

Press Kit 31.3.2026

for Voices of the Ancestors Podcast

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Description

Voices of the Ancestors is a captivating podcast exploring Georgian polyphonic songs and the women who sing them. Do you love exploring different cultures? Are you uplifted by folk-stories and songs? Then 'Voices of the Ancestors' is the show for you. 'Bee's' 5 star review says it all -

“such an interesting podcast, featuring beautiful voices, stories and songs from Georgia. Full of emotion, heart and wonderful music. I had no knowledge of this topic before listening, but love hearing from the people, teachers and singers of these traditional songs - a hidden gem of the world.”

Hosted by Holly Taylor-Zuntz and Susan Thompson. Two British women, who have been enchanted by this music genre - and they're not the only ones - UNESCO proclaimed Georgian polyphony an 'Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity'.

In Voices of the Ancestors podcast, Holly and Susan speak to women singers of Georgian polyphonic songs, both in Georgia and abroad. They discuss the journey of the songs and the stories behind them. The list of guests spreads across the globe, wherever folks have been touched by the harmonies of Georgia. In Series One you hear Joan Mills, Voice Director at The Centre for Performance Research; Nino Naneishvili leader of Georgian

women's ensemble Ialoni; Magda Kevlishvili co-leader of Ethnomusic Theatre after Edisher and Gigi Garakanidze, Mtiebi and children's ensemble Amer-Imeri; Dr Nana Mzhavanadze and Briget Boyle, voice coach and singer with American ensembles Kitka and True Life Trio. While Series Two features a tribute episode to a much loved ethnomusicologist – Nino Kalandadze-Makharadze and an episode with an audio journey Blessing the Village during Alive Easter!

So where do the ancestors come in? Well, these ancient songs have been passed down from generation to generation, and now they are being passed on to those outside of the Republic of Georgia, by a new generation of teachers. You feel connected to the past when you sing them and you can feel the ancestors' energy in the music.

Quote from Vanio Papadelli, London-based independent movement/physical theatre artist and regular lecturer in various HE Institutions (Goldsmiths, Rose Bruford College and Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance), Movement Director.

“Wow! You're passionate and share so much knowledge and wonderful women singers' voices. I'll listen to the last one slowly over the week. Oh thanks for pointing me to these. Truly inspiring and they're taking me back to my days with 'Song of the Goat'. Also, I'm co-running a workshop for women on ancestry/roots in March so you've given me some inspiration for the music. And have been looking into circular dances as well so thanks for your podcasts!”

How to Listen to 'Voices of the Ancestors' Podcast (A 1,2,3 guide)

1. Here is our show's website www.voicesoftheancestors.co.uk - you can find all the episodes and transcripts on the website.

2. Here is how you listen to an episode:-

If you have never listened to a podcast before, go to our website

www.voicesoftheancestors.co.uk on the homepage you click on the latest episode or the shorter introductory trailer.

If you are a seasoned podcast listener, you can find us on these platforms:-

Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/voicesoftheancestors>

Apple Podcasts: Bitly link: <https://apple.co/32o8o3h>
<https://podcasts.apple.com/.../voices-of-the.../id1535335253>

Spotify: Bitly link: <https://spoti.fi/2GDvoDP>
<https://open.spotify.com/show/0yjDIYIQRU6VQAXEbbhR3x?si=d9qjxesfT9SpKbr-Suj20w>

Google Podcasts: Bitly link: <https://bit.ly/357zpd9>

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https://www.google.com/podcasts?feed=aHR0cHM6Ly9mZWVkc3Vzbn3VuZGNsb3VklmNvbS91c2Vycy9zb3VuZGNsb3VkonVzZXJzOjg4NzkyOTgxNi9zb3VuZHMucnNz&fbclid=IwAR1iT5JaC95aTsmhtT2kavziu97pV7Pvd6TvEgEv49J_1_HwiRkF7PYQGDU

Amazon Podcast:

https://www.amazon.com/Voices-of-the-Ancestors/dp/B08K582DLV/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=Voices+of+the+Ancestors&qid=1612595229&s=audible&sr=1-1

3. Here's a great episode to start with [Episode 3: Healing Songs and Circle Dances with Nino Naneishvili](#)

Enjoy!"

Support Voices of the Ancestors

by [joining the mailing list](#) or donating a cup of coffee/mint tea at [Ko-fi](#) or become a patron of the podcast at <https://www.patreon.com/voicesoftheancestors>.

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Images



Photo by Nino Khundadze

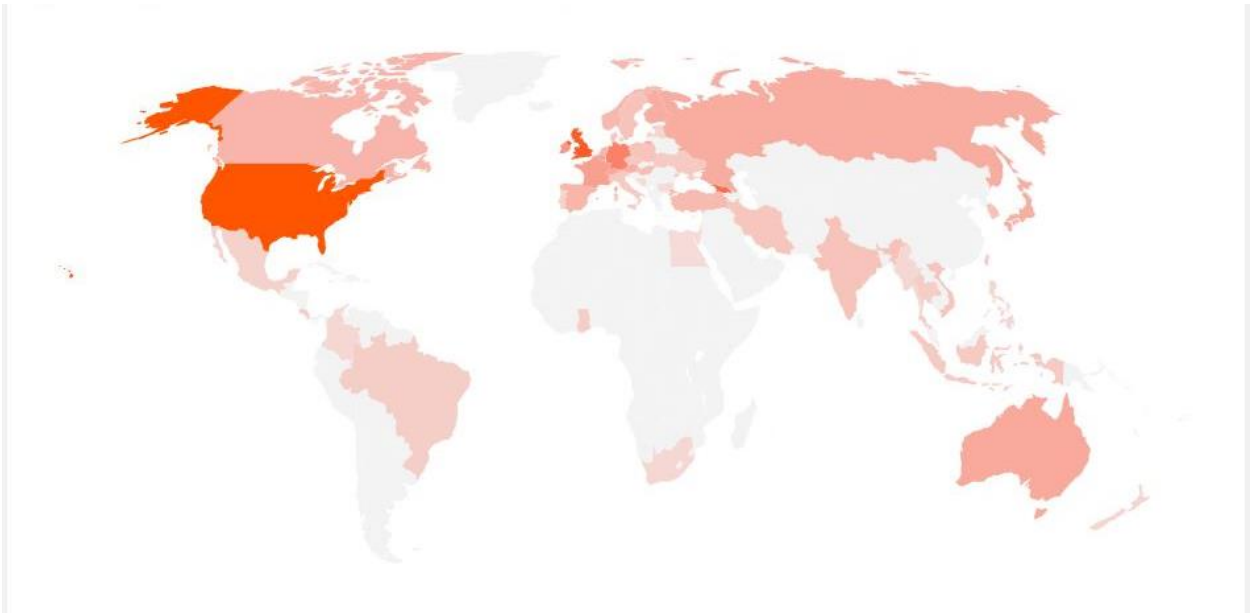


Photo by Nino Khundadze



Logo no background





Map of Voices of the Ancestors podcast listeners (source Soundcloud)



Holly Taylor-Zuntz

[Holly Taylor-Zuntz](#) is a singing leader from Oxford, who has been deeply immersed in Georgian songs for several years and loves to share them with others. She is a graduate of the European Theatre Arts (BA) Programme at [Rose Bruford College](#), London, and trained as a Natural Voice leader. She leads Oxford Perebi Choir, Bristol Tsiali Choir, Georgian workshops and retreats internationally, and singing holidays to Georgia with the Institute of Devotional Arts.

To join her workshops or choirs visit her website www.hollytaylor-zuntz.com.

As Holly says in [Joan Mills on the Continuum of Theatre and Song](#) (Series 1 Episode 7)

"When I was training in Gardzienice in Poland, I was introduced to Georgian songs, and I was just completely blown away and fascinated. Later that year I went to Georgia and of course fell in love with the country and the folk songs."

Susan Thompson

Susan is a Georgian polyphonic folk song enthusiast. Her moment of discovery was while singing with 'Woven Chords', a community choir in Stamford, UK. Joining the London based choir Maspindzeli in 2004 and performing both in Georgia and the UK, Susan lived in Georgia Oct 20 – Nov 2021 during Covid lockdown.

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She presents about Voices of the Ancestors podcast in both Georgia (at the [International Symposia on Traditional Polyphony](#) in Tbilisi and the [Giorgi Garakanidze International Festival](#) of Folklore and Spiritual Music in Batumi) and in the UK (at [Georgian Studies Day](#) at [University of Westminster](#), and St Anthony's College Oxford).

In 2019 Maka Khardziani interviewed her for the Bulletin of the International Research Centre for Traditional Polyphony of the V. Sarajishvili Tbilisi State Conservatoire: **Voices of the Ancestors - An English Woman's Journey through Georgian Folk Songs and Singers** Bulletin 27.

Contact Information

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