

# Steven Light

## Balkan Time

### Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet



Music from the Southeastern region of Europe known as the Balkans which include the countries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and part of Turkey, is characterized by its use of compound meters or uneven rhythmic groupings and fast ornamentation. In addition much of the vocal music of the region includes very close (dissonant) harmonies sung in a strong vocal style. In these 4 pieces, however, the harmonies are characterized by 3rds and 6ths. When you see 16th notes figures or a "mordent"  $\text{w}$  symbol this represents a quick ornamental figure, usually the written note, a note above (or below) then the following written note

At first, rhythmic groupings like  $7/8$ ,  $11/8$  and  $15/8$  seem odd to our "western" ears but with some continued listening and experience they can become just as familiar and comfortable as our  $4/4$ . All compound meters can be broken down into groups of 2 or 3 8th notes; with the 8th note beat constant. The groupings for each piece are indicated at the beginning, however at fast tempos, counting 1-2, 1-2, 1-2, 1-2-3, 1-2 (or 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8-9, 10-11), becomes unwieldy. As in our "Cut-time", counting the larger groupings can be helpful. But there is no substitute for listening and practicing the groupings!

$\text{  } \frac{11}{8}$												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	1	2		
1	+	2	+	3	+	4	+	a	5	+		

This suite contains four selections chosen for their contrasting styles, tempos and meters.

**Jovano, Jovanke** is a Macedonian song about two young lovers separated by their disapproving parents. The song mentions the Vardar River which runs through present-day Macedonia and Greece. It is a good introduction to compound meters as it is relatively slow in  $7/8$  with a grouping of 3 and then two 2's (1-2-3, 1-2, 1-2).

**Buchimish** is a kind of circle dance always in  $15/8$ . The groupings are 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 2, 2 - like a measure of  $4/4$  ( $8/8$ ) plus  $7/8$  (as in Jovano).

**Kanjat Me, Mamo** is a beautiful, slow Bulgarian folksong. The translation is, "I've been invited to a wedding, Mama". It is mostly in  $4/4$  with an occasional measure of  $3/4$  which gives it a slightly arhythmic feel.

**Gankino Horo** is another Bulgarian circle dance, this kind in  $11/8$ . The groupings are 2, 2, 3, 2, 2. There is a strong tradition of brass bands in the Balkans. This piece is a prime example of one that would be played by such a band.

# Balkan Time

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

## *Jovano, Jovanke - Macedonia*

Traditional  
Harmonized and arranged by Steven Light

♩ = 102 3+2+2 B

Soprano Recorder  
Alto Recorder  
Tenor Recorder  
Bass Recorder

Detailed description: This block contains the first seven measures of the score. It features four staves for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass recorders. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 102. A box above the first measure contains the sequence '3+2+2'. A section marker 'B' is placed above the final measure. The Soprano part begins with a rest, followed by a melodic line starting in measure 4. The Alto part has a rest until measure 3, then a melodic line. The Tenor part has a rest until measure 3, then a melodic line. The Bass part plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment throughout.

8

Detailed description: This block contains measures 8 through 14. The Soprano part continues its melodic line. The Alto part plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The Tenor part continues its melodic line. The Bass part continues its eighth-note accompaniment.

C

Detailed description: This block contains measures 15 through 21. A section marker 'C' is placed above the first measure. The Soprano part has a more active melodic line. The Alto part continues its eighth-note accompaniment. The Tenor part continues its melodic line. The Bass part continues its eighth-note accompaniment.

22 D E

Detailed description: This block contains measures 22 through 28. Section markers 'D' and 'E' are placed above the first and fifth measures respectively. The Soprano part has a melodic line. The Alto part has a rest until measure 25, then a melodic line. The Tenor part continues its melodic line. The Bass part continues its eighth-note accompaniment.

30

F

38

G

54

# *Buchimish - Bulgaria*

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional  
Arranged by Steven Light

♩ = 175 2+2+2+2 + 3+2+2

Soprano Recorder

Alto Recorder

Tenor Recorder

Bass Recorder

90

93

**L**

**H** **I**

70

**J**

83 *rit.*



99

Musical score for measures 99-101. It consists of four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The music features a complex melodic line in the upper staves and a more rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staves. Measure 101 ends with a repeat sign.

102

Musical score for measures 102-104. It consists of four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The music continues with similar melodic and rhythmic patterns. Measure 104 ends with a repeat sign.

**M**

T. Rec

B. Rec

Musical score for measures 105-106. It consists of two staves: Treble Clef (T. Rec) and Bass Clef (B. Rec). A box labeled 'M' is placed above the first measure. The music features a melodic line in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass.

106

T. Rec

B. Rec

Musical score for measures 107-108. It consists of two staves: Treble Clef (T. Rec) and Bass Clef (B. Rec). The music continues with similar melodic and rhythmic patterns.

108

T. Rec

B. Rec

Musical score for measures 109-110. It consists of two staves: Treble Clef (T. Rec) and Bass Clef (B. Rec). The music continues with similar melodic and rhythmic patterns.

110

S. Rec

A. Rec

T. Rec

B. Rec

Musical score for measures 111-112. It consists of four staves: Soprano (S. Rec), Alto (A. Rec), Tenor (T. Rec), and Bass (B. Rec). The music features a complex melodic line in the upper staves and a more rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staves. Measure 112 ends with a repeat sign.

# Kanjat Me, Mama - Bulgaria

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional

Arranged by Steven Light

♩ = 95

Musical score for measures 1-8. The score is for a recorder quartet in B-flat major, 4/4 time. It features four staves: Treble 1, Treble 2, Treble 3, and Bass. The melody is primarily in the Treble 2 part. Measure 1 has a tempo marking of ♩ = 95. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. There are some rests in the upper staves.

Musical score for measures 9-17. The score continues from the previous system. The melody in the Treble 2 part continues with various rhythmic patterns and rests. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment. The key signature and time signature remain the same.

Musical score for measures 18-22. A circled '0' is placed above measure 18. The melody in the Treble 2 part continues. The bass line has some rests in measures 18 and 19. The key signature and time signature remain the same.

Musical score for measures 23-27. A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is placed above measure 23. The melody in the Treble 2 part concludes with a long note in measure 24. The bass line continues with a steady accompaniment. The key signature and time signature remain the same.

**P** A tempo

Musical score for measures 1-35. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features four staves: Treble 1, Treble 2, Treble 3, and Bass. The music includes various rhythmic patterns such as eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure 35 ends with a 3/4 time signature change.

36

rit. .

Musical score for measures 36-44. The score continues with four staves. The tempo is marked as *rit.* (ritardando). The music features a variety of note values and rests, with some measures containing slurs. Measure 44 ends with a 4/4 time signature change.

45

$\text{♩} = 85$

**Q**

Musical score for measures 45-49. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. It features four staves. The music includes various rhythmic patterns and rests. Measure 49 ends with a 4/4 time signature change.

50

rit. . . . .

Musical score for measures 50-54. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. It features four staves. The music includes various rhythmic patterns and rests. Measure 54 ends with a 4/4 time signature change.

# Gankino Horo - Bulgaria

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional

Arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 90$  2+2+3+2+2

System 1: Recorder Quartet score. Four staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 8/8 time. The piece begins with a tempo of 90 and a 2+2+3+2+2 meter. The melody is primarily in the soprano and alto parts, with accompaniment in the tenor and bass parts.

System 2: Recorder Quartet score. Four staves. A section marked 'S' begins. The melody continues in the soprano and alto parts, with accompaniment in the tenor and bass parts.

System 3: Recorder Quartet score. Four staves. A section marked 'T' begins. The melody continues in the soprano and alto parts, with accompaniment in the tenor and bass parts.

System 4: Recorder Quartet score. Four staves. A section marked 'U' begins. The melody continues in the soprano and alto parts, with accompaniment in the tenor and bass parts.

**V**

Musical score for section V, measures 1-4. The score is in 2/4 time and G major. It features four staves: Treble, Piano, Treble, and Bass. The first staff has a melodic line with accents and slurs. The piano part has chords with accents. The second treble staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with accents. The bass staff has a simple accompaniment with accents.

**W**

Musical score for section W, measures 1-4. The score is in 2/4 time and G major. It features four staves: Treble, Piano, Treble, and Bass. The first staff has a melodic line with slurs. The piano part has chords with accents. The second treble staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with accents. The bass staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with accents.

**X**

Musical score for section X, measures 1-4. The score is in 2/4 time and G major. It features four staves: Treble, Piano, Treble, and Bass. The first staff has a melodic line with accents. The piano part has chords with accents. The second treble staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with accents. The bass staff has a simple accompaniment with accents.

**Y**

Musical score for section Y, measures 1-4. The score is in 2/4 time and G major. It features four staves: Treble, Piano, Treble, and Bass. The first staff has a melodic line with accents and slurs. The piano part has chords with accents. The second treble staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with accents. The bass staff has a simple accompaniment with accents.

# Steven Light

## Balkan Time

### Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet



Music from the Southeastern region of Europe known as the Balkans which include the countries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and part of Turkey, is characterized by its use of compound meters or uneven rhythmic groupings and fast ornamentation. In addition much of the vocal music of the region includes very close (dissonant) harmonies sung in a strong vocal style. In these 4 pieces, however, the harmonies are characterized by 3rds and 6ths. When you see 16th notes figures or a "mordent"  $\text{w}$  symbol this represents a quick ornamental figure, usually the written note, a note above (or below) then the following written note

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	1	2		
1	+	2	+	3	+	4	+	a	5	+		

This suite contains four selections chosen for their contrasting styles, tempos and meters.

**Jovano, Jovanke** is a Macedonian song about two young lovers separated by their disapproving parents. The song mentions the Vardar River which runs through present-day Macedonia and Greece. It is a good introduction to compound meters as it is relatively slow in 7/8 with a grouping of 3 and then two 2's (1-2-3, 1-2, 1-2).

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# Balkan Time

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

## Jovano, Jovanke - Macedonia

Traditional

Harmonized and arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 102$   $3+2+2$  **B**

2-4 3

13 **C**

21 **D** **E** 8 **F**  
27-34

37

**G**

56 **H**

66 **I**

75 **J**

81 rit.

## Buchimish - Bulgaria

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional

Arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 175$   $2+2+2+2 + 3+2+2$

15  $\frac{15}{8}$   $\frac{4+1}{8}$

91

94

**L**

99

102

**M** 4

104-107

2

108-109

### Kanjat Me, Mama - Bulgaria

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional  
Arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 95$

5 11 7 rit. - **P** A tempo

2-6 8-18 19-25 26-27

34 rit.

45  $\text{♩} = 85$  **Q** rit.

### Gankino Horo - Bulgaria

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional  
Arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 90$  [2+2+3+2+2]

**S**

61 **T**

66 **U**

**V** **W**

76 **X**

82 **Y**



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### Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet



Music from the Southeastern region of Europe known as the Balkans which include the countries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and part of Turkey, is characterized by its use of compound meters or uneven rhythmic groupings and fast ornamentation. In addition much of the vocal music of the region includes very close (dissonant) harmonies sung in a strong vocal style. In these 4 pieces, however, the harmonies are characterized by 3rds and 6ths. When you see 16th notes figures or a "mordent"  $\text{✶}$  symbol this represents a quick ornamental figure, usually the written note, a note above (or below) then the following written note

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# Balkan Time

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

## *Jovano, Jovanke - Macedonia*

Traditional

Harmonized and arranged by Steven Light

Alto Recorder

$\text{♩} = 102$   $3+2+2$

2  
2-3

10

18

23-26

29

38

47

58

77

82

rit.

## *Buchimish - Bulgaria*

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional

Arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 175$   $2+2+2+2 + 3+2+2$

15

92

L

rit.





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## Balkan Time

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	1	2	
1	+	2	+	3	+	4	+	a	5	+	

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**Kanjat Me, Mamo** is a beautiful, slow Bulgarian folksong. The translation is, "I've been invited to a wedding, Mama". It is mostly in 4/4 with an occasional measure of 3/4 which gives it a slightly arhythmic feel.

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# Balkan Time

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

## Jovano, Jovanke - Macedonia

Traditional

Harmonized and arranged by Steven Light

♩ = 102 3+2+2

Musical score for 'Jovano, Jovanke' in 7/8 time. The score consists of ten staves of music, each beginning with a measure number. Chord boxes labeled B through J are placed above the staves at measures 11, 20, 29, 38, 48, 57, 65, 74, and 81. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing rests. A 'rit.' marking is present above the final staff at measure 81.

## Buchimish - Bulgaria

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional

Arranged by Steven Light

♩ = 175 2+2+2+2 + 3+2+2

Musical score for 'Buchimish' in 15/8 time. The score consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a double bar line and repeat signs. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff, labeled with a box 'L', provides a bass line. The music is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes.

101 M

105

108

110

### *Kanjat Me, Mama - Bulgaria*

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional  
Arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 95$  5 11 7 rit. - 2 P A tempo

2-6                      8-18                      19-25                      26-27

35

44 rit. -  $\text{♩} = 85$  Q rit. -

### *Gankino Horo - Bulgaria*

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional  
Arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 90$  2+2+3+2+2 S

60 T

65 U

70 V W

76 X

81 Y



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## Balkan Time

### Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet



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# Balkan Time

Bass Recorder

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

## Jovano, Jovanke - Macedonia

Traditional

Harmonized and arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 102$  3+2+2

## Buchimish - Bulgaria

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional

Arranged by Steven Light

$\text{♩} = 175$  2+2+2+2 + 3+2+2

107

Musical staff for measures 107-109. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and one flat (Bb). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs.

110

Musical staff for measures 110-111. The key signature changes to two flats (Bb, Eb). The melody continues with eighth and sixteenth notes.

**Kanjat Me, Mama - Bulgaria**

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional  
Arranged by Steven Light

♩ = 95

Musical staff for measures 112-113. The key signature is two flats. The melody features quarter and eighth notes.

12

Musical staff for measures 114-115. Includes a circled letter 'O' above the staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

26 rit. . . **P** A tempo

Musical staff for measures 116-117. Includes a circled letter 'P' above the staff. The tempo changes from 'rit.' to 'A tempo'. The melody features quarter and eighth notes.

40 rit. . ♩ = 85 **Q** rit. .

Musical staff for measures 118-119. Includes a circled letter 'Q' above the staff. The tempo changes to 'rit.' with a new tempo marking of ♩ = 85. The key signature changes to one sharp (F#). The melody features quarter and eighth notes.

**Gankino Horo - Bulgaria**

Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tunes for Recorder Quartet

Traditional  
Arranged by Steven Light

♩ = 90 [2+2+3+2+2]

Musical staff for measures 120-121. Includes a circled letter 'S' above the staff. The key signature is one sharp. The melody features quarter and eighth notes.

61

Musical staff for measures 122-123. Includes a circled letter 'T' above the staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

Musical staff for measures 124-125. Includes circled letters 'U' and 'V' above the staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

74

Musical staff for measures 126-127. Includes a circled letter 'W' above the staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

78

Musical staff for measures 128-129. Includes a circled letter 'X' above the staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

82

Musical staff for measures 130-131. Includes a circled letter 'Y' above the staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

