

Ginia Davis, soprano

in

French folksongs of Joseph Canteloube, with Harry Cox at the piano

and

Hebrew Folksongs of Darius Milhaud, and other folksongs, with Hubert Doris at the piano

SIDE 2

FRENCH FOLKSONGS - BOUN MATI ME LIEBI (Rousillon) Song in Langued'oc
in the morning I arise before the sun and take
the cows to a flowery field. I say to her, "Perle, will you come with me, you the
color of roses, a gassin flower?" "What will my father say and the people around
here if I go alone with a boy?"

CANTELOUBE
MANUSCRIPT

L'AUTRE JOUR EN VOULANT DANSER (Bascogne)
The other day when I wished to dance, a thorn entered my bou hou, my ha ha, my shoe. An officer
wished to remove it, and for his trouble he wished to hou hou, to ha ha, take a kiss. I don't
kiss officers, but I will certainly kiss my hou hou, my ha ha, my shepherd. I
will kiss my shepherd, and above all when he makes hou hou, makes ha ha,
makes me dance!

sung in Auvernat

PASTORALE (Auvergne) A shepherd's dialogue
—Shepherd over the water, did you see the hare on his way to the reaping,
the sickle between his front paws, the sharpener between his back paws,
his lunch on his back, and his key around his neck?
—I did better than see him, I caught him!
—What did you do with him?
—From his skin I made a coat, from his ears, a pair of mittens, and from
his tail a trumpet. If you would like to buy it, I'll bring it over!

MANUSCRIPT

LA BELLE ALOUETTE (Haute Savoie)
The beautiful lark arose in the morning and perched on the highest branch.
The branch was dry and the bird felt! "Little bird, did you hurt yourself?"
"I broke my wing and dislocated my neck." A beautiful lark should not perch
so high!

Auvernat

PASTOURELLE (Auvergne) A dialogue of sweethearts
He: Come over the river, near me, we have things to discuss,
let's talk of love for the rest of the day.
She: I cannot come over. I have no boat or any bridge—nor have a
faithful sweetheart!
He: You'd have a boat if you were pretty, and an arched bridge, and
a shepherd who would be faithful until the grave!

O UP (Languedoc)

O up, have you heard the grasshopper singing, have you heard the cuckoo's song?
The men of the village one day agreed to get together to hunt the cuckoo!
The cuckoo is heard at night in every place and it upsets the young and old men!
From the plains and the woods the men came. They took great pains looking
for the cuckoo. The men were unsuccessful, and the cuckoo still sings in
our mountains!

MANUSCRIPT

Y A BEN DE SI CHARMANT (Auvergne)
There is nothing so charming as a shepherdess in the field. Here is how she spends
her time. "Shepherd, when we guard the sheep?" "On the mountains,
the sun is bright. Let's pick violets and forget-me-nots." "Friend, shepherd,
I hear somebody coming. It may be my father. Let's lie down in the grass and
let him pass by!"

SO LO VOY (Quercy) Shepherd's song Song in Langued'oc
"Where would you like to take the sheep tomorrow morning. Miam, tell me?" "At the break of day,
I'm going to the secret field, the grass is good there." "When you get there, wait for me. We
will talk. I have some jokes to tell you." "O yes, I'll wait for you, and I'll
love you."

MANUSCRIPT

BAILERO (Auvergne) A shepherd's dialogue
—Shepherd over the water, how is the weather, tell me?
—Not very good, how is yours?
—The pasture is in bloom, come over with your flock.
—The grass is better over here.

AUVERNAT

SIDE 1

CHANTS POPULAIRES HEBRAÏQUES - LA SEPARATION The Separation
How you distinguish the sacred from the profane,
pardon our sins. Like the sand and the stars, he multiplies our money and our children.
A good week to you. What's to be done? Children we have but money we have not,
and bread is painfully obtained. A good week to you. The day fades, the Sabbath dis-
appears like a shadow. In the plates there is nothing to eat. A good week to you.

MILHAUD

CHANT DU VEILLEUR Watchman's song
Hoi! Who goes there? —Unhappy watchman, poor sentinel, I go through the
night needing sleep terribly. Am I made of iron? Everyone sleeps peacefully
and forgets the day's worries. I alone vainly seek repose on a stone.
Hoi! Who goes there?

CHANT DE DELIVERANCE Song of Deliverance
For the salvation of my friend, my heart
is consumed in love; fearful, I implore God to appease my despair. If I call He will
tender me my armor. My whole being reaches out to Him. I will pray day and night
that he console his people. My despair will be forgotten in serving God. Isaac did not

fear, his enemies fled before him. God will protect me. His envoy will come. Yes, he
is here. He will comfort me, his uprightness will sustain me. And already I see, the
deliverance!

BERCEUSE

Lullaby
Sleep, sleep, sleep, your papa will go to the village and bring
back an apple, a nut, a duck, some soup, and he will caress your little head, your
foot, your hands, your stomach. Sleep, sleep, sleep.

GLOIRE A DIEU

Glory to God
God is my strength and my tower, and I am so poor.
All my hope and confidence is in you, Lord God of Hosts. I am burned alive, pierced
by an arrow of fire. He has burned away my arrogance and my pride, Lord God of Hosts.

CHANT HASSIDIQUE

Chassidic Song
How shall I explain to you the meaning of one,
two, three, four, five, six, seven? Seven is the Sabbath, six is the parts of the
Talmud, five is the parts of the Bible, four is the patriarchs, three is the patriarchs,
two is the tables of the law, and one is our God.

HEBREW SONGS

The father speaks in yiddish and the son answers in hebrew with phrases
from the prayer book.

—Myerke my son, in front of whom do you stand?
—In front of the King of Kings and only King, my father.
—For what will you ask him?
—For children, life and sustenance.
—Why do you ask for life?
—With life, one can praise God.

RAVEL

EL MESTRE ENAMORAT

(Majorcan) The enamoured teacher
She: My father and mother sent me to school to learn to read. The teacher
tells in love with me!
Teacher: Tell me Catalinetta, would you like to marry me? Let's sit down at
the table and learn to read.
She: And at each corner of the table, we'll put a glass of wine!
Teacher: Let's drink to happiness and you will tell me, "yes!"

JOAN MARIA THOMAS

HEIDSCHI BUM HEIDSCHI (Austrian) Lullaby for an orphan
Sleep long, your mother has gone away and will not return. She has
left her little one all alone. Heidschi bum heidschi, bum bum.
Sleep sweetly. The angels will greet you and ask you if you wish to
walk with them. In heaven you will ride on a snow white horse.
On him is seated a small angel with a lantern through which shine
the brightest stars.

HILDA EMERY DAVIS

ANNA MARIKE

(Dutch)
—Well Anna Marike, where are you going? —Outside with the soldiers.
—What are you going to do? —Weave and spin and kiss soldiers!
—Have you no children? —If I have no children I have none to mind!
—Have you no husband? —If I have no husband, I fear no beating!

FELIX DE NOBEL

EILEEN ARDIN

(Irish Gaelic)
—I have worn holes in my shoes coming to see you Eileen A ruin. I have
to settle something with you. Will you marry me or won't you?
—Yes, take me, be ready and I will go with you.
—O my beloved, of whom I hardly knew!

HUBERT DORIS

GINIA DAVIS' career started in folksongs. For some years she toured with a program
called "Portraits in Song", in which she characterized songs from all over the world
with shows and scarfs, as well as subtle vocal and acting differences. Later, living
in Paris, she met often with Canteloube to coach his french folksongs. She became
known in France and elsewhere for her singing of these songs; four on this recording
are still in manuscript. In Paris also she learned the Milhaud Hebrew Songs with
Madeleine Grey for whom they were written, and has sung them numerous times with
piano and orchestra. The other songs, with the exception of the Ravel, have been
collected by Miss Davis in such places as Valldemosa (El Mestre Enamorat), Salzburg,
(Heidschi bum heidschi), Amsterdam, (Anna Marike) and Galway, (Eileen A ruin.)
All are sung in original languages.

HARRY COX, well known accompanist and composer, of Flemish birth was for more
than five years Ginia Davis' collaborator in Paris, where he makes his home, and
appears often in concert and on radio.

HUBERT DORIS has accompanied Ginia Davis for many years in the USA. Also a
noted composer, he is Chairman of the Music Department of Barnard College,
Columbia University.

Music Library Recordings are sold at all record and music stores throughout the World.