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# LEAD FOLK SINGERS

MUSIC TO ALL

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## A few things about the Romanian musical History

Folk music is the oldest form of Romanian musical creation, characterised by great vitality; it is the defining source of the cultured musical creation, both religious and lay. Conservation of Romanian folk music has been aided by a large and enduring audience, also by numerous performers who helped propagate and further develop the folk sound.

The religious musical creation, born under the influence of Byzantine music adjusted to the intonations of the local folk music, saw a period of glory between the 15th and 17th centuries, when reputed schools of liturgical music developed within Romanian monasteries. Russian and Western influences brought about the introduction of polyphony in religious music in the 18th century, a genre developed by a series of Romanian composers in the 19th and 20th centuries.

## Few lead folk singers that woth mentioning...

**Ducu Bertzi** is a Romanian folk musician. His songs are usually his own compositions, but he also has in his repertoire some Romanian folk songs.

Until going to high school, he studied the violin for 8 years, and from the 9th grade he started the rock band "Mi bemol rock" with a couple of friends. With this band he would sing at high school serrates and ball-rooms Romanian songs and songs from the repertoire of other band that were in fashion at that time. In time, he renounced the electric guitar in favor of the acoustical one, due to lack of high quality technical equipment. The literature association from his hometown also inspired him to follow the paths of poetry. Later, at the first poetry and folk music festival at Sighet in 1973, he won the Grand Prize.

In 1976 he became part of the folk stage of "Cenaclul Flacăra", and his first radio recording was made in 1979 for the song "Cînd s-o-mpărțit norocu" ("When luck was being distributed").

His best-known songs are "Și de-ar fi..." ("If it would be..."), "Floare de colț" ("Edelweiss"), "M-am îndrăgostit numai de ea" ("I fell in love with her only"), "Suflet fără chei" ("Keyless soul"), "Omul pădurii" ("Man of the woods")



**Maria Ciobanu** is a Romanian folk singer. Her repertoire include more than 700 recorded songs for Romanian, Yugoslavian and Holland Record Companies, Romanian Radio and TV... Some of her famous songs are: „Lie ciocârlie”, „Aurelu’ mamei”, „Doar o mamă poate şti”, „Spune-mi neică-adevărat”, „Cei mai frumoşi ani ai mei”, „Ce n-aş da să mai fiu mică”, „Roată, roată...” and so on



Florin Chilian started playing music in Rubin, a group created by him.

Between 1984 and 1987, he gets the first prize in Cântarea României.

In 2001, he released his first album, *Iubi - Interface to Reality*. In 2004 he signed a contract with Roton record label and in September of the same year he released his second album *Ten Commandments, Report of the State of the Nation, 1989-2004. The First Step*, which contains the hit "Zece". The album is based on the musical interpretation of the 10 Bible Commandments.

In June 2010 he released his third album, *The Autist, Do not Go Down on Brâncuși!*. In 2017, he released the album *Pre@Clasic* at the *Luna PR & Events* record label. *Pre@Clasic* is a reinterpretation of classical music, the album is conceived and written entirely for string quartet - chamber music and voice. Through this album, he invented a new musical genre combining pop with pre-classic music.

One of the greatest folk musicians is Gheorghe Zamfir. He is famous throughout the world today and helped popularize a traditional Romanian folk instrument, the panpipes.

