



DD SYNTHESIS
"Swinging Macedonia"
IOR CD SFJ 113
Digipack 6-pages



Distribution:

GOCE DIMOVSKI – Kaval, Gaida, Zurla
VANE JOVCEV – Piano, Keyboards
MARJAN JOVANOVSKI – Tambura
GOCE UZUNSKI – Tapan, Tarabuka
RADOSLAV SHUTEVSKI – Percussion
ANETA SHULANKOVSKA, BILJANA RISTOVSKA, MIRJANA JOSHEVSKA – Vocals



DD Synthesis is a band that was established in 1995 for the purpose of carrying out an in-depth pursuit of the outstanding folk music treasures of Macedonia. The name "Synthesis" was chosen to express the concept of the group, which is to combine traditional sounds with contemporary arrangements to create a musical synthesis. Digging deeply into the roots of Macedonian folk heritage,

with a serious concern for the basics of traditional compositions, the group has received high praise for breathing new life in this milieu. The melancholic voyages of DD Synthesis, with the full emotional power of the heritage and the typical complexity of Macedonian rhythms should not be missed by any Balkan music fan. Macedonia has finally uncovered a contemporary world music project!

The group uses the full range of original Macedonian instruments: *kaval*, *gaida*, *zurla*, *tapan*, *tarabuka* and *tambura*. The line-up consists of three young lady singers, skillfully handling the local vocal tradition, of a keyboard player, two percussionists, tambura player and, of course, kaval, gaida or zurla on the front. Special mention has to be made here of the fact that while the majority of the folk-songs groups in Macedonia are amateur clubs, this band is made up of professional musicians who are trained in the basics of music.

DD Synthesis recorded the first CD in 1966. The CD was issued in the very beginning of 1997 for SJF Records (a division of Skopje Jazz Festival). It got excellent reviews and acclaim all over Europe. The music of DD Synthesis was included on the compilation "Unblocked-the Music of Eastern Europe" on American Ellipsis Arts label.

In 1997 the Group started its concert activity and played various International Festivals, like "Druga godba", "Trn Festival", "Mediterranean Festival" in Slovenia, Folk Festival in Budapest, Hungary, EBU Festival in Krems, Austria.

Besides numerous concerts in Macedonia, in 1998 DD Synthesis performed at "Dionysia Festival" in Rome, Italy, EBU Festival in Portoroz, Slovenia, "Tanz & FolkFest" in Rudolstadt, Germany, "Akko



Festival" in Israel...

In May 1999 the Group was touring Japan. With no exception DD Synthesis was overwhelmed with enthusiastic responses by the audience and the critics. With only one personal change in its history, Goce

Dimovski instead of Dragan Dautovski, the band prepared the second CD for SJF Records. The release date was July the 1st, 2000.

The second CD, "Swinging Macedonia", was mostly recorded in Ljubljana. It is completely acoustic with the use of Symphony orchestra on a couple of pieces. The first promotional concert of the new CD was at Druga Godba in Ljubljana, sharing the bill with Goran Bregovich.

Musicians:

Biljana Ristevska (1976), **Mirjana Josheska** (1975) and **Aneta Shulankovska** (1976) have been practicing traditional Macedonian vocal singing for more than a decade. Before joining DD Synthesis all three were members of Mile Kolarovski band.

Vane Jovcev (1973) studied piano, theory and conducting at the Academy of Music in Skopje. As a session player he has participated at various traditional festivals and arranged numerous songs.

Goce Uzunski (1974) studied percussion at the Academy of music in Skopje. He is considered as the best *tapan* and *tarabuka* player in Macedonia. A regular member of the Macedonian Philharmonic Orchestra.

Marjan Jovanovski (1968) is a former member of Mile Kolarovski band and a well-known session player in the country. Specialist for string instruments, especially the *tambura*.

Radoslav Shutevski (1949) is one of the most experienced percussionists in Macedonia. Before DD Synthesis he played in various ensembles of pop, jazz, classical and traditional music. A regular member of the Big Band of the Macedonian Radiotelevision.

Goce Dimovski (1975) is a regular member of the traditional instrumental band of the Macedonian Radiotelevision. A very experienced musician. A real master of *kaval*, *gaida* and *zurla*.