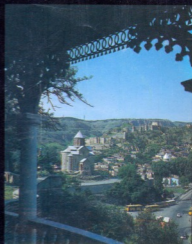


# THE GEORGIAN STATE FOLK DANCE AND SONG COMPANY



TBILISI





**Givi Sikharulidze** — Art Director and Chief  
Choreographer, Honoured Artist of the Georgia



**Edisher Garakanidze** — Solist and Director of  
the Company's song group



**Nodar Epchoshvili** — Manager



Solist - *Golira Gavasheli*.

# PROGRAMME

## DANCE OF MEN FROM MOUNTAINS

A dance for men's group. This is a traditional dance of the people, who live near the Kasbek mountain.

### KARTULI (DAVLURI)

A slow group dance performed by several pairs of men and women. Its name is derived from the Georgian word for a slow ceremonial walk. The dance is of feudal Georgia origin. It was primarily a dance of the feudal aristocracy and can be compared with the minuet of the 17th and 18th centuries in Europe.

The Kartuli is danced according to definite rules and is an expression of chivalry by the Georgian men towards the women. The women must be regarded with the greatest sense of respect. During this dance the man is not allowed to touch not even with the hem of this robe. This requires tremendous skill.

Solists: Galina Gavasheli, Paata Tkavashvili, Jaba Sikhharulidze and Paata Pukhashvili

### SAMAYA

This dance, according to tradition, is performed by three young girls to celebrate a wedding feast. The state Dance Company "Tbilisi" presents this dance in the form of a living fresco—the original was discovered in the cathedral in Mtskheta, the former capital of Georgia. The dance is of oriental origin.

Chief choreographer Givi Sikhharulidze made his own interpretation of this dance. Instead of three women, nine beautiful swans are performing it.

### ACHARULI

A dance from Ajara, the decent of Georgia. It is a dance with a sense of humour. The dance is performed with special costumes, which is characterizing an optimistic mood of dancers.

Solists: Galina Gavasheli, Tamila Berishvili, Inga Toplishvili and Vakhtang Lukava

### KHORUMI

One of the most popular dances from Georgia. It dates back to the period of the heroic war against the conquering armies Turks, Mongolians and other nations. It is composed of four parts: the catch for a suitable spot for the fighter of the underground army, the approach of the enemy, the battle and the defeat.

Solists: Gia Palavandishvili, Hamlet Demirkhanov, Merab Bochorishvili, Merab Tsiklauri and Kakha Kalandadze

### SIMD

A wedding dance that originated long ago. This dance is still performed in Georgia. It consists of three parts. In the first and third part the choreography and tempi are the same. The second part forms a contrast with the other two parts. The number of performers in this dance is not limited. The black costumes of the Georgian dancers with their long sleeves and black or white caps form a sharp contrast with the snow white attire worn by the women. One could compare this dance of distinction, it illustrates the chivalry and honour shown by the Georgian men to the Georgian women.

Solists: Jaba Sikhharulidze, Roland Jioev and Vakhtang Lukava

## NARNARI

A dance of young women, a superb study of the beautiful arm and hand movements of the Georgian women.

### DANCE FROM THE HILLS

An ensemble dance for the whole company which comes from the mountainous regions of Caucasus. It is customarily performed on feastdays and at weddings.

Solist: Vakhtang Lukava

### COMPETITION

(Solos and Ensemble)

Each man takes part in these dances. They dance and jump on the tips of their toes in boots, which are not hardened as in the case with ballet shoes. This is an unprecedented spectacle and a performance which besides many years of training, also needs a lot of courage. Dance is like a storm.

Solists: Jaba Sikhharulidze, Paata Tkavashvili, Vakhtang Lukava and Paata Pukhashvili

### PARIKAOBA

This dance commences with the entrance on the stage of a couple in love. When the second young man appears, a quarrel begins and the stage is set for a sabre fight. The young girl, worried about the fate of her lover, with a general melee. When the battle reaches its peak, the girl takes off her head-dress and throws it between the warriors. According to tradition the duellers have to stop immediately.

### KHANDJURI

A dance from the mountainous decent of Georgia with swords. Each man takes part in this dance. It begins in a raging tempo, becoming more and more violent.

Solists: Gia Palavandishvili, Hamlet Demirkhanov and Merab Tsiklauri

### PARTSA

This circular or round dance is one of the oldest dances in Georgia. It is danced by the complete company.

Solists: Galina Gavasheli, Tamila Berishvili, Tamat Novadze, Vakhtang Lukava and Merab Bochorishvili

### KINTAURI

An old comic dance of Tbilisi aristians.

Solists: Gia Palavandishvili and Hamlet Demirkhanov

### ADMIRING DANCE

A dance is performed by several pairs of the men and women. The dance like flirt. Men show their courage and chivalry to women.





The song group

Givi Khosroshvili (garmoni)  
Kakha Kandelaki (doli)



MUSICIANS



Solist Paata Pukhashvili





ACHARULI



GIVI SIKHARULIDZE  
DURING THE REHESEAL

## MY DEAR FRIEND!



Imagine for a moment, that the globe is a flat surface and you're contemplating it from way above... In the unusual kaleidoscope, in the richest, mosaic of colours and contours you'll find it pretty difficult to detect a tiny spot, called Georgia. Its territory is only 70000 sq. km.

But we, Georgians, have no complaints as to our fate. We love our land, its beautiful nature, the deep blue of the sky and sublime mountains, the gay murmur of its forests and the indomitable flow of its rivers. We are fond of life, labour, peace, songs. We do like visitors, who arrive to us on missions of good will.

Construction and creation, material and cultural flourishing of the nation, enrichment of its mental treasury has always been the foremost concern of the Georgian people, an industrious and peace-loving nation by nature.

Despite constant invasions, wars, devastations and hardships endured, our people managed to preserve their mother tongue and religious faith—Christianity was advented in the first half of the 4th century. Georgians display its intellectual potential throughout the centuries and say their word in art, literature, architecture and science.

The capital of Georgia is Tbilisi. Tbilisi has been known as a fortified town since the 4th century A.D. In the 6th century A.D. it became the economic, political and cultural centre of the Eastern Georgia and was subsequently proclaimed the Capital of the Georgian Kingdom in the year of 1122.

Weighing down on its shoulders are fifteen centuries, its streets have seen scenes of a distant and ancient life, lavish pageants, barefooted poverty and blood of violence. Forty times it was devastated by invaders, the word razed being more appropriate on a number of occasions. The last time this happened at the close of the 18th century at the hands of the Persian shah Aga-Mohammed-Han.





In the 19th century Tbilisi was in perpetual motion and constantly changing. Its inimitability, poetic atmosphere, the temperament of its multilingual inhabitants invariably attracted attention. Never an introvert, it always opened up to people of other nations who came to love it and worked for its flourishing.

People here are openhearted and hospitable. A crowd in holiday mood always throngs the Rustaveli Avenue. There is much sun and light here.

The folklore company "Tbilisi" is named according to the name of the capital of Georgia.

Musical folklore holds a highly significant place in the life of the Georgians. The art of song and dance was widespread among ancient Georgian tribes. The songs and dances of ancient Georgian tribes had always been unique which is testified by Greek historian Xenophon, one who teams that in the 4th century B. C., the age of paganism, secular music was popular among Georgian tribes. "The ancient forbears of Georgia — the Masniks — danced and sang in their own specific way".

Georgian folk singing and dancing are distinguished for their diversity by genre and original style of execution whose traditions were transmitted from one generation to another.

Georgian song is characterized as polyphonic. The peculiarity should be noted the more so that, the singing of the neighbouring peoples is strictly monodic.

Company "Tbilisi" was founded in 1975. Since the hardly a single noteworthy event has been held in Georgia without participation of "Tbilisi" Company.

"Tbilisi" art has roots in the past of Georgia's folk music and folk performing arts. It is the product of Georgia's musical culture, the source of its creative force.

Musicians play different folk musical instruments — panduri, chonguri, salamuri, chuniri, chiboni, changi, which extend its repertoire and amplifies its performing gamut, a special place belongs to the bone salamuri, which was used in Georgian territory as far back as the 2nd millennium B. C.

The "Tbilisi" company is constantly on tour. The geography of its travels across the country is truly astonishing. Its concerts abroad are an invariable success.

Wherever it has performed, and this includes Japan, Yugoslavia, Poland, Africa, The West Berlin, Austria, England, Turkey, Cyprus, GDR, Philippines, Israel and Greece, the huge impact of Georgian folk songs and dances on the audience was universal.



**BROTHERS  
SIKHARULIDZE**



Jaba — 20 years old

Beca — 12 years old



Flowers on the field

Solist Merab Bochorishvili





Flowers on the field

Solist Merab Bochorishvili









Solists: Gia Palavandishvili and Hamlet Demirkhanov



KHORUMI



Solists: Tamila Berishvili, Vakhtang Lukava



Solists: Hamlet Demirkhanov and Merab Tsiklauri

SIMD





SAMAYA Solist Galina Gavasheli.

Solists: Gia Palavandishvili and Hamlet Demirkhanov

**DANCERS**

- Galina Gavasheli
- Tamila Berishvili
- Eteri Khazaradze
- Irina Khutsurauli
- Tamar Nozadze
- Eka Manasakhlisi
- Mala Sigua
- Lali Sturua
- Inga Toplishvili
- Maka Urigashvili
- Malia Surguladze
- Tsitsino Nadiradze
- Roland Jioev
- Paata Tkavashvili
- Paata Pukhashvili
- Kakha Kalandadze
- Jaba Sikharulidze
- Beka Sikharulidze
- Kakha Manavishvili
- Mamuka Kadagishvili
- Merab Tsiklauri
- Nugzar Dogadze
- Vakhtang Lukava
- Merab Bochorishvili
- Gia Palavandishvili
- Hamlet Demirkhanov
- Zaza Goginashvili
- Mamuka Dokhinadze
- Kakha Gogotishvili
- Mamuka Sakvarelidze
- Dato Chachibaia
- Roland Isaev
- Giorgi Gugushvili

**SINGERS**

- Edisher Garakanidze
- Gia Ksovreli
- Avto Robakidze
- Gia Gabrichidze
- Koba Khutsishvili
- Merab Topuridze
- Gia Krichashvili
- Zurab Ebanoidze
- Gia Temashvili
- Temur Landia
- Lado Barbakadze

**MUSICIANS**

- Iuri Gogolauri (panduri)
- Givi Khosroshvili (garmoni)
- Giorgi Kapanidze (doli)
- Kakha Kandelaki (doli)
- Giorgi Batlashvili (salamuri)
- Levan Lolashvili (chonguri)
- Avtandil Modrekeldize (panduri)
- Givi Kandelaki (chonguri)







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