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CENTAR ZA
ISTRAŽIVANJE
POPULARNE MUZIKE

Qualia

EPeKa

Sokoj
ORGANIZACIJA
MUZICKIH AUTORA
SRBIJE



ROMA SOUL FOOD

FINALE PROJEKTA,
29. AVGUST 2026. BROŠURA

CLOSING OF PROJECT,
29 AUGUST 2026. BOOKLET.





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ROMA SOUL FOOD - OPIS PROJEKTA I OSTVARENI REZULTATI

Roma Soul Food je projekat saradnje u okviru programa Kreativna Evropa čiji je koordinator Centar za istraživanje popularne muzike (CEPOM) iz Srbije, a partneri su grčka organizacija Qualia i slovenačko udruženje Epeka. Projekat je osmišljen sa ciljem promocije savremene romske kulture kao dinamične i bogate prakse koja neguje poštovanje tradicije, a istovremeno preispituje istorijske stigme i marginalizaciju romske zajednice. Projekat je usmeren na dve povezane oblasti - romsku muziku i romsku kuhinju - a njegov centralni rezultat predstavlja inovativan koncept koji ih na kreativan i neuobičajen način povezuje, u vidu digitalnog muzičkog izdanja nastalog na osnovu terenskog istraživanja romskih gastronomskih praksi.

Naime, terensko istraživanje, sprovedeno je između marta i novembra 2025. godine, obuhvatilo je ukupno 31 intervju u šest romskih naselja u tri države: u Srbiji (Bački Monoštor, Padinska Skela i Obrenovac), Grčkoj (naselja Nea Zoi i Kritiri) i Sloveniji (region Prekmurja). Sagovornici, starosti od 20 do 78 godina (18 muškaraca i 12 žena) pripadali su različitim verskim tradicijama, pravoslavnoj, katoličkoj i muslimanskoj, kao i različitim društvenim slojevima i zanimanjima: od marginalizovanih i ugroženih pojedinaca, preko obrazovanih aktera u zajednici koji sarađuju sa državnim službama, do društveno afirmisanih ličnosti - muzičara, ekonomskih migranata i stručnjaka iz različitih profesija. Ovako široko postavljen uzorak omogućio je da istraživanje obuhvati gotovo čitav vek životnog iskustva i sećanja, otkrivajući raznolikost unutar romske zajednice, ali i sličnosti kada je reč o bazičnim vrednostima. Intervjui su snimani uz puni informisani pristanak sagovornika i dosledno poštovanje etičkih protokola svojstvenih radu sa osetljivim zajednicama, dok je sirova arhivska građa brižljivo deponovana na otvorenom repozitorijumu Zenodo, obezbeđujući njenu trajnu dostupnost budućim istraživačima i široj javnosti. Odabrani segmenti građe, titlovan i na engleski jezik, objavljeni su na sajtu projekta <https://romasoulfood.eu/>, čime je istraživanje učinjeno dostupnim i široj, neakademskoj publici.

Na osnovu transkripata i zabeleženih usmenih svedočanstava nastao je istoimeni konceptualni album Roma Soul Food, izgrađen oko jedinstvene narativne niti o romskom nasleđu koja se razvija od početka do kraja ostvarenja. Album sadrži osam numera, uključujući uvodnu i završnu pesmu sačinjenu od autentičnih glasova sagovornika i zvukova svakodnevnog života, čime se terenska građa direktno utkiva u umetničku strukturu albuma. Na albumu su sarađivali profesionalni romski izvođači različitih žanrovskih usmerenja: hip-hop sastav Pretty Loud (Zlata Ristić, Elma Dalipi, Silvia Sinani Ibraimović), kao i Džipsii i Ivan Kurtić. Muzičku superviziju vodile su dr Maja Vasiljević i dr Biljana Leković, producent albuma je Tihomir Radić Toši, a snimanje je realizovano u studiju Helem Nejse u Sarajevu. Poseban značaj ovog izdanja se ogleda u tome što je veći deo pesama realizovan na romskom jeziku, sa ciljem promocije njegove zvučnosti, ali i očuvanjem. Rezultat je kreacija koja donosi priču o romskoj kulturi i tradiciji na nov, savremen način, povezujući usmeno nasleđe sa aktuelnom muzičkom produkcijom i modernim zvukom.

ROMA SOUL FOOD - PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ACHIEVED RESULTS

Roma Soul Food is a cooperation project under the Creative Europe Programme, coordinated by the Centre for the Popular Music Research (CEPOM) from Serbia, with the Greek organisation Qualia and the Slovenian association Epeka as partners. The project was conceived with the aim of promoting contemporary Roma culture as a dynamic and rich practice that upholds respect for tradition while simultaneously challenging historical stigmatisation and the marginalisation of the Roma community. The project focuses on two interconnected areas - Roma music and Roma cuisine - and its central result is an innovative concept that connects them in a creative and unconventional way, taking the form of a digital music release based on field research into Roma gastronomic practices.

The field research, conducted between March and November 2025, comprised a total of 31 interviews across six Roma settlements in three countries: Serbia (Bački Monoštor, Padinska Skela and Obrenovac), Greece (the Nea Zoi and Kritiri settlements), and Slovenia (the Prekmurje region). Narrators, aged between 20 and 78 (18 men and 12 women), belonged to different religious traditions - Orthodox Christian, Catholic and Muslim - as well as to different social strata and occupations: ranging from marginalised and vulnerable individuals, through educated community actors collaborating with state services, to socially accomplished figures - musicians, economic migrants, and professionals from various fields. Such a broadly composed sample allowed the research to encompass nearly a century of lived experience and memory, revealing diversity within the Roma community, but also similarities when it comes to fundamental values. Interviews were recorded with the full informed consent of participants and in consistent adherence to the ethical protocols characteristic of work with sensitive communities, while the raw archival material was carefully deposited in the open-access repository Zenodo, ensuring its lasting availability to future researchers and the wider public. Selected excerpts from the material, subtitled in English, were published on the project website <https://romasoulfood.eu/>, making the research accessible to a broader, non-academic audience as well.

Drawing on the transcripts and recorded oral testimonies, the eponymous concept album Roma Soul Food was created, built around a unified narrative thread on Roma heritage that unfolds from beginning to end. The album comprises eight tracks, including an opening and closing song composed of authentic voices of the interviewees and sounds of everyday life, through which the field material is woven directly into the artistic structure of the album. The album features collaborations with professional Roma performers of different genre orientations: the hip-hop group Pretty Loud (Zlata Ristić, Elma Dalipi, Silvia Sinani Ibrahimović), as well as Džipsii and Ivan Kurtić. Musical supervision was led by Maja Vasiljević and Biljana Leković, the album's producer is Tihomir Radić Toši, and recording was carried out at Helem Nejse Studio in Sarajevo. A particular significance of this release lies in the fact that most of the songs were recorded in the Romani language, with the aim of promoting its sound and expressive richness, as well as contributing to its preservation. The result is a creation that tells the story of Roma culture and tradition in a new, contemporary way, connecting oral heritage with current musical production and a modern sound.

O PARTNERSKIM ORGANIZACIJAMA

CENTAR ZA ISTRAŽIVANJE POPULARNE MUZIKE (CEPOM)

Centar za popularnu muziku (CEPOM), koji je osnovala muzikološkinja dr Vesna Mikić, u Beogradu 2013. godine, je nevladina, neprofitna organizacija posvećena proučavanju produkcije, distribucije i recepcije popularne muzike. Misija Centra obuhvata istraživački rad, edukaciju i promociju kulture popularne muzike, uključujući prikupljanje i produkciju stručne literature, organizovanje seminara i konsultacija, izdavaštvo i saradnju sa medijima, izdavačima i akademskim institucijama u zemlji i inostranstvu. Članovi organizacije, akademski istraživači i aktivisti civilnog sektora, dolaze sa Fakulteta muzičke umetnosti i Filozofskog fakulteta Univerziteta u Beogradu. Kroz godine, CEPOM je realizovao više istraživačkih projekata posvećenih popularnoj muzici u Srbiji. Prvi u nizu bio je „Muzičke scene u Srbiji – popularne muzičke prakse“, pokrenut 2014. godine, čiji su razgovori sa izvođačima postavili temelj za dalja istraživanja. Na njega se kasnije nadovezao projekat „Muzičke scene u Srbiji – festivali kao vid popularnih muzičkih praksi“, koji se fokusirao na festivalske bine kao jedan od ključnih činilaca muzičkih scena u zemlji.

U okviru projekta Roma Soul Food, CEPOM je koordinator projekta, zadužen za upravljanje projektnim aktivnostima, finansijsku kontrolu, upravljanje rizicima i komunikaciju sa partnerskim organizacijama. Uz koordinacionu ulogu, CEPOM vodi i muzičku komponentu projekta, koja obuhvata izbor, uređivanje i produkciju digitalnog albuma savremene romske muzike, zasnovanog na usmenim intervjuima prikupljenim tokom projekta.

QUALIA

QUALIA je neprofitna organizacija sa sedištem u Larisi, u Grčkoj, osnovana 2020. godine od strane Kleri Bakure i Aleksandrosa Tulumtjidisa. Funkcionišući kao socio-kulturni kolektiv, QUALIA okuplja pojedince raznovrsnih interesovanja koji zajedno rade na projektima posvećenih istraživanju kulturne istorije i nasleđa, sa naglaskom na njihove estetske i društvene dimenzije. Organizacija kreira pozorišne predstave, izložbe i edukativne programe za sve uzraste, sa ciljem podsticanja ravnopravnog kulturnog učešća i izražavanja za sve.

U okviru projekta Roma Soul Food, QUALIA vodi prikupljanje usmenih intervjuva i svedočenja o kulinarskim tradicijama romskih zajednica na Balkanu. Oslanjajući se na iskustvo iz projekta „Nasleđe ukusa“, koji je istraživao kulinarske prakse različitih zajednica u regionu Larise, uključujući romsku zajednicu Januli, QUALIA angažuje kulturne medijatore iz romskih zajednica radi lakše komunikacije i prevazilaženja jezičkih barijera. Organizacija je takođe zadužena za obuku stručnjaka iz partnerskih organizacija u vođenju intervjuva za usmenu istoriju.

ABOUT PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

THE CENTER FOR POPULAR MUSIC RESEARCH (CEPOM)

The Center for Popular Music Research (CEPOM), founded by musicologist Dr. Vesna Mikić in Belgrade in 2013, is a non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to studying the production, distribution, and reception of popular music. The Center's mission spans research, education, and the promotion of popular music culture, including the collection and production of scholarly literature, organizing seminars and consultations, publishing, and collaboration with media, publishers, and academic institutions at home and abroad. Its members, academic scholars and civil-sector activists, come from the Faculty of Music and the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Belgrade. Over the years, CEPOM has carried out several research projects dedicated to popular music in Serbia. The first in this series was "Music Scenes in Serbia – Popular Music Practices," launched in 2014, whose conversations with performers laid the groundwork for further research. This was later followed by the project "Music Scenes in Serbia – Festivals as a Form of Popular Music Practices," which focused on festival stages as one of the key factors shaping music scenes in the country.

In the Roma Soul Food project, CEPOM serves as project coordinator, responsible for managing project activities, financial control, risk management, and communication with partner organizations. Alongside its coordinating role, CEPOM also leads the project's music component, which includes selecting, editing, and producing a digital album of contemporary Roma music based on oral interviews collected during the project.

QUALIA

QUALIA is a non-profit organization based in Larissa, Greece, founded in 2020 by Kleri Bakoura and Alexandros Touloumtzidis. Functioning as a socio-cultural collective, QUALIA brings together individuals with diverse interests who work together on projects dedicated to researching cultural history and heritage, with an emphasis on their aesthetic and social dimensions. The organization creates theatrical performances, exhibitions, and educational programs for all ages, aiming to foster equal cultural participation and expression for everyone.

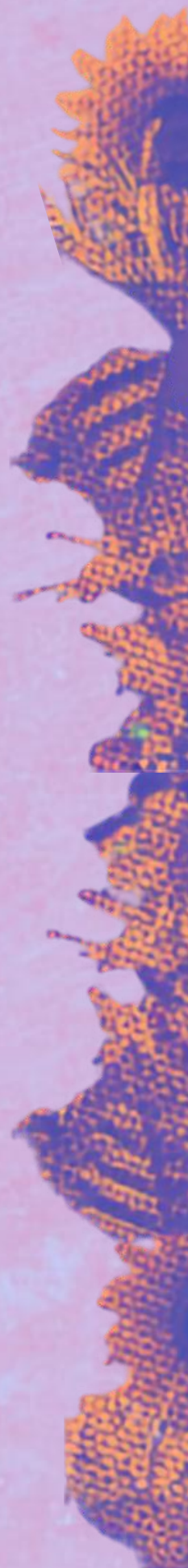
In the Roma Soul Food project, QUALIA leads the collection of oral interviews and testimonies on the culinary traditions of Roma communities in the Balkans. Building on experience from the "Heritage of Taste" project, which researched culinary practices among various communities in the Larissa region, including the Romani community of Giannouli, QUALIA engages cultural mediators from Roma communities to facilitate communication and overcome language barriers. The organization is also responsible for training professionals from partner organizations in conducting oral history interviews.

O PARTNERSKIM ORGANIZACIJAMA

EPEKA

Naučno-istraživačko udruženje za umetničke, kulturne i obrazovne programe i tehnologiju EPEKA, socijalno preduzeće, jeste slovenačka neprofitna organizacija osnovana 2008. godine sa sedištem u Mariboru. Nastala prvobitno kao inicijativa za podršku Evropskoj prestonici kulture 2012, EPEKA se brzo razvila u ključnog aktera u promociji vrednosti EU, interkulturalnog dijaloga i socijalne inkluzije. Godine 2009. EPEKA je pokrenula i pomogla da Maribor dobije titulu Evropske omladinske prestonice 2013. Od tada je izrasla u međunarodno aktivnu mrežu sa ograncima u Austriji, Češkoj, Srbiji, Crnoj Gori, na Kosovu, u Turskoj, Velikoj Britaniji, Berlinu i Jermeniji, uz kancelarije u Ljubljani i Izoli. EPEKA od 2013. posluje kao socijalno preduzeće, spajajući rad sa zajednicom sa akademskim i politikotvornim delovanjem. Njen dugogodišnji fokus na osnaživanju ranjivih grupa, posebno mladih i romske manjine, doveo je do niza inovativnih inicijativa – od Romani Kafenave, prvog romskog restorana u EU zasnovanog na principima socijalnog preduzetništva, preko Romske stanice, multifunkcionalnog centra zajednice, do Omladinske zadruge EPEKA i Evropske stambene zadruge EPEKA, koja se bavi problemom stambenog zbrinjavanja mladih širom Evrope.

U okviru projekta Roma Soul Food, EPEKA doprinosi svojim bogatim iskustvom u romskoj inkluziji, kulturnoj medijaciji i socijalnom preduzetništvu. Vodi strategiju komunikacije i diseminacije i koordinira istraživačke i dokumentacione aktivnosti projekta, obezbeđujući da rezultati budu i relevantni za romske zajednice i vidljivi široj javnosti.



ABOUT PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

EPEKA

The Scientific and Research Association for Art, Cultural and Educational Programmes and Technology EPEKA, Social Enterprise, is a Slovenian non-profit organization founded in 2008 and based in Maribor. Originally established to support the European Capital of Culture 2012, EPEKA quickly grew into a key actor in promoting EU values, intercultural dialogue, and social inclusion. In 2009, EPEKA initiated and helped secure Maribor's title as European Youth Capital 2013. Since then, it has developed into an internationally active network with branches in Austria, the Czech Republic, Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Berlin, and Armenia, along with offices in Ljubljana and Izola. Since 2013, EPEKA has operated as a social enterprise, combining community work with academic and policy engagement. Its long-standing focus on empowering vulnerable groups — particularly youth and the Roma minority — has led to a series of innovative initiatives: the Romani Kafenava, the first Roma restaurant in the EU built on social entrepreneurship principles; the Roma Station, a multi-purpose community center; the EPEKA Youth Cooperative; and the European Housing Cooperative EPEKA, which addresses youth housing challenges across Europe.

In the Roma Soul Food project, EPEKA contributes its extensive experience in Roma inclusion, cultural mediation, and social entrepreneurship. It leads the communication and dissemination strategy and coordinates the project's research and documentation activities, ensuring that outcomes are both meaningful to Roma communities and visible to the wider public.

AGENDA

11.00–11.15 | Svečano otvaranje

Pozdravno obraćanje organizatora i predstavnika relevantnih institucija

11.15–12.00 | Predstavljanje rezultata projekta: Od terenskih istraživanja do muzičke kreacije

Obraćanje predstavnika partnerskih organizacija: Centra za istraživanje popularne muzike – CEPOM (Srbija), Znanstveno in raziskovalno združenje za umetnost, kulturne in izobraževalne programe ter tehnologiju EPEKA (Slovenija) i QUALIA (Grčka)

12.00–13.15 | Stručna radionica – Panel I

Status i izazovi romske kulture i zajednice u savremenom dobu

Moderator:

dr Maja Vasiljević (CEPOM, Filozofski fakultet, Univerzitet u Beogradu)

Panelisti:

Aleksandros Tulumcidis (QUALIA) , Štefan Simončić (EPEKA), Osman Balić (YUROM Centar), Maja Simić (predsednica Romske organizacije mladih Srbije) , dr Ivan Đorđević (etnolog, antropolog, Etnološki institut SANU) i Andrej Kubiček (sociolog, Institut za kriminološka istraživanja)

13.15–14.45 | Kulinarska radionica – Ukusi i mirisi romske tradicije

Interaktivna radionica posvećena predstavljanju romskog gastronomskog nasleđa i razmeni znanja između učesnika, uz degustaciju pripremljenih specijaliteta.

Radionicu vodi Laura Saitović, kreatorka i voditeljka emisije o kulinarstvu na romskom „Romani kuhinja” i predstavnica medijskog portala „Rom Info Media”. Asistira Mario Cesnak, diplomirani muzički umetnik i kuvar.

15.00–16.15 | Stručna radionica – Panel II

Muzički album Roma Soul Food: značenje i status romske muzike kroz istoriju do danas

Moderator:

dr Biljana Leković (CEPOM, Fakultet muzičke umetnosti, Univerzitet umetnosti, Beograd)

Panelisti:

dr Marija Dumnić Vilotijević (etnomuzikološkinja, Muzikološki institut SANU), Dragan Ristić (muzičar, teatrolog, osnivač i frontmen grupe Kal), Albert Zekić (muzički producent), Nikola Nejčev, student master studija muzikologije, i Dunja Savić, studentkinja doktorskih studija muzikologije na FMU u Beogradu, saradnici CEPOM-a

16.15–16.30 | Završna diskusija o panelima i zaključci

16.30–18.30 | Neformalno umrežavanje i

druženje sa muzičarima, kuvarima, predstavnicima projekta

18.30–20.30 | Promocija muzičkog albuma Roma Soul Food i live show

Učestvuju: CEPOM tim - dr Maja Vasiljević, dr Biljana Leković, Katarina Lazarević, dr Haris Dajč;

Pretty Loud - Zlata Ristić i Elma Dalipi, Jovan Živadinović Džipsii, Ivan Kurtić i Tihomir Radić aka Toshi Domaćin

AGENDA

11.00–11.15 | Grand Opening

Welcome remarks by the organizers and representatives of relevant institutions

11.15–12.00 | Presentation of Project Results: From Field Research to Musical Creation

Addresses by representatives of the partner organizations: the Centre for Popular Music Research – CEPOM (Serbia), the Scientific and Research Association for Art, Cultural and Educational Programmes and Technology EPEKA (Slovenia), and QUALIA (Greece)

12.00–13.15 | Expert Workshop – Panel I

The Status and Challenges of Roma Culture and the Roma Community in Contemporary Society

Moderator:

Dr Maja Vasiljević (CEPOM, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)

Panelists:

Alexandros Touloumtzidis (QUALIA), Štefan Simončič (EPEKA), Osman Balić (YUROM Centre), Maja Simić (President of the Roma Youth Organization of Serbia), Dr Ivan Đorđević (ethnologist and anthropologist, Institute of Ethnography SASA), and Andrej Kubiček (sociologist, Institute of Criminological Research)

13.15–14.45 | Culinary Workshop – Tastes and Aromas of Roma Tradition

An interactive workshop dedicated to presenting Roma culinary heritage and exchanging knowledge among participants, accompanied by a tasting of prepared specialties.

The workshop is led by Laura Saitović, creator and host of the Roma-language culinary programme Romani kuhinja and representative of the media portal Rom Info Media. She is assisted by Mario Cesnak, graduate music artist and chef.

15.00–16.15 | Expert Workshop – Panel II

The Roma Soul Food Music Album: The Meaning and Status of Roma Music from the Past to the Present

Moderator:

Dr Biljana Leković (CEPOM, Faculty of Music, University of Arts in Belgrade)

Panelists:

Dr Marija Dumnić Vilotijević (ethnomusicologist, Institute of Musicology SASA), Dragan Ristić (musician, theatre scholar, founder and frontman of the band Kal), Albert Zekić (music producer), Nikola Nejčev, Master's student in musicology, and Dunja Savić, PhD student in musicology at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade, both CEPOM associates

16.15–16.30 | Final Discussion and Conclusions

16.30–18.30 | Informal Networking and Social Gathering with musicians, chefs, and project representatives

18.30–20.30 | Promotion of the Roma Soul Food Music Album and Live Show

Participants: CEPOM team – Dr Maja Vasiljević, Dr Biljana Leković, Katarina Lazarević, Dr Haris Dajč;

Pretty Loud – Zlata Ristić and Elma Dalipi; Jovan Živadinović Džipsii; Ivan Kurtić; and Tihomir Radić aka Toshi Domaćin.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

CEPOM TIM

dr Biljana Leković (Beograd, 27. septembar 1982), muzikolog. Diplomirala je na Odseku za muzikologiju Fakulteta muzičke umetnosti Univerziteta umetnosti u Beogradu 2008. godine. Doktorske studije muzikologije, pri istoj instituciji, završila je 2015. godine, odbranom doktorske disertacije „Kritička muzikološka istraživanja umetnosti zvuka: muzika i sound art” pod mentorstvom prof. dr Vesne Mikić. Od 2008. godine je angažovana kao saradnica u nastavi na Katedri za muzikologiju, 2010. godine je izabrana u zvanje asistenta, a docenta 2016. godine. Predaje i na doktorskim studijama na odsecima za Višemedijsku i Digitalnu umetnost Univerziteta umetnosti u Beogradu. Od 2006. do 2010. radila je kao muzička saradnica i kritičarka na Trećem programu Radio Beograda, a bila je i sekretar Internacionalnog časopisa za muziku Novi zvuk, od 2015. do 2018. Rukovodi Centrom za istraživanje popularne muzike, te aktivno učestvuje u realizaciji projekata ovog udruženja. Autorka je dve knjige: Modernistički projekat Pjera Šefera (2011) i Sound art/zvukovna umetnost: muzikološka perspektiva – teorije (2019) u izdanju Fakulteta muzičke umetnosti, Katedre za muzikologiju, kao i članaka, studija, prikaza, leksikografskih jedinica u nacionalnim i internacionalnim izdanjima, a radove prezentuje na nacionalnim i međunarodnim simpozijumima. Deo je autorskog tima koji je radio na realizaciji udžbenika iz Muzičke kulture od 5. do 8. razreda osnovne škole izdavačke kuće Klett, kao i kapitalne monografije posvećene obeležavanju 80 godina od osnivanja Udruženja kompozitora Srbije (2026).

dr Maja Vasiljević sociolog, istoričar i muzikolog sa bogatim iskustvom u upravljanju kulturnim projektima o nasleđu, manjinama i ratnim studijama. Doktorirala je sociologiju i akademske master studije muzikologije. Zaposlena je kao viši naučni saradnik na Odeljenju za istoriju Filozofskog fakulteta Univerziteta u Beogradu i izabrana je u zvanje u oblasti istorije. Od 2003. do 2011. godine radila je kao muzički kritičar i voditelj brojnih emisija na Radio Beogradu 2. Predaje na međunarodnom master zajedničkom programu Filozofskog fakulteta u Beogradu pod koordinacijom UCL na predmetu „Raspad Jugoslavije i postkonfliktna tranzicija”. Njena istraživanja kreću se na preseku muzikologije, istorije i sociologije, a fokus joj je odnos između kulture i politike, kao i manjinske zajednice - Jevreji, Romi, Česi. Pored posvećenog rada na temama Prvog i Drugog svetskog rata i Hladnog rata, proširila je svoje interesovanje na fenomen populizma u bivšoj Jugoslaviji na međunarodnom projektu Horizont 2020 „POPREBEL Populistička pobuna u Istočnoj i Centralnoj Evropi nakon pada Berlinskog zida”. Lokalna je koordinatorka projekta Kreativna Evropa “GUERRE – digitalni muzej Prvog svetskog rata za brigu o osetljivom kulturnom nasleđu” i menadžer projekta „Roma Soul Food” posvećenog romskoj muzici i gastronomiji. Objavila je tri monografije: *Filmska muzika u SFRJ: između politike i poetike* (Beograd, Hera edu, 2016), *Jevrejski muzičari u Beogradu: Od Balfurove deklaracije do Holokausta* (Beograd, Muzikološki institut SANU i Hera edu, 2021. na srpskom, 2023. na engleskom jeziku) i *Židovi u kinokulturi Hrvatske 1896-1945*. (Zagreb, Profil, 2024). Za svoju drugu knjigu dobila je nagradu „Stana Đurić Klajn” za najznačajniji doprinos u oblasti muzikologije, zatim nagradu za najznačajniju naučnu publikaciju na Međunarodnom sajmu knjiga u Sarajevu i „nagradu za podsticanje kulturne razmene u regionu” na Sajmu knjiga u Podgorici.

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

CEPOM TEAM

Dr Biljana Leković (Belgrade, 27 September 1982), musicologist. She graduated from the Department of Musicology at the Faculty of Music, University of Arts in Belgrade in 2008. She completed her doctoral studies in musicology at the same institution in 2015, defending her doctoral dissertation „Critical Musicological Research on Sound Art: Music and Sound Art” supervised by Professor Dr Vesna Mikić. From 2008, she was engaged as a teaching associate at the Department of Musicology, appointed to the rank of assistant in 2010, followed by assistant professor in 2016. She is engaged in doctoral studies at the departments of multimedia and digital arts at the University of Arts in Belgrade. From 2006 to 2010, she worked as a music associate and critic for the Third Programme of Radio Belgrade, and also as secretary of the International music journal *New Sound* (2015–2018). She heads the Centre for the Study of Popular Music and actively participates in the realization of this association's projects. She is the author of two books: *The Modernist Project of Pierre Schaeffer* (2011) and *Sound Art: A Musicological Perspective – Theories* (2019) published by the Faculty of Music, Department of Musicology, as well as numerous articles, studies, reviews, and lexicographic entries in national and international publications; she has also presented her work at national and international symposia. She is part of the authorial team that worked on the textbook *Music Culture* for grades 5 through 8 of elementary school (published by Klett), as well as on the landmark monograph marking the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Composers' Association of Serbia (2026).

Dr Maja Vasiljević, sociologist, historian and musicologist with extensive experience in managing cultural projects on heritage, minorities and war studies. She holds a PhD in sociology and a master's degree in musicology. She is employed as a senior research associate at the Department of History, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade and elected to the title in the discipline of history. From 2003 to 2011 she worked as music critic and broadcaster of numerous shows at the Radio Belgrade 2. She teaches at the international joint master's program under the coordination of UCL colloquium “Disolution of Yugoslavia and Post-Conflict Transition”. Her research is at the intersection of musicology, history and sociology, with a focus on the relationship between culture and politics, as well as minority communities - Jews, Roma, Czechs. In addition to dedicated work on the topics of the First and Second World Wars and the Cold War, she expanded her interest to the phenomenon of populism in the former Yugoslavia in the international Horizon 2020 project “POPREBEL Populist Uprising in Eastern and Central Europe after the Fall of the Berlin Wall”. She is the local coordinator of the Creative Europe project “GUERRE – WWI digital museum for the care of sensitive cultural heritage” and the manager of the “Roma Soul Food” project dedicated to Roma music and gastronomy. She has published three monographs: *Film music in SFRY: between politics and poetics* (Belgrade, Hera edu, 2016), *Jewish musicians in Belgrade: From the Balfour Declaration to the Holocaust* (Belgrade, Institute of Musicology SASA and Hera edu, 2021 on Serbian, 2023 on English), and *Jews in Croatian Cinema Culture 1896-1945*. (Zagreb, Profil, 2024). For her second book she received the “Stana Đurić Klajn” award for the most significant contribution in the field of musicology, then the award for the most significant scientific publication at the International Book Fair in Sarajevo, and the “award for encouraging cultural exchange in the region” at the Book Fair in Podgorica.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

Katarina Lazarević je specijalista teorije umetnosti, muzička kritičarka, urednica i istraživačica džeza i popularne muzike. Profesionalno je vezana za Udruženje kompozitora Srbije, gde od 2004. godine obavlja funkciju izvršne sekretarke, a članica je i Sekcije muzičkih pisaca Udruženja. Dugogodišnje iskustvo u muzičkom novinarstvu i radiju stekla je na Radio Beogradu, gde je od 1999. do 2012. godine bila muzička kritičarka i urednica autorske emisije „Džez scena“ na Drugom programu. Njeni kritički osvrti emitovani su i u emisijama „Ars sonora“, „U prvih pet“ i „Kulturni krugovi“, a pratila je domaću džez scenu i značajne festivale i koncerte u Srbiji. Kroz emisiju „Džez scena“ razgovarala je sa brojnim istaknutim domaćim džez umetnicima. Diplomirala je na Fakultetu muzičke umetnosti u Beogradu, a njena istraživačka interesovanja usmerena su prvenstveno ka džez muzici, odnosu džeza i drugih muzičkih tradicija i pitanjima popularne muzičke kulture. Autorka je stručnih i naučnih radova o džezu, među kojima su istraživanja posvećena Azizi Mustafi Zadeh i balkanskom džez stilu. Za doprinos radio-stvaralaštvu i afirmaciji kulture i umetnosti dobila je Povelju Radio Beograda 2 2013. godine. Članica je Udruženja novinara Srbije i saradnica Centra za istraživanje popularne muzike.

Nikola Nejčev je muzikolog, istraživač i kulturni menadžer iz Beograda. Diplomirao je muzikologiju na Fakultetu muzičke umetnosti Univerziteta umetnosti u Beogradu, gde završava master studije. Njegova istraživačka interesovanja usmerena su ka srpskoj muzici 20. veka, kulturi sećanja i zaborava, procesima oblikovanja muzičkog kanona i pitanjima kulturnog nasleđa, sa posebnim interesovanjem za stvaralaštvo Petra Stojanovića. Menadžer je međunarodnih programa i muzičkih projekata Muzičke omladine Beograda i aktivan u međunarodnoj mreži Jeunesses Musicales International, posebno u oblastima komunikacija, muzike za mladu publiku, međunarodne saradnje i programa Ethno. Autor je različitih popularno-naučnih tekstova iz oblasti muzikologije, popularne muzike i savremene kulture i učesnik velikog broja stručnih panela i razgovora. Posebno je posvećen savremenoj produkciji popularne muzike, novim medijima i načinima na koje se savremena muzička kultura oblikuje kroz digitalne platforme, vizuelne formate i nove modele komunikacije sa publikom.

dr Haris Dajč, profesor rane moderne istorije i istorije 19. i 20. veka na Filozofskom fakultetu Univerziteta u Beogradu. Pored osnovnih, master i doktorskih studija istorije na Odeljenju za istoriju Filozofskog fakulteta Univerziteta u Beogradu, završio je i master studije u Londonu, SSEES UCL. Takođe je obavio brojne studentske boravke, stručna usavršavanja i istraživačke aktivnosti u: Londonu, Veneciji, Padovi, Krakovu, Malti i Izraelu. Njegova istraživačka interesovanja obuhvataju Balkan i Mediteran u periodu od 18. do 21. veka, istoriju Beograda, položaj Jevreja u Jugoslaviji posle 1945. godine i razvoj populizma u zemljama bivše Jugoslavije. Bio je gostujući profesor u Krakovu na Jagelonskom univerzitetu, u Institutu za evropske studije 2019, 2021, 2022. i 2023. godine. Učestvovao je na više istraživačkih i akademskih projekata koje finansiraju EACEA, Erasmus Sport i Ministarstvo prosvete, nauke i tehnološkog razvoja Republike Srbije. Bio je rukovodilac dva Horizon 2020 projekta Poprebel (2019-2022) i MSC ITN FATIGUE. Objavio je pet knjiga: Sumrak starog Mediterana: Jonska ostrva 1774-1815 (2016), Kuće beogradskih Jevreja 1920-1941 (2018), Savska padina: Na putu urbanog razvoja Beograda u 19-20. veku (2019), Istočni Mediteran: Velika Britanija i Francuska u Levantu 1796-1807 (2020), Malta 1792-1805: Početak britanske dominacije u Mediteranu (2025).

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES



Katarina Lazarević is a specialist in art theory, music critic, editor and researcher of jazz and popular music. Professionally, she is connected to the Association of Composers of Serbia, where she has been the executive secretary since 2004, and is also a member of the Association's Music Writers Section. She gained many years of experience in music journalism and radio at Radio Belgrade, where from 1999 to 2012 she was a music critic and editor of the author's show "Jazz Scene" on the Second Program. Her critical reviews were also broadcast in the shows "Ars Sonora", "In the Top Five" and "Kulturni krugovi", and she followed the domestic jazz scene and significant festivals and concerts in Serbia. Through the "Jazz scene" show, she spoke with numerous prominent local jazz artists. She graduated from the Faculty of Music in Belgrade, and her research interests are focused primarily on jazz music, the relationship between jazz and other musical traditions, and issues of popular music culture. She is the author of professional and scientific works on jazz, among which are researches devoted to Aziza Mustafa Zadeh and the Balkan jazz style. In 2013, she received the Charter of Radio Belgrade 2 for her contribution to radio creativity and the affirmation of culture and art. She is a member of the Association of Journalists of Serbia and an associate of the Center for Popular Music Research.

Nikola Nejčev is a musicologist, researcher and cultural manager from Belgrade. He graduated in Musicology from the Faculty of Music, University of Arts in Belgrade, where he is completing his Master's studies. His research interests focus on twentieth-century Serbian music, cultures of memory and oblivion, processes of musical canon formation and cultural heritage, with a particular interest in the work of Petar Stojanović. He is Manager for International Programmes and Music Projects at Jeunesses Musicales Belgrade and is active within the Jeunesses Musicales International network, particularly in the fields of communications, music for young audiences, international cooperation and the Ethno programme. He is the author of various popular-science texts on musicology, popular music and contemporary culture and has participated in numerous professional panels and discussions. His work is particularly focused on contemporary popular music production, new media, and the ways in which today's music culture is shaped through digital platforms, visual formats and new models of audience communication.

dr Haris Dajč, professor of early modern history and history of the 19th and 20th century at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade. Beside undergraduate, master's and doctoral studies in history at the Department of History, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, he completed his master's studies in London, SSEES UCL. He has also completed numerous study stays, professional training courses and research activities in London, Venice, Padua, Krakow, Malta and Israel. His research interests include the Balkans and the Mediterranean in the period from the 18th to the 21st century, the history of Belgrade, the position of Jews in Yugoslavia after 1945 and the development of populism in the countries of the former Yugoslavia. He was a visiting professor in Krakow, Jagiellonian University, Institute for European Studies in 2019, 2021, 2022 and 2023. He has participated in several research and academic projects funded by EACEA, Erasmus Sport and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia. He was the project manager of two Horizon 2020 projects Poprebel (2019-2022) and MSC ITN FATIGUE. He has published five books: *Twilight of the Old Mediterranean: Ionian Islands 1774-1815* (2016), *Houses of Belgrade Jews 1920-1941* (2018), *Sava Slope: On the Path of Belgrade's Urban Development in the 19th-20th Century* (2019), *Eastern Mediterranean: Great Britain and France in the Levant 1796-1807* (2020), *Malta 1792-1805: The Beginning of British Dominance in the Mediterranean* (2025).

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

Dunja Savić, muzikološkinja, studentkinja doktorskih studija i istraživačica-pripravnica pri Katedri za muzikologiju Fakulteta muzičke umetnosti u Beogradu i saradnica Drugog programa Radio Beograda. Izlagala je radove na naučnim skupovima FESTUM (2017) i Contextuality in Musicology – What, How, Why and Because (2018, okrugli sto studenata). Piše muzičke kritike za Drugi program Radio Beograda od 2022. godine, a njeni tekstovi objavljeni su u časopisima: *Bagdala*, *Triptih*, *Novi zvuk*, *Musicum Impressum*, *FAMA* i *BURO*. Pedagoško iskustvo stekla je u Školi za muzičke talente u Čupriji i SMŠ „Josip Slavenski“ u Beogradu. U fokusu interesovanja su joj savremena i popularna muzika, odnos muzike i teksta, kao i muzika za gitaru. Članica je Muzikološkog društva Srbije od 2021. godine i CEPOM-a.

PARTNERI

Aleksandros Tulumcidis je diplomirani istoričar i arheolog sa master diplomom iz evropske istorije. Doktorand je na Univerzitetu u Patrasu, gde istražuje radne odnose u Grčkoj tokom Prvog svetskog rata. Takođe je istraživač na Francuskoj školi u Atini, gde proučava nutritivne i kulinarske prakse grčkog stanovništva na Makedonskom frontu. Jedan je od koordinatora međunarodne radne grupe Vojna radna istorija Evropske mreže za radnu istoriju i član Tima za usmenu istoriju Larise, sa preko 40 intervjuja o prehrambenim praksama tokom rata i okupacije. Svoja istraživanja je predstavio na međunarodnim konferencijama, uključujući „Hrana i ishrana u ratno vreme u modernom svetu, 19.–21. vek“ na Univerzitetu u Oksfordu, 11. konferenciji IEHCA u Turu, Francuska, i 4., 5. i 6. konferenciji ELHN u Beču, Upsali i Barseloni. Aleksandros je takođe rukovodilac projekata usmerenih ka rezultatima, sa preko jedanaest godina iskustva u dizajniranju, pisanju i sprovođenju projekata finansiranih od strane EU, uključujući Horizont Evropa, Kreativna Evropa, CERV, HEI inicijativu, Interreg i Erasmus+. Vešt je u vođenju multidisciplinarnih konzorcijuma, zatim u razvoju predloga sa visokim uticajem i obezbeđivanju uspešnog sprovođenja složenih, velikih inicijativa. Ima dokazanu stručnost u izradi sektora sa visokim uticajem, sa rezultatima obezbeđivanja značajnog finansiranja kroz strateško usklađivanje sa prioritetima EU. Strastveni je poštovalac kulturnog nasleđa, sa praktičnim iskustvom u upravljanju obrazovnim programima koji povezuju akademsku zajednicu, industriju i lokalne zajednice.

Kleri Bakura je kreativna producentkinja, kustos i doktorantkinja u oblasti gastronomije i performansa. Nakon što je skoro deceniju provela živeći i radeći u Londonu i sarađujući sa organizacijama širom Evrope, razvila je interdisciplinarnu praksu koja spaja kulturu, gastronomiju, nasleđe i performans. Njen rad istražuje kako se istraživanje može transformisati u značajna iskustva koja pozivaju ljude da se angažuju sa istorijom, sećanjem i identitetom na neočekivane načine. Godine 2021, koosnivač je QUALIA nevladine organizacije sa uverenjem da je kultura nešto što treba doživeti, a ne posmatrati. Od tada vodi kreativni pravac organizacije, dizajnirajući pozorišne predstave, izložbe, participativne programe, gastronomska iskustva i međunarodne kulturne projekte koji povezuju ljude, mesta i ideje. Uz rad u QUALIA-i, Kleri nastavlja svoja doktorska istraživanja, istražujući odnos između gastronomije, performansa i ljudskog stanja.

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES



Dunja Savić, musicologist, doctoral student and researcher-intern at the Department of Musicology at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade and associate of the Second Program of Radio Belgrade. She presented papers at the scientific meetings FESTUM (2017) and Contextuality in Musicology – What, How, Why and Because (2018, round table of students). She has been writing music reviews for the Second Program of Radio Belgrade since 2022, and her texts have been published in the magazines: Bagdala, Triptych, Novi zvuk, Musicum Impressum, FAMA and BURO. She gained teaching experience at the School for Musical Talents in Ćuprija and "Josip Slavenski" Secondary School in Belgrade. She is interested in contemporary and popular music, the relationship between music and text, as well as guitar music. She is a member of the Musicological Society of Serbia since 2021 and CEPOM.

PARTNERS

Alexandros Touloumtzidis holds a BA in History and Archaeology and an MA in European History. He is a PhD candidate at the University of Patras, researching labour relations in Greece during the First World War. He is also a fellow researcher at the École française d'Athènes, studying the nutritional and culinary practices of the Greek population on the Macedonian Front. He is one of the coordinators of the international working group Military Labour History of the European Labour History Network and a member of the Larissa Oral History Team, having conducted over 40 interviews on food practices during war and occupation. He has presented his research at international conferences, including "Food and Nutrition in Wartime in the Modern World, 19th–21st Centuries" at the University of Oxford, the 11th IEHCA Conference in Tours, France, and the 4th, 5th and 6th ELHN Conferences in Vienna, Uppsala and Barcelona, respectively. Alexandros is also a results-driven project manager with over eleven years of experience in designing, writing, and implementing EU-funded projects, including Horizon Europe, Creative Europe, CERV, HEI Initiative, Interreg, and Erasmus+. Skilled in leading multidisciplinary consortia, developing high-impact proposals, and ensuring the successful execution of complex, large-scale initiatives. He has proven expertise in drafting high-scoring impact sections, with a track record of securing significant funding through strategic alignment with EU priorities. Passionate about cultural heritage, with hands-on experience managing educational programmes that bridge academia, industry, and local communities.

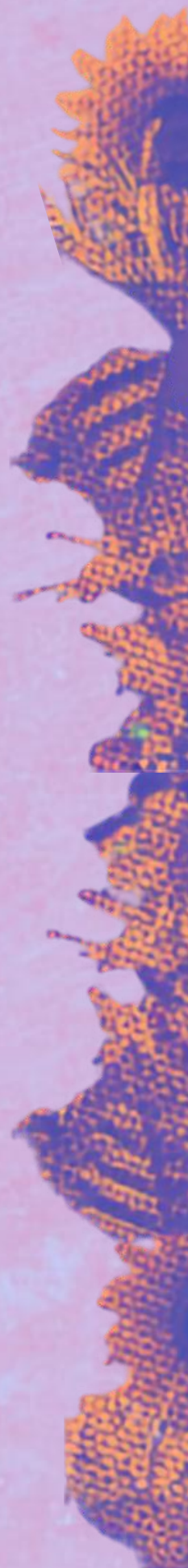
Kleri Bakoura is a creative producer, curator and PhD researcher in Gastronomy & Performance. After spending nearly a decade living and working in London and collaborating with organisations across Europe, she developed an interdisciplinary practice that brings together culture, gastronomy, heritage and performance. Her work explores how research can be transformed into meaningful experiences that invite people to engage with history, memory and identity in unexpected ways. In 2021, she co-founded QUALIA with the belief that culture is something to be experienced rather than observed. Since then, she has led the organisation's creative direction, designing theatrical performances, exhibitions, participatory programmes, gastronomic experiences and international cultural projects that connect people, places and ideas. Alongside her work at QUALIA, she continues her doctoral research, exploring the relationship between gastronomy, performance and human condition.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

Štefan Simončič je predsednik Udruženja za socijalno preduzetništvo EPEKA iz Slovenije i aktivan je u nevladinom sektoru od 2010. godine. Njegov rad je usmeren na romsku kulturu, socijalnu inkluziju, međukulturni dijalog i kulturno nasleđe. Preko EPEKA-e, organizovao je i podržao koncerte poznatih romskih muzičara, uključujući: Esmu Redžepovu, Harija Stojku, Fanfare Čokarliju, Diknu Šneberger Trio, Romana Glausoa itd. Takođe je bio uključen u projekte kao što su Glas Roma, ROMASOUL - Roma Soul Food, ROMHERITAGE i Romani Kafenava, promovišući romsku kulturu, muziku, nasleđe i socijalno preduzetništvo.

PANELISTI

Osman Balić je romski aktivista, zagovornik ljudskih prava i direktor YUROM Centra iz Niša, jedne od najdugovečnijih romskih organizacija u Srbiji. Po struci je inženjer zaštite na radu, a diplomirao je na Fakultetu zaštite na radu Univerziteta u Nišu 1978. godine. Pre angažovanja u romskom pokretu radio je na različitim stručnim i rukovodećim poslovima, između ostalog kao rukovodilac Zavoda za informacione tehnologije u MIN-u i kao stručnjak MIN gasa. U vreme sankcija učestvovao je u izgradnji 64 kilometra dugog gasovoda od Pojata do Niša. Od 1998. godine aktivno se bavi pitanjima emancipacije Roma. Godine 2000. preuzima rukovođenje organizacijom YUROM centar koju je osnovao njegov otac Saita Balić, i usmerava njen rad na zaštitu ljudskih prava, socijalno uključivanje i unapređenje položaja romske zajednice. Tokom svoje profesionalne karijere obavljao je niz javnih i savetničkih funkcija. Bio je savetnik u Ministarstvu za ljudska i manjinska prava, potpredsednik Vlade opštine Niš, zamenik šefa Sekretarijata za implementaciju romske strategije pri Službi za ljudska i manjinska prava Vlade Srbije, član Komisije SCG za saradnju sa UNESCO-om, član ekspertske grupe Saveta Evrope za romska pitanja i lokalni medijator OEBS-a za romsku zajednicu. Učestvovao je u izradi i realizaciji brojnih programa i javnih politika u oblastima obrazovanja, stanovanja, zdravstva, zapošljavanja i informisanja Roma. Radio je na izradi Strategije integracije Roma u Srbiji i Crnoj Gori, Strategije razvoja malih i srednjih preduzeća u Nišu i Strategije održivog razvoja za potrebe Vlade Srbije. Bio je uključen i u rad domaćih i međunarodnih tela posvećenih razvoju civilnog društva i unapređenju položaja Roma, uključujući Fond za otvoreno društvo, Svetsku banku i Savet Evrope. Balić je tokom dugogodišnjeg rada bio aktivan i na polju romske kulture i medija. Učestvovao je u pokretanju i radu romske radio-televizije „Nišava“, a bavio se i dokumentovanjem i promovisanjem romske književnosti i kulturnog nasleđa. Jedan je od priređivača antologije romske poezije Jabuka u srcu / Phabaj ano ilo / Apple in the Hearth. U javnosti se posebno zalaže za položaj Roma, diskriminaciju, kulturnu politiku i odnose romske i većinske zajednice, povezujući pitanje ravnopravnosti sa širim pitanjima društvenog razvoja i građanskog društva.



PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES



Štefan Simončič is President of the EPEKA Association, Social Enterprise in Slovenia and has been active in the NGO sector since 2010. His work focuses on Roma culture, social inclusion, intercultural dialogue, and cultural heritage. Through EPEKA, he has organised and supported concerts featuring renowned Roma musicians, including Esma Redžepova, Harri Stojka, Fanfare Ciocărlia, Diknu Schneeberger Trio, Romano Glauso etc. He has also been involved in projects such as Voice of Roma, ROMASOUL – Roma Soul Food, ROMHERITAGE, and Romani Kafenava, promoting Roma culture, music, heritage, and social entrepreneurship.

PANELISTS

Osman Balić is a Roma activist, advocate of human rights and director of the YUROM Center from Niš, one of the longest-standing Roma organizations in Serbia. He is an occupational safety engineer by profession, and graduated from the Faculty of Occupational Safety of the University of Niš in 1978. Before engaging in the Roma movement, he worked in various professional and managerial positions, including as the head of the Institute for Information Technologies in the MIN and as a MIN gas expert. At the time of the sanctions, he participated in the construction of the 64 kilometer long gas pipeline from Pojat to Nis. Since 1998, he has been actively dealing with Roma emancipation issues. In 2000, he took over the management of the organization YUROM centar, founded by his father Saita Balić, and directed its work to the protection of human rights, social inclusion and improvement of the position of the Roma community. During his professional career, he held a number of public and advisory positions. He was an adviser in the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights, vice-president of the Niš Municipality Government, deputy head of the Secretariat for the Implementation of the Roma Strategy at the Service for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of Serbia, a member of the SCG Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO, a member of the Council of Europe expert group on Roma issues and a local OSCE mediator for the Roma community. He participated in the development and implementation of numerous programs and public policies in the fields of education, housing, health, employment and information of the Roma. He worked on the development of the Strategy for the Integration of Roma in Serbia and Montenegro, the Strategy for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises in Niš, and the Strategy for Sustainable Development for the needs of the Government of Serbia. He was also involved in the work of domestic and international bodies dedicated to the development of civil society and the improvement of the position of Roma, including the Open Society Fund, the World Bank and the Council of Europe. During his many years of work, Balić was also active in the field of Roma culture and media. He participated in the launch and operation of the Roma radio-television "Nišava", and was also involved in documenting and promoting Roma literature and cultural heritage. He is one of the editors of the anthology of Roma poetry *Jabuka u srcu / Phabaj ano ilo / Apple in the Hearth*. In public, he particularly advocates for the position of Roma, discrimination, cultural policy and relations between Roma and the majority community, connecting the issue of equality with broader issues of social development and civil society.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

Maja Simić, je romska aktivistkinja, koordinatorka projekata i medijska radnica iz Beograda. Osnivačica je Romske organizacije mladih Srbije i regionalna koordinatorka Romske ženske mreže Srbije za grad Beograd. Svoj rad usmerava na osnaživanje Roma i Romkinja, posebno mladih i žena, kao i na unapređenje njihovog položaja u društvu. Po obrazovanju je iz oblasti međunarodnih odnosa na Fakultetu političkih nauka Univerziteta u Beogradu. Iskustvo je sticala u organizacijama civilnog društva, obrazovanju i medijima. Od 2022. do 2025. godine radila je u Romskoj medijskoj službi, a 2025. godine bila je stažistkinja u Adria News – N1, na programu „Medijsko mentorstvo Roma“. Učestvovala je na brojnim projektima i programima posvećenim obrazovanju, zapošljavanju, društvenoj inkluziji, ljudskim i socijalnim pravima i osnaživanju romske zajednice. Dobitnica je priznanja „Dobrila“ za osnaživanje žena Delegacije Evropske unije u Srbiji, kao i Godišnje medijske nagrade za toleranciju koju dodeljuju Poverenica za zaštitu ravnopravnosti i Misija OEBS-a u Srbiji. Učestvovala je na međunarodnim konferencijama i programima u oblasti ljudskih prava, feminizma, inkluzije i položaja Roma, uključujući međunarodnu feminističku konferenciju AWID u Bangkoku i program „Romayouthtogether“ u Strazburu. Pored Ministarstva za prosvetu, nauku i tehnološki razvoj Republike Srbije, bila je i stipendista Evropskog romskog instituta za umetnost i kulturu Srbije.

dr Ivan Đorđević je etnolog i antropolog, viši naučni saradnik Etnografskog instituta Srpske akademije nauka i umetnosti. Diplomirao je, magistrirao i doktorirao na Odeljenju za etnologiju i antropologiju Filozofskog fakulteta Univerziteta u Beogradu, a u Etnografskom institutu SANU zaposlen je od 2005. godine. Njegova istraživačka interesovanja obuhvataju: antropologiju osetljivih i marginalizovanih grupa, političku antropologiju i antropologiju sporta. Poseban deo njegovog naučnog i istraživačkog rada posvećen je položaju romske zajednice u Srbiji, sa fokusom na društvenu uključenost, rodnu ravnopravnost i prava dece i žena. Bio je glavni istraživač projekta „Dečiji brakovi u romskoj populaciji u Srbiji“, realizovanog u saradnji sa UNICEF-om i Romskim ženskim centrom BIBIJA, kao i istraživanja o rodnim nejednakostima među marginalizovanim Romima u Srbiji u saradnji sa Svetskom bankom. Učestvovao je i u istraživanjima dečjeg rada i prosjačenja, kao i u projektima usmerenim na zdravlje i dobrobit dece u romskim naseljima. Bio je rukovodilac projekta HEROINES – „Nasleđe emancipacije: Osnaživanje Romkinja kroz izgradnju mreža solidarnosti“, koji je realizovao Etnografski institut SANU u saradnji sa Filozofskim fakultetom Univerziteta u Beogradu i Romskim ženskim centrom BIBIJA. Projekat kroz participativno istraživanje i mapiranje zajednice dokumentuje iskustva, dostignuća i emancipacione prakse Romkinja, nastojeći da njihove priče predstavi izvan dominantnih stereotipnih i problemski usmerenih narativa o romskoj zajednici. Projekat „Heroine“ nagrađen je 2025. u okviru Prix Ars Electronica. Autor je brojnih naučnih radova i monografija iz oblasti antropologije, među kojima su Antropolog među navijačima (2015), za koju je dobio nagradu Etnografskog instituta SANU za najbolju antropološku knjigu objavljenu na srpskom jeziku, i Antropologija naučne fantastike: tradicija u žanrovskoj književnosti (2009). Sa Ivanom Kovačevićem i Bojanom Žikićem koautor je knjige Strah i kultura (2008). Kao gostujući profesor učestvovao je u programu Globalne studije zdravlja Univerziteta Northwestern u SAD. Njegov rad povezuje akademsko antropološko istraživanje sa konkretnim radom na unapređenju položaja marginalizovanih zajednica i kreiranju javnih politika.

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES



Maja Simić is a Roma activist, project coordinator and media worker from Belgrade. She is the founder of the Roma Youth Organization of Serbia and regional coordinator of the Roma Women's Network of Serbia for the city of Belgrade. It focuses its work on empowering Roma men and women, especially young people and women, as well as improving their position in society. He is educated in the field of international relations at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade. She gained experience in civil society organizations, education and media. From 2022 to 2025, she worked at the Roma Media Service, and in 2025 she was an intern at Adria News - NI, on the "Roma Media Mentorship" program. She participated in numerous projects and programs dedicated to education, employment, social inclusion, human and social rights and the empowerment of the Roma community. She is the winner of the "Dobriila" recognition for the empowerment of women from the Delegation of the European Union in Serbia, as well as the Annual Media Award for Tolerance awarded by the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality and the OSCE Mission in Serbia. She has participated in international conferences and programs in the field of human rights, feminism, inclusion and the situation of Roma, including the international feminist conference AWID in Bangkok and the program "Romayouthtogether" in Strasbourg. In addition to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, she was also a scholarship recipient of the European Roma Institute for Art and Culture of Serbia.

Dr. Ivan Đorđević is an ethnologist and anthropologist, senior research associate of the Ethnographic Institute of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. He graduated from the Department of Ethnology and Anthropology at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade, and has been employed at the Ethnographic Institute of the SASA since 2005. His research interests include: anthropology of vulnerable and marginalized groups, political anthropology and anthropology of sport. A special part of his scientific and research work is dedicated to the position of the Roma community in Serbia, with a focus on social inclusion, gender equality and the rights of children and women. He was the main researcher of the project "Child marriages in the Roma population in Serbia", implemented in cooperation with UNICEF and the Roma Women's Center BIBIJA, as well as research on gender inequalities among marginalized Roma in Serbia in cooperation with the World Bank. He also participated in research on child labor and begging, as well as in projects aimed at the health and well-being of children in Roma settlements. He was the coordinator (PI) of the HEROINES project - "Legacy of emancipation: Empowering Roma women through the construction of solidarity networks", which was implemented by the Ethnographic Institute SASA in cooperation with the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade and the Roma Women's Center BIBIJA. Through participatory research and community mapping, the project documents the experiences, achievements and emancipatory practices of Roma women, striving to present their stories beyond the dominant stereotypical and problem-oriented narratives about the Roma community. The "Heroines" project was awarded in 2025 as part of the Prix Ars Electronica. He is the author of numerous scientific works and monographs in the field of anthropology, among which are Anthropologist among the sport fans (2015), for which he received the award of the Ethnographic Institute of SANU for the best anthropological book published in the Serbian language, and Anthropology of science fiction: tradition in genre literature (2009). With Ivan Kovačević and Bojan Žikić, he is the co-author of the book Fear and Culture (2008). As a visiting professor, he participated in the Global Health Studies program at Northwestern University in the USA. His work connects academic anthropological research with concrete work on improving the position of marginalized communities and creating public policies.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

Andrej Kubiček, sociolog i istraživač na Institutu za kriminološka i sociološka istraživanja u Beogradu od 2018. godine. Diplomске i master studije sociologije završio je na Filozofskom fakultetu Univerziteta u Beogradu, a doktorsku disertaciju „Anticiganizam u savremenoj Srbiji u prvoj četvrtini 21. veka: kritička analiza diskursa rasizma“ priprema pod mentorstvom prof. dr Jova Bakića. Bavi se pitanjima rasizma, anticiganizma, etničkih odnosa, društvenih sukoba i položaja marginalizovanih grupa, sa posebnim fokusom na mehanizme proizvodnje i održavanja predrasuda, stereotipa i diskriminacije prema Romima. Učestvovao je na brojnim domaćim i međunarodnim naučnim konferencijama i istraživačkim projektima, uključujući IPA projekat "Improving Capacities of the Prison Administration in the Area of Alternative Sanctions, Post Penal Care and Healthcare". Dugogodišnje je angažovan i u oblasti obrazovanja. Predavao je sociologiju i građansko vaspitanje u beogradskim gimnazijama, bio angažovan u nastavi na Filozofskom fakultetu, a od 2021. godine sarađuje sa Zavodom za unapređivanje obrazovanja i vaspitanja kao predavač na seminarima za nastavnike, posebno u oblasti obrazovanja pripadnika etničkih zajednica. Učestvovao je i u obrazovanju budućih nastavnika romskog jezika sa elementima nacionalne kulture. Pored akademskog i obrazovnog rada, aktivno učestvuje u javnim i medijskim razgovorima o rasizmu, etničkim odnosima i položaju manjinskih zajednica. Predsednik je udruženja "Češka beseda Beograd", gde se bavi očuvanjem i promocijom češkog kulturnog nasleđa. Osim naučnog rada i aktivizma, bavi se i mačevanjem.

dr Marija Dumnić Vilotijević je etnomuzikološkinja i viša naučna saradnica Muzikološkog instituta Srpske akademije nauka i umetnosti. Rođena je u Beogradu 1985. godine. Diplomirala je etnomuzikologiju na Fakultetu muzičke umetnosti Univerziteta umetnosti u Beogradu, gde je 2016. godine odbranila doktorsku disertaciju posvećenu istorijskim aspektima i savremenim praksama izvođenja starogradske muzike u Beogradu. Tokom doktorskih studija usavršavala se u institucijama Bugarske i Austrijske akademije nauka. Od 2011. godine zaposlena je u Muzikološkom institutu SANU, gde se bavi arhivskim i terenskim istraživanjima, kao i proučavanjem srpske i balkanske folklorne i popularne muzike. Njena istraživačka interesovanja obuhvataju: urbanu i primenjenu etnomuzikologiju, muziku Balkana, migracije i dijasporu, starogradsku i novokomponovanu narodnu muziku, savremenu popularnu muziku, kao i zaštitu i digitalizaciju zvučne baštine. Poseban deo njenog rada predstavlja proučavanje muzike u društvenom i kulturnom kontekstu. U okviru istraživanja primenjene etnomuzikologije bavila se, između ostalog, muzikom migrantskih zajednica u Srbiji, a 2025. godine objavila je naučni rad „A Critical Interpretation of Ethnological and Ethnomusicological Narratives on Roma Music in Serbia“, u kojem analizira razvoj istraživanja romske muzike u Srbiji i načine na koje su se kroz vreme menjali pristupi njenom proučavanju i predstavljanju. Predsednica je Sekcije istraživačkih arhiva Međunarodne asocijacije zvučnih i audiovizuelnih arhiva (IASA) i ambasadorica IASA u Srbiji, dok je od 2024. godine predsednica Nacionalnog komiteta Međunarodnog saveta za tradicije muzike i plesa (ICTMD) Srbije. Učestvuje u međunarodnim istraživačkim projektima i konferencijama i objavljuje radove u domaćim i međunarodnim naučnim časopisima. Autorka je knjige Zvuci nostalgije: Istorija starogradske muzike u Srbiji (Beograd: Čigoja štampa – Muzikološki institut SANU, 2019) i urednica izdanja Rukopisna zbirka Jovana Frajta: fragment istorije instrumentalne gradske narodne muzike (2022) i Narodna muzika Vranja / Folk Music of Vranje (2021) u okviru edicije „Zvučna riznica“ Muzikološkog instituta SANU, kao i brojnih naučnih radova. Bila je gostujuća urednica časopisa Muzikologija br. 38 (2025), čija je tema su bili muzika i ples Roma na Balkanu i u dijaspori.

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES



Andrej Kubiček, a sociologist and researcher at the Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research in Belgrade since 2018. He completed his bachelor's and master's studies in sociology at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, and preparing his doctoral dissertation "Antigypsyism in Contemporary Serbia in the First Quarter of the 21st Century: A Critical Analysis of the Discourse of Racism" under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Jovo Bakić. He deals with issues of racism, antigypsyism, ethnic relations, social conflicts and the position of marginalized groups, with a special focus on the mechanisms of production and maintenance of prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination against Roma. He has participated in numerous domestic and international scientific conferences and research projects, including the IPA project "Improving Capacities of the Prison Administration in the Area of Alternative Sanctions, Post Penal Care and Healthcare". He has also been involved in the field of education for many years. He taught sociology and civic education in Belgrade high schools, was engaged in teaching at the Faculty of Philosophy, and since 2021 has been collaborating with the Institute for the Improvement of Education and Training as a lecturer at seminars for teachers, especially in the field of education of members of ethnic communities. He has also participated in the education of future teachers of the Romani language with elements of national culture. In addition to academic and educational work, he actively participates in public and media discussions about racism, ethnic relations and the position of minority communities. He is the president of the association "Češka beseda Beograd", where he is engaged in the preservation and promotion of Czech cultural heritage. In addition to scientific work and activism, he is also involved in fencing.

Dr. Marija Dumnić Vilotijević is an ethnomusicologist and senior research associate at the Musicological Institute of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. She graduated in ethnomusicology at the Faculty of Music of the University of Arts in Belgrade, where in 2016 she defended her doctoral dissertation devoted to the historical aspects and contemporary practices of performing old town music in Belgrade. During her doctoral studies, she trained in the institutions of the Bulgarian and Austrian Academy of Sciences. Since 2011, she has been employed at the SASA Musicological Institute, where she deals with archival and field research, as well as the study of Serbian and Balkan folklore and popular music. Her research interests include: urban and applied ethnomusicology, music of the Balkans, migration and diaspora, old and newly composed folk music, contemporary popular music, as well as protection and digitization of sound heritage. A special part of her work is the study of music in a social and cultural context. As part of research into applied ethnomusicology, she dealt with, among other things, the music of migrant communities in Serbia, and in 2025 she published the scientific paper "A Critical Interpretation of Ethnological and Ethnomusicological Narratives on Roma Music in Serbia", in which she analyzes the development of research into Roma music in Serbia and the ways in which approaches to its study and presentation have changed over time. She is the president of the Section of Research Archives of the International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA) and the ambassador of IASA in Serbia, while from 2024 she is the president of the National Committee of the International Council for Music and Dance Traditions (ICTMD) of Serbia. He participates in international research projects and conferences and publishes papers in national and international scientific journals. She is the author of the book *Sounds of Nostalgia: The History of Old Town Music in Serbia* (Belgrade: Čigoja štampa - SANU Musicological Institute, 2019) and the editor of Jovan Frajt's edition *The manuscript collection of Jovan Frajt: a fragment of the history of instrumental city folk music* (2022) and *Folk Music of Vranje* (2021) within the "Sound Treasury" edition of the SANU Musicological Institute, as well as numerous scientific works. She was a guest editor of the magazine *Muzikologija/Musicology* no. 38 (2025), whose topic was Roma music and dance in the Balkans and in their diaspora.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

Dragan Ristić, svestrani umetnik, gitarista, teatrolog, kompozitor, aranžer, glumac (9. septembar 1972. godine Valjevu, Srbija). Diplomirao je na Fakultetu dramskih umetnosti na Katedri za menadžment i produkciju pozorišta, radija i kulture. Potiče iz muzičke porodice. Otac i deda svirali su violinu, a njegova prva ljubav bila je harmonika na kojoj je svirao od sedme godine. Nekoliko godina kasnije, otkrio je čari gitare, te naklonost ka malo specifičnijem ritmu. Pored studija na Fakultetu dramskih umetnosti, njegova najveća strast ostaje gitara, te 1996. godine osniva grupu "Kal". Autor je svih pesama i aranžmana grupe, kao i vokal i gitarista. Njegova muzika izdvaja se još na samom početku, svojim egzotičnim zvukom u koji se spaja sa tradicionalnim na vrlo autentičan i savremen način. Koliko su note koje komponuje zarazne i radosne, govori podatak da je grupa "Kal" na Festivalu u Lečesteru u Ujedinjenom Kraljevstvu proglašena "Feniksom" umetnosti. Uporedo sa njegovom muzičkom karijerom, traje i njegova vokacijska karijera. Od 1994-1997 radi kao novinar i prevodilac u romskim novinama Romano lil i Chavrikano lil, a kao spiker, novinar i prevodilac na Radio Beogradu – romskom programu. Godine 1998. izvodi performans u alternativnoj predstavi Svi različiti su jednaki, povodom Međunarodnog dana borbe protiv rasizma, zatim izvodi, organizuje, prevodi i komponuje muziku za romsku lutkarsku predstavu Sasa pe jekh ivend – Bilo jednom jedne zime, te najzad sarađuje na prevodu i muzici za film Crna mačka, beli mačor Emira Kusturice. Od 1998. godine do današnjih dana direktor je Romskog kulturnog centra Beograda. 1999. – koordinator u pozorišnoj radionici, Međunarodna unija Roma, Romska kultura i jezik – letnja škola Berlin. Naredne godine producira i glumi u pozorišnoj predstavi Krvava svadba Federika Garsije Lorke, a iste funkcije plus komponovanje muzike ostvaruje u predstavi Žak ili Pokornost Ežena Joneskog, obe u sastavu Romskog pozorišta Vareso aver – Budimpešta. Godine 2001. glumi i komponuje u predstavi Bahanalije Gorana Stefanovskog, Romski teatar Raidna, Beograd. Godine 2003. učestvujenu muzičkom projektu "Romano suno" – Radio B92 i na 11. Evropskom bijenalu mladih umetnika u Atini. Bio je kustos nemačkog projekta Romski digitalni arhiv 2017. godine.

Albert Zekić, muzičar, muzički producent, aranžer i tonski snimatelj iz Niša, koji se više od decenije bavi muzičkom produkcijom, snimanjem i izdavanjem muzike. Od 2011. godine vodi produkciju "Bahier", posvećenu snimanju i izdavanju zvučnih zapisa i muzike. U svom radu potpisuje različite uloge u procesu nastanka muzičkih dela, uključujući produkciju, aranžiranje, snimanje i mastering. Poseban segment njegovog rada predstavlja angažman u muzičkoj edukaciji mladih i povezivanje muzike sa društvenim osnaživanjem. Kao voditelj muzičkih radionica u okviru fondacije GRUBB u Nišu, radio je sa decom i mladima iz romske zajednice, učestvujući u razvoju njihovih muzičkih veština i kreativnog izražavanja. Zekić je posebno značajan kao jedan od mentora i saradnika u nastanku grupe Pretty Loud, prvog ženskog romskog hip-hop sastava, koji je formiran 2014. godine upravo iz muzičkih radionica GRUBB-a. Grupa je spojila hip-hop, rep, savremenu muziku i romsku tradicionalnu muziku, dok se svojim tekstovima bavi temama obrazovanja, ravnopravnosti, diskriminacije, nasilja nad ženama i ranih brakova. Pored edukativnog i društveno angažovanog rada, Albert Zekić aktivno sarađuje sa različitim muzičarima i izvođačima kao producent i aranžer. Među novijim projektima je i rad na pesmi „Boginja“, sa kojom je Dušan Kurtić učestvovao na festivalu Pisma za Evroviziju 2025, gde je Zekić potpisan kao aranžer i mastering inženjer. Njegov rad karakteriše povezivanje muzičke produkcije sa savremenim muzičkim izrazom, ali i korišćenje muzike kao prostora za kreativno obrazovanje, afirmaciju mladih i otvaranje tema važnih za romsku zajednicu i šire društvo.

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES



Dragan Ristić, versatile artist, guitarist, theater scholar, composer, arranger, actor (September 9, 1972, Valjevo, Serbia). He graduated from the Faculty of Dramatic Arts at the Department of Management and Production of Theater, Radio and Culture. He comes from a musical family. His father and grandfather played the violin, and his first love was the accordion, which he played from the age of seven. A few years later, he discovered the charms of the guitar, and his penchant for a slightly specific rhythm. In addition to his studies at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts, his greatest passion remains the guitar, and in 1996 he founded the group "Kal". He is the author of all the songs and arrangements of the group, as well as the vocalist and guitarist. His music stands out from the very beginning, with its exotic sound that merges with the traditional in a very authentic and contemporary way. How infectious and joyful the notes he composes are is evidenced by the fact that the group "Kal" was declared the "Phoenix" of art at the Leicester Festival in the United Kingdom. His professional career also continues in parallel with his musical career. From 1994-1997 he worked as a journalist and translator in the Roma newspapers *Romano lil* and *Čavrikano lil*, and as an announcer, journalist and translator on Radio Belgrade - the Roma program. In 1998, he performed in the alternative play *All Different Are Equal*, on the occasion of the International Day for the Fight against Racism, then performed, organized, translated and composed music for the Roma puppet show *Sasha pe jekh ivend - Once upon a time in a winter*, and finally collaborated on the translation and music for the film *Black Cat, White Cat* by Emir Kusturica. From 1998 to the present day, he has been the director of the Roma Cultural Center in Belgrade. In 1999 he was coordinator of the theater workshop, International Roma Union, Roma Culture and Language – Summer School Berlin. The following year, he produced and acted in the theater play *The Bloody Wedding* by Federico Garcia Lorca, and performed the same functions plus composing music in the play *Jacques or Obedience* by Eugene Ionesco, both as part of the Roma Theater *Varešo aver – Budapest*. In 2001, he acted and composed music in the play *Bacchanalia* by Goran Stefanovski, Roma Theater *Raidna*, Belgrade. In 2003, he participated in the music project "Romano suno" – Radio B92 and at the 11th European Biennial of Young Artists in Athens. He was the curator of the German project Roma Digital Archive in 2017.

Albert Zekić, a musician, music producer, arranger and sound engineer from Niš, who has been involved in music production, recording and publishing for more than a decade. Since 2011, he has been running the production company "Bahier", dedicated to recording and publishing sound recordings and music. In his work, he plays various roles in the process of creating musical works, including production, arranging, recording and mastering. A special segment of his work is his engagement in the music education of young people and connecting music with social empowerment. As a leader of music workshops within the GRUBB Foundation in Niš, he worked with children and young people from the Roma community, participating in the development of their musical skills and creative expression. Zekić is particularly notable as one of the mentors and collaborators in the creation of the group *Pretty Loud*, the first female Roma hip-hop group, which was formed in 2014 from the music workshops of GRUBB. The group combines hip-hop, rap, contemporary music and traditional Roma music, while their lyrics deal with the themes of education, equality, discrimination, violence against women and early marriage. In addition to educational and socially engaged work, Albert Zekić actively collaborates with various musicians and performers as a producer and arranger. Recent projects include work on the song "Goddess", with which Dušan Kurtić participated in the Eurovision Song Contest 2025 festival, where Zekić was signed as an arranger and mastering engineer. His work is characterized by connecting music production with contemporary musical expression, but also by using music as a space for creative education, youth affirmation, and opening up topics important to Roma and wider society.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

KULINARSKI EKSPERTI

Laura Saitović je romska aktivistkinja, edukatorica i medijska autorka iz Leskovca, sa višedecenijskim iskustvom u radu sa romskom zajednicom, posebno sa ženama i mladima. Predsednica je udruženja Leskovačke Romkinje – LE-RO i članica Upravnog odbora Romske ženske mreže Srbije. Kao koordinatorka i edukatorica učestvovala je u brojnim projektima posvećenim socijalnom uključivanju, obrazovanju, pravima žena i borbi protiv diskriminacije. Niz godina je radila i kao zdravstvena medijatorka Doma zdravlja u Leskovcu i time uspela da produži na stotine života Roma u svom gradu. Trenutno se sa svojim suprugom Zoranom Saitovićem bori protiv ranog sklapanja brakova mladih iz romske zajednice. „Jug press media“ je snimio dokumentarni film Ti možeš sve kao Laura Saitović o njenoj životnoj borbi. Voditeljka je emisije „Romani kuhinja“, čiji je autor njen suprug i nastala je kao medijski projekat NVO ROSA koji se realizuje u produkciji „Rom info media“ iz Leskovca. U emisijama učestvuju Romkinje iz različitih gradova Srbije koje predstavljaju pripremu tradicionalnih jela i govore o hrani kao delu kulture i identiteta.

Mario Cesnak je diplomirani muzički umetnik – klarinetista, rodom iz Plandišta. Muzičko obrazovanje stekao je na Slobomir P Univerzitetu u Bijeljini i Fakultetu muzičke umetnosti u Beogradu, gde je diplomirao u klasi profesora Veljka Klenkovskog. Pored muzike, posebno interesovanje posvećuje kulinarstvu, sa naglaskom na tradicionalnu domaću i slovačku kuhinju. Tokom studija radio je kao kuvar u „Luxory“ gastro baru u Beogradu, gde je stekao praktično iskustvo u pripremi domaćih i italijanskih jela. Odrastanje na selu dodatno je oblikovalo njegov odnos prema tradicionalnoj hrani, poljoprivredi i životu u ruralnoj sredini. Aktivno se bavi pčelarstvom i član je Saveza pčelarskih organizacija Srbije i pčelarskog društva iz Plandišta.

MUZIČARI

Pretty Loud grupa je osnovana 2014. godine uz podršku GRUBB fondacije kao prvi ženski romski hip-hop bend na svetu, sa ciljem da koristi muziku za edukaciju mladih Romkinja o njihovim pravima i za negovanje kritičkog razmišljanja. Njihov rad karakteriše direktno bavljenje društvenim pitanjima unutar romske zajednice. Kroz svoje tekstove – pisane na romskom, srpskom i engleskom jeziku – fokusiraju se na teme kao što su dečji brakovi, promocija obrazovanja žena i borba protiv rodno zasnovanog nasilja. Muzički, bend spaja savremeni hip-hop sa tradicionalnim romskim ritmovima, dok ples i koreografija ostaju vitalne komponente njihovih nastupa.

Do danas su nastupale na brojnim muzičkim i kulturnim događajima širom Srbije i Evrope (Nemačka, Holandija, Belgija, Slovenija). Istaknut trenutak bio je njihov nastup 2020. godine na međunarodnom festivalu „Žene sveta“ (WOW) u Londonu, koji je privukao pažnju globalnih medija poput BBC-ja i The New York Times-a. Iste godine, u saradnji sa UN Women Serbia, objavile su pesmu i video „Ravnopravno“ (Jednako) kao deo globalne kampanje protiv nasilja nad ženama. Njihova misija je da se bore „za sve žene na svetu, ne samo za Romkinje. Borimo se da žene imaju više samopouzdanja. Želimo da veruju u sebe i da ne sumnjaju da je ono što rade dobro i da će se isplatiti.“ Na albumu *Roma Soul Food* (2026) nastupile su u sastavu: Zlata Ristić, Silvija Sinani i Elma Dalipi.

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

CULINARY EXPERTS

Laura Saitović is a Roma activist, educator and media author from Leskovac, with decades of experience working with the Roma community, especially with women and youth. She is the president of the Leskovac Roma Women Association – LE-RO and a member of the Board of Directors of the Roma Women's Network of Serbia. As a coordinator and educator, she has participated in numerous projects dedicated to social inclusion, education, women's rights and the fight against discrimination. For many years, she also worked as a health mediator at the Health Center in Leskovac, thereby managing to prolong the lives of hundreds of Roma in her city. She is currently fighting against early marriages of young people from the Roma community with her husband Zoran Saitović. "Jug Press Media" made a documentary film *You Can Do Everything* as Laura Saitović about her life struggle. She is the host of the show "Romani kuhinja", authored by her husband and created as a media project of the NGO ROSA, which is produced by "Rom info media" from Leskovac. The shows feature Roma women from various cities in Serbia, who present the preparation of traditional dishes and talk about food as part of culture and identity.

Mario Cesnak is a graduated musician – clarinetist, originally from Plandište. He received his musical education at the Slobomir P University in Bijeljina and the Faculty of Music in Belgrade, where he graduated in the class of Professor Veljko Klenkovski. In addition to music, he has a special interest in cooking, with an emphasis on traditional home and Slovak cuisine. During his studies, he worked as a chef at the "Luxory" gastro bar in Belgrade, where he gained practical experience in preparing local and Italian dishes. Growing up in the countryside further shaped his attitude towards traditional food, agriculture and life in a rural environment. He is actively involved in beekeeping and is a member of the Association of Beekeeping Organizations of Serbia and the Beekeeping Society of Plandište.

MUSICIANS

Pretty Loud group was formed in 2014 by the GRUBB Foundation as the world's first female Roma hip-hop band, with the goal of using music to educate young Roma women about their rights and foster critical thinking. Their work is characterized by directly addressing social issues within the Roma community. Through their lyrics – written in Romani, Serbian, and English – they focus on themes such as child marriage, promoting female education, and combating gender-based violence. Musically, the band blends contemporary hip-hop with traditional Roma rhythms, while dance and choreography remain vital components of their performances. To date, they have performed at numerous musical and cultural events across Serbia and Europe (Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Slovenia). A standout moment was their 2020 performance at the international "Women of the World" (WOW) festival in London, which garnered attention from global media like the BBC and *The New York Times*. That same year, in collaboration with UN Women Serbia, they released the song and video "Ravnopravno" (Equally) as part of a global campaign against violence toward women. Their mission is to fight "for all women in the world, not just Roma women. We fight for women to have more self-confidence. We want them to believe in themselves and not doubt that what they are doing is good and that it will pay off." The album *Roma Soul Food* (2026) featured the following members: Zlata Ristić, Silvija Sinani and Elma Dalipi.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

Jovan Živadinović Džiipsi is a young Serbian musician and songwriter from Zaječar whose work combines contemporary pop, intimate storytelling, and an underground urban sensibility. His debut album *Zapisi iz podzemlja* (Writings from the Underground, 2022) was recognized among the best domestic releases of the year, while songs such as “Finibrid” and “Ponekad” (Sometimes) received critical attention and nominations at the Music Awards Ceremony Serbia. In 2023, he participated in Serbia’s Eurovision national selection with “Greh” (Sin), further establishing his presence on the regional music scene. Working with producer and songwriter Ahmed Aki Hajdarović aka Rap Gorilla, Džiipsi has developed a distinctive sound that blends underground aesthetics with contemporary pop. As an openly gay artist, he contributes to LGBTQ+ visibility in the Balkans, exploring love, identity, and vulnerability through nuanced musical storytelling. His artistic expression can be described as a fusion of pop, raw emotion, queer narratives, and underground spirit. In 2026, he promoted his new album *Jovan*, following his first solo concert at Belgrade’s Karmakoma club.

Ivan Kurtić je pevač i muzički izvođač iz Niša, prepoznatljiv po snažnom vokalu i spoju romske muzičke tradicije sa elementima soula, bluza, džeza, R&B-a, popa i balkanske muzike. Profesionalnu afirmaciju stekao je pobedom u prvoj sezoni takmičenja *Pinkove zvezde* 2015. godine. Učestvovao je na izboru za predstavnika Srbije na *Pesmi Evrovizije*, *Beoviziji* više puta: 2018. godine sa pesmom „Ni sunca ni meseca“, 2019. sa „Belom“, a 2020. godine sa kompozicijom „Sabajle“, koju je izveo sa kvartetom *Mistik Cello*. Njegov umetnički put posebno je zanimljiv zbog načina na koji spaja nasleđe romske muzike sa savremenim muzičkim izrazima. Muzička zaostavština Šabana Bajramovića, takođe iz Niša, i Harisa Džinovića predstavlja značajan uticaj na njegov umetnički identitet. U njegovom pevanju susreću se tradicija i savremenost, lokalno i globalno, snažna emotivnost i improvizacija. Upravo ta sposobnost muzičke fuzije učinila ga je jednim od prepoznatljivijih vokala svoje generacije na srpskoj i regionalnoj sceni.

Tihomir Radić, profesionalno poznat kao **Toši Domaćin**, istaknuti je muzički producent, kompozitor i dizajner zvuka čiji je rad značajno oblikovao regionalnu muzičku scenu tokom protekle decenije, posebno kroz kolektiv *Helem Nejse* i projekat „Roma Soul Food“. Rođen u Berlinu i odrastao između Odžaka i Beča, nastanio se u Sarajevu 2013. godine, gde je razvio raznovrsnu karijeru koja obuhvata muzičku produkciju, žive nastupe, dizajn zvuka i medijske projekte. Nastupao je na više od 150 koncerata širom Evrope, održao preko 100 di-džej setova, a nedavno sa Sarajevskom filharmonijom u sarajevskom Domu mladih. Toši je takođe aktivan na televiziji, u pozorištu, animaciji i komercijalnoj audio produkciji, doprinoseći projektima kao što su *LIFT*, regionalno popularna animirana serija *BBBB*, *Animal Farm* i *The Metamorphosis*. Kao produkcijska snaga iza albuma *Helema Nejsea* *Gluten Tag* i *Ozbiljna zaebancija*, sarađivao je sa umetnicima kao što su: *Frenkie*, *ZHIVA*, *Marko Louis* i *Macha Ravel*. Njegov rad kombinuje muziku, društveni angažman i obrazovanje kroz inicijative kao što je *Akademija talenata Helem Nejse*, a osvaja i nagrade, uključujući nagradu „Dražen Ričl“ i nagradu „Zvezda pouzdanosti“. Tošijeva kreativnost, otvorenost i razumevanje romskog muzičkog nasleđa bili su neprocenjivi deo projekta i muzičkog albuma *Roma Soul Food*.

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES



Jovan Živadinović Džipsii je mladi srpski muzičar i tekstopisac iz Zaječara čiji rad kombinuje savremeni pop, intimno pripovedanje i andergraund urbani senzibilitet. Njegov debitantski album Zapisi iz podzemlja (2022) prepoznat je kao jedno od najboljih domaćih izdanja godine, dok su pesme poput „Finibrid“ i „Ponekad“ dobile pažnju kritike i nominacije na dodeli muzičkih nagrada u Srbiji. Godine 2023, učestvovao je na nacionalnom izboru za Evroviziju u Srbiji sa bendom „Greh“, dodatno učvršćujući svoje prisustvo na regionalnoj muzičkoj sceni. Radeći sa producentom i tekstopiscem Ahmedom Akijem Hajdarovićem, poznatim kao Rep Gorila, Džipsi je razvio prepoznatljiv zvuk koji spaja andergraund estetiku sa savremenim popom. Kao otvoreno gej umetnik, doprinosi vidljivosti LGBT+ populacije na Balkanu, istražujući ljubav, identitet i ranjivost kroz nijansirano muzičko pripovedanje. Njegov umetnički izraz može se opisati kao fuzija popa, sirovih emocija, kvir narativa i andergraund duha. Godine 2026, promovisao je svoj novi album Jovan, nakon svog prvog solo koncerta u beogradskom klubu „Karmakoma“.

Ivan Kurtić is a Serbian singer and performer from Niš, known for his powerful voice and a musical approach that combines Roma musical heritage with elements of soul, blues, jazz, R&B, pop and Balkan music. He gained wider recognition after winning the first season of the televised competition Pinkove zvezde in 2015. He participated in the selection for the Serbian representative at the Eurovision Song Contest, Beovizija, several times: in 2018 with the song "Neither Sun nor Moon", in 2019 with "Bela", and in 2020 with the composition "Sabajle", which he performed with the Mystic Cello quartet. His musical style is characterised by expressive vocal interpretation, improvisation and the interplay of different musical traditions. The musical legacy of Šaban Bajramović, also from Niš, and Haris Džinović represents an important influence on his artistic identity. What makes Ivan Kurtić particularly distinctive is his ability to connect the heritage of Roma music with contemporary musical expression. His performances bring together tradition and modernity, local cultural heritage and broader global influences, emotional depth and improvisation. Through this musical fusion, Kurtić has established himself as one of the distinctive vocal performers of his generation on the Serbian and regional music scene.

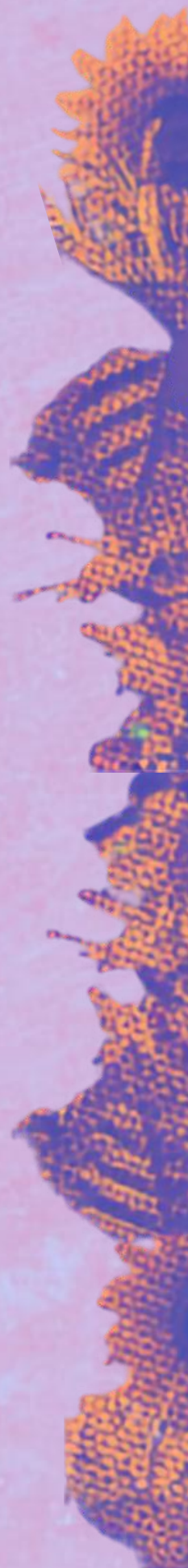
Tihomir Radić, professionally known as Toshi Domaćin, is a prominent music producer, composer, and sound designer whose work has significantly shaped the regional music scene over the past decade, especially through the collective Helem Nejse and the “Roma Soul Food” project. Born in Berlin and raised between Odžak and Vienna, he settled in Sarajevo in 2013, where he developed a diverse career spanning music production, live performance, sound design, and media projects. He has performed in more than 150 concerts across Europe, delivered over 100 DJ sets, and recently appeared with the Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra in Sarajevo’s Dom mladih. Toshi is also active in television, theatre, animation, and commercial audio production, contributing to projects such as LIFT, BBBB, Animal Farm, and The Metamorphosis. As the production force behind Helem Nejse’s albums Gluten Tag and Ozbiljna zaebancija, he has collaborated with artists including Frenkie, ZHIVA, Marko Louis, and Macha Ravel. His work combines music, social engagement, and education through initiatives such as the Helem Nejse Talent Academy, while earning awards including the “Dražen Ričl” prize and the “Star of Reliability” award. We are delighted to have Toshi Domaćin as part of the “Roma Soul Food” project and music album, where his creativity, openness, and understanding of Roma musical heritage have been invaluable.

BIOGRAFIJE UČESNIKA DOGAĐAJA

DIZAJNER

Ismar Begtašević (Njemačka, 1999) diplomirani je grafički dizajner, vizuelni autor i animator sa sjedištem u Sarajevu, gdje živi i profesionalno djeluje. Njegov rad obuhvata grafički dizajn, animaciju, snimanje i montažu audiovizuelnog sadržaja, s posebnim fokusom na dokumentarni, promotivni i muzički video format. Profesionalno je angažovan u Fondaciji EKIPA, gdje učestvuje u realizaciji kreativnih i produkcijskih projekata kroz dizajn, animaciju te snimanje i postprodukciju video sadržaja. Po struci je diplomirani grafički dizajner, a profesionalno iskustvo gradio je i kroz akademski rad kao laborant na Internacionalnom Burch Univerzitetu. Kao grafički dizajner sarađivao je s brojnim domaćim i međunarodnim organizacijama i brendovima, među kojima su Dogs Trust, Red Bull, Srce za djecu, Internacionalni Burch Univerzitet i Zemaljski muzej Bosne i Hercegovine. U oblasti audiovizuelne produkcije, Begtašević je učestvovao u realizaciji niza dokumentarnih filmova, serijala i promotivnih kampanja u saradnji s međunarodnim produkcijama i platformama.

Među značajnijim projektima su kampanja Hercegovina Wine Route (USAID Turizam, 2024), dokumentarni film Narrating the Siege (2023), te više dokumentarnih serijala za DAZN i EHF, uključujući Handball Legends, Handball Classics i Handball Portraits, gdje je radio kao prvi asistent kamere i operater B kamere. Također je učestvovao u produkciji promotivnih i televizijskih videa za Internacionalni Burch Univerzitet. Pored dokumentarnog i komercijalnog rada, aktivan je i u oblasti muzičkog videa, gdje je radio kao snimatelj na spotovima Nije moj problem, Rebra i Atom izvođača ZHIVA, Panika benda Weird Fishes, te Oči koje lažu benda Shizif.



PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

DESIGNER

Ismar Begtašević (Germany, 1999) is a graduate graphic designer, visual author and animator based in Sarajevo, where he lives and works professionally. His work includes graphic design, animation, recording and editing of audiovisual content, with a special focus on documentary, promotional and music video formats.

He is professionally engaged in the EKIPA Foundation, where he participates in the realization of creative and production projects through design, animation and recording and post-production of video content.

He is a graphic designer by profession, and he built his professional experience through academic work as a laboratory assistant at the International Burch University. As a graphic designer, he collaborated with numerous domestic and international organizations and brands, including Dogs Trust, Red Bull, Heart for Children, the International Burch University and the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the field of audiovisual production, Begtasevic participated in the realization of a series of documentaries, series and promotional campaigns in cooperation with international productions and platforms.

Among the most significant projects are the Herzegovina Wine Route campaign (USAID Tourism, 2024), the documentary film Narrating the Siege (2023), and several documentary series for DAZN and EHF, including Handball Legends, Handball Classics and Handball Portraits, where he worked as the first camera assistant and B camera operator. He also participated in the production of promotional and television videos for the International Burch University.

In addition to documentary and commercial work, he is also active in the field of music videos, where he worked as a videographer on the videos of Nije moj problem, Rebra and Atom by ZHIVA, Panika by the band Weird Fishes, and Ochi koje lyja by the band Shizif.

MUZIČKI ALBUM ROMA SOUL FOOD

Digitalni muzički album „Roma Soul Food“ predstavlja savremenu romsku kulturu kao izrazito dinamičan fenomen, uspostavljajući ravnotežu između poštovanja tradicije i prevazilaženja granica koje joj je istorija nametala. Projekat je usmeren na romsku muziku i gastronomiju – umetnost pripremanja hrane i kulturu ishrane – koje koncept „Roma Soul Food“ povezuje na kreativan način. Njegov cilj je očuvanje romske kulture u digitalnom formatu, kroz isticanje njene raznovrsnosti i snage kao značajnog dela bogatog evropskog kulturnog nasleđa.

Muzički segment projekta „Roma Soul Food“ okupio je izvođače koji predstavljaju svu raznolikost romske kulture. Reč je o umetnicima različitih žanrova, generacija, rodova i porekla, koji dolaze iz Beograda, Zaječara i Niša. Svako od njih donosi sopstveno viđenje toga šta romska muzika može da bude danas. Zajedno oni ne samo da izvode tradiciju, već je preispituju, redefinišu i usmeravaju ka novim pravcima.

Na albumu „Roma Soul Food“ učestvuju Pretty Loud, Džipsii i Ivan Kurtić, dok je producent Tihomir Radić Toshi. Album je snimljen u studiju Helem Nejse u Sarajevu, a muzičko uredništvo vodile su muzikološkinje Maja Vasiljević i Biljana Leković. Rezultat je smela kombinacija kulturnog nasleđa i savremenog muzičkog izraza.

Album donosi žanrovsku raznovrsnost i spoj tradicionalnog i savremenog, uključujući elemente flamenka, trepa, hip-hopa i tradicionalnih zvukova. „Roma Soul Food“ je istovremeno i posebna vrsta konceptualnog albuma, koji oživljava dinamični ritam svakodnevnog života Roma. Polovina albuma je na romskom jeziku, kako bi se istakli njegova jedinstvena zvučnost i lepota. Dodatnu autentičnost ovom muzičkom izdanju daju uvodna i završna numera, nastale od terenskih audio-snimaka i satkane od glasova pripadnika romskih zajednica iz Padinske Skele, Obrenovca i Bačkog Monoštora.

Lista pesama

Intro

Džipsii - "Nokelen"

Pretty Loud - "BG Mahala"

Ivan Kurtić - "Romani tradicija"

Pretty Loud - "Roma Swag"

Ivan Kurtić - "Kokalencar o fusuji"

Džipsii - "Blizina"

Outro



Poslušajte intervju iz Srbije, Grčke i Slovenije na izvornim jezicima sa engleskim titlovima ili preuzmite transkripte na engleskom jeziku za potrebe istraživanja.



Pogledajte romske recepte, pronađite inspiraciju za kuvanje i saznajte više o romskoj gastronomiji.

MUSIC ALBUM ROMA SOUL FOOD

The digital music album "Roma Soul Food" shows modern Romani culture as a highly dynamic phenomenon. It finds a balance between respecting tradition and pushing past the boundaries that history has placed on it. This project focuses on Romani music and gastronomy (the art of cooking and food culture). The "Roma Soul Food" concept connects them in a creative way. Its goal is to save Romani culture in a digital format. It does this by highlighting its diversity and its strength as an important part of Europe's rich cultural heritage.

The musical part of the "Roma Soul Food" project brought together performers who show all the diversity of Romani culture. These are artists of different genres, generations, genders, and backgrounds, coming from Belgrade, Zaječar, and Niš. Each of them brings their own view of what Romani music can be today. Together, they do not just perform tradition—they question it, redefine it, and take it in new directions.

The "Roma Soul Food" album features Pretty Loud, Džipsii, and Ivan Kurtić, with Tihomir Radić Toshi as the producer. The album was recorded at the Helem Nejse studio in Sarajevo. Music editing was led by musicologists Maja Vasiljević and Biljana Leković. The result is a bold mix of cultural heritage and modern musical expression.

The album brings genre diversity and a blend of the traditional and the modern. It includes elements of flamenco, trap, hip-hop, and traditional sounds. "Roma Soul Food" is also a special kind of concept album. It brings to life the dynamic rhythm of everyday Romani life. Half of the album is in the Romani language to showcase its unique sound and beauty. What makes this music release even more authentic are the opening and closing tracks. These were made from field audio recordings. They are woven from the voices of Romani community members from Padinska Skela, Obrenovac, and Bački Monoštor.

Tracklist

Intro

Džipsii - "Nokelen"

Pretty Loud - "BG Mahala"

Ivan Kurtić - "Romani tradicija"

Pretty Loud - "Roma Swag"

Ivan Kurtić - "Kokalencar o fusuji"

Džipsii - "Blizina"

Outro

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[CULINARY RECIPES](#)



Check Romani recipes, and inspire for cooking and learn about Roma gastronomy

