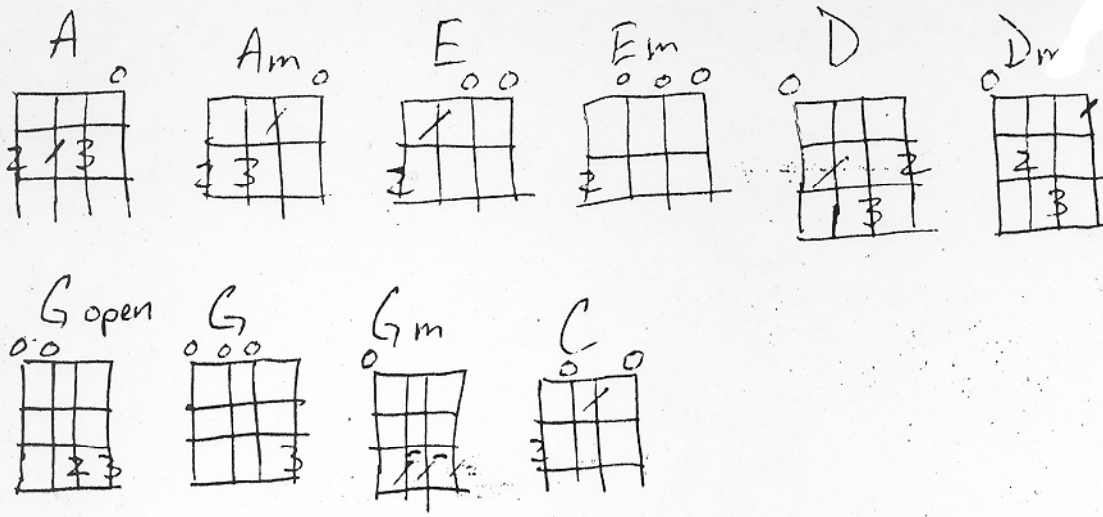
D

A

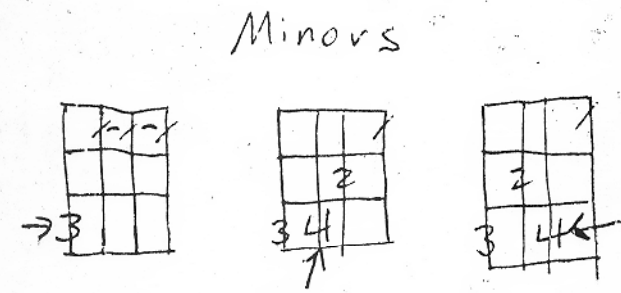
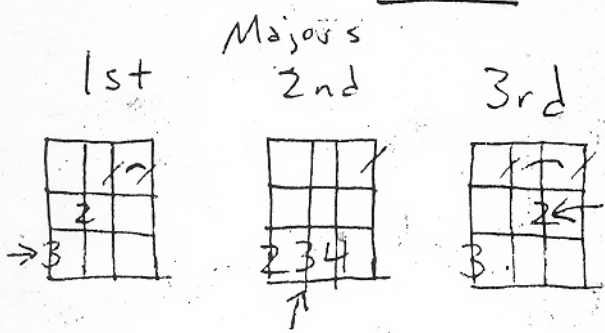
E

UPDATED: OCTOBER 10, 2020

Open Forms



Closed (Moveable) Forms arrow indicates tonic



	Fret →												
FORM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1st Major	F	F [#] , G ^b	G	G [#] , A ^b	A	A [#] , B ^b	B	C	C [#] , D ^b	D	D [#] , E ^b	E	F
2nd Major	A [#] , B ^b	B	C	C [#] , D ^b	D	D [#] , E ^b	E	F	F [#] , G ^b	G	G [#] , A ^b	A	A [#] , B ^b
3rd Major	C [#] , D ^b	D	D [#] , E ^b	E	F	F [#] , G ^b	G	G [#] , A ^b	A	A [#] , B ^b	B	C	C [#] , D ^b
3rd Minor	f	f [#] , e ^b	e	f	f [#] , g ^b	g	g [#] , a ^b	a	a [#] , b ^b	b	c	c [#] , d ^b	d