

Dear Mrs. Wilson,

I read in the internet that you are searching for suitable music for the time of complete insulation due to the Coronavirus and decided to send you one of the songs we composed with my mother, the ethnomusicologist **Prof. Dr Dimitrina Kaufmann** for Kaufmann Project, called **Rodopska Legenda** (The Legend of the Rhodopa Mountain). The soloist of the song and original singer from the Rhodopa mountain, **Mariyana Pavlova** is a Guinness Record holder for lowest female voice on the Planet. Right now Mariyana is taking care of her very sick mother (the famous Bulgarian singer Hristina Lyutova) in London. **“Rodopska legenda”** is based on an authentic folk song, recorded by my father in the middle of the 20th century. It is about a water nymph which mesmerizes the young and handsome lad Ilya. It is a very beautiful song about eternal love which I hope will give you and Tom Hanks the power to overcome the Coronavirus!

My mother and I would like to send you some authentic Bulgarian folk songs as well. We hope that they will be very heart-warming for you because this is the kind of music your father has been listening and probably singing as a boy. This music has never been published. The songs are from the archive of my Dad, **academician Nikolay Kaufmann**, who suffered from dementia and died in our hands on this day two years ago. These are field records from the 50s and 60s of the 20th century from the Rhodopa mountain. The last song is from Nedelino. The Nedelino Polyphony was discovered by my father in the beginning of the 50s. The village of your father belongs to the same cultural region and the songs are very similar. The other six songs are from the Rhodopa mountain as well from a population that migrated from South West Rhodopa and Pirin to the region of Velingrad. All performers are between 11 and 14 years old. Their singing is archaic and extremely beautiful. When my Dad went to record them there was no other transport but horses and donkeys and people have never heard radio. You can imagine how well preserved and untouched their culture has been at that time. The fifth song (11. Izdol ide le, Hasancheto) we chose in your father's memory as it is about a guy called Hasan (Hasancheto - diminutive from Hasan). These are all ritual songs:

04. Ya mi podai, mari, kliychovetu (Give me the keys - Wedding song)

07. Varay, bela Nedo (Hurry up, white Neda - Harvest song)

08. Gelino mila, hubava (You, beautiful bride - Wedding song, when older women paint the face of the bride

https://www.dnevnik.bg/video/2017/10/28/3061288_maskata_koiato_krie_bulka_a_video/)

09. Da znaesh Yane (If you only know, Yane, what a maden I fale in love with - Bayram Horo)

11. Izdol ide le, Hasancheto (Hasan is coming - Horo)

37. Yusseine, ranena deliyo (Hussein wounded hero - Harvest song)

Last song is Nedelino Polyphony. We would like to send these songs to you in person.

Please, accept our appreciation and respect for your and your husband's great professional achievements and talent!

We wish you and Mr. Hanks fast recovery and send all our love from Bulgaria!

Yours sincerely,

Maria, Dimitrina and Rosy Kaufmann