

## FANFARE SHAVALE\*

Vocals, Percussion, Saxophone: Ionel Bogdan Preda  
Tuba, Vocals: Gica Orlenschi  
Percussion: Florin Gavril  
Trumpet, Percussion: Nicu\_or Cantea  
Trumpet: Gic\_ Trifan  
Clarinet: Viorel Coman  
Flighorn, Wind Instrument: Monel Trifan, Minel Stoica  
Saxophone, Accordion, Vocals: Micu Preda

\*In association with the Romanian Cultural Institute in Madrid

Traditional Romanian music

MADRID  
TEATROS DEL CANAL  
SUNDAY, JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 20

## FLAMENCO ON THE BORDER. ROMA NIGHT

One of the most peculiar concerts in this edition is, undoubtedly, the one we'll see in this gala. A special, magnificent flamenco concert by Don Diego *El Cigala*, pure singing prepared especially by the maestro for his Madrid, recalling the greatest singers of our history. A premiere in the Sala Roja de los Teatros del Canal and to celebrate it, from Rumania, the gypsies of *Fanfare Shavale* will offer a masterly ending to the fiesta with their lively, resounding music: a great flamenco evening and a gypsy evening.

## LOS VIRTUOSOS VIENTOS DE RUMANÍA

The Fanfare Shavale, or, which is the same, Fanfarria Shavale –bear in mind that the definition of fanfarria in the Real Academia de la Lengua Española is a noisy musical ensemble, mainly based on metal instruments -, has in its repertoire traditional Rumanian music such as *hore*, *sârbe*, *geamparale*, in other words, songs for weddings, funerals, festivals, etc., most of them compositions by the famous Balkan musician Goran Bregovic, and also a selection of songs from their international repertoire.

Improvisation is a constant factor in each of Fanfare Shavale's *fiestas*. The connection between the instrumentalists in this particular group means that each show is a fiesta that makes the audience want to get up and start dancing as if they were at the fiesta in their town, or even better, in a Rumanian town.

This will be a brilliant display of the music that comes from the instinct, improvisation and creativity of the gypsy people of Rumania, cradle of the race. The same roots as many of our flamenco artists, different ways of evolving and developing music. An absolute contrast of sounds. Undoubtedly one of the most original proposals in this year's Suma Flamenca.

Fanfare Shavale is from a village called *Zece prăjini* ("Ten Sticks"), located on the border of the provinces of Iași and Neamț in

northeastern Romania. The village has just 140 homes and 560 inhabitants and its name in commemorates a historical fact: When

slavery was abolished among the Gypsies that inhabit this land, each of them received 10 hectares of farmland.

Over the years, the village has earned a great reputation as the place in Romania, and perhaps in the world, that has the most *fanfares*, those brass bands that entertain people during all sorts of parties and celebrations such as weddings, funerals, etc. Each of the village's inhabitants knows how to play at least one musical instrument and they are all self-taught or, at most, have been taught by other musicians in their own family. Musical and instrumental talent is passed down from one generation to the next. Everyone from age four to 74 can play a *sârbă* or a *geampara*, even if they don't know the names of musical notes, which they call *grains*.

There are four orchestras in the village, and the best known among them is Fanfarria Shavale ("shavale" means "kids"). Fanfarria Ciocârlia and Fanfarria Zece Prăjini are also hugely popular. The lack of musical training guarantees the authenticity of the music the village's brass bands play, and this has made them a topic of research among musicologists, musicians and ethnologists. Fanfarria Shavale's musicians have been performing and successfully promoting traditional Romanian folk music all over the

world since 1999. They have taken part in concerts as well as world music, folk and jazz festivals in Austria, the UK, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Spain, Sweden, Israel and China.

Some events Fanfarria Shavale has participated in include: Barcelona's BAM Festival, Lyon's Paleo Festival, Madrid's Interparla Festival, the Sfinks Festival in Boechout, Antwerp's Candela Festival, the Mumyhua Festival in Austria, London's Fete de la Music, Fribourg's Rencontres Internationales de Folklore, the Festival du Montreux, the Sziget Fesztival in Budapest, Warsaw's Cross-Culture Festival, the Balkan Express Festival, Vienna's ORF Radiokulturhaus, the Venice Carnival, the Hag Hagahagim Festival in Haifa, Linz – European Cultural Capital, and the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai.

Their first album, *Speed Brass of the Gypsies*, contains 20 tracks and was released in 2003. It is innovative as far as Gypsy brass band music is concerned because it combines traditional Balkan tunes with a fabulous rhythm that barely gives you time to catch your breath. The second album is a live recording called *Live in Wien*, released in 2008.