ROMA TRADITION FROM SLOVAKIA

Júlia Kozáková - Manuša

LISTEN TO MANUŠA
(2022)

Singer Julia Kozakova is best known for her solo work and her previous album Manuša, released in 2022, saw her bring new life into traditional Roma songs originally from Slovakia and Central Europe. Julia's band are a group of exceptional Roma musicians from her home town of Bratislava who perform on cimbalom, violin, viola, double bass and guitar.

Since she was 13, Julia has worked closely with Roma artists and has collaborated with Czech singer Ida Kelarova and toured Europe with her Romany children's choir Čhavorenge. Her breakout and internationally released debut album Manuša brought Julia an new audiences performing in UK, Czech Republic and Slovakia and also received positive media feedback - it was the best performing world music album from Slovakia according to the World Music Charts Europe (WMCE) and has received Radio Head Award for the 'best Slovak world music album' of 2022. Julia studied at London's SOAS and continues to study 'jazz voice' at Janačkova Akademie in Brno (Czech Republic)

Voice: Júlia Kozáková Violin: Viliam Didiáš Cimbalom: Ľubomír Gašpar
Viola: Vojtech "Bélu" Botoš
Double Bass: Ján Rigo
Guitar: Zsolt Várady (special guest)

"Kozáková's deep respect for the music and culture of the Slovak Roma permeates these recordings... Manuša is highly recommended"
Songlines (UK)

"Julia is a great singer and stage performer with fine emotional control, warmth and expressivity. Her band is excellent too! Bravo!."
Ben Mandelson - record producer, musician (UK)

"Júlia Kozáková demonstrates an acute artistic sensitivity in the interpretation, the choice of repertoire, and the balancing of the arrangements. The confirmation of her skills is recognized primarily by the ensemble, which collects the flagship of the nation.... A fantastic record"
Blog foolk (IT)

"Júlia is an emerging artist but she can become a real star very soon."
Milan Tesař, World Music Chart Europe, music journalist (CZ)