

SUMMARY
of a monograph on the topic:
“THE MALE FOLKLORE PERFORMING IN THE SLIVEN PROVINCE - WHAT IS
KNOWN AND WHAT IS UNKNOWN”

This monograph work represents a study on the male folklore performing in the Sliven Province. It includes an introduction, three chapters, interviews with five of the analysed performers and a conclusion.

In the **first chapter** it is examined the Sliven Region as a part of the Trakiya Folklore Province, a general comparative characteristic of the region is made, geographical and historical data are presented, an ethnographic characteristic is made and there is data for the lifestyle and culture in the region. Furthermore, different theoretical studies are shown, connected to the music folklore and performing in the Sliven Province.

The second chapter presents the regional specific of the music folklore of the Sliven Province, the traditional performing in the Sliven Province, as well as the typical style and manner of singing. It is also examined the genre specifications of the folklore in the region, the role of the male folklore singing and its place in the Bulgarian lifestyle, as well as the Thracian singers as an original singing school.

The third chapter represents a gallery of ten emblematic for the region folk singers: **Zhecho Dolchinkov, Gudi Gudev, Gospodin Kolev, Yovcho Karaivanov, Ivan Kremov, Andon Daskalov, Petko Stamov, Mityo Valkov, Dobromir Yordanov and Deyan Mitev**. In the chapter it is indicated the stages of the development of the regional male singing style, biographical data are included, an analysis of the individual singing manner of the above singers is made, the specific in the ornamentation of each one of them, as well as their own concepts about how the folklore song heritage should be dealt with.

As a one of a kind study of the male singing in the Sliven Region, the monograph has the following contributions:

1. **For the first time** the specifics of the male folklore performing are examined in Sliven;
2. **For the first time** a characteristic of the folklore singing manner of the men in the Sliven District is made;
3. **For the first time** the different stages in the development of the male singing style in the Sliven Province and the succession between the performers with regards to the style are presented.