

GVM017_ChvenMshvidobaTake2_Ozurgeti_ShalsaChemo2016_20160713

Date: July 13, 2016

Location: Ozurgeti (House of the Mzhavandze family)

Singers: Rebuli Mzhavanadze (70), Tristan Sikharulidze (79), Merab Kalandadze (57).

The Gurian repertoire is notable for its complex polyphonic forms. The male (trio) repertoire is especially complex, based on extremely free and very developed improvisation by all three voices. Such songs are often closely attributed to the table, where groups of singers have an arena for singing competitions. The songs performed at the table (Supra) are part of the table ritual shared by the toastmasters and other table participants. The toastmaster who leads the Supra offers a series of toasts, followed by a corresponding song. One such song is "Chven Mshvidoba" ("Peace to us"), which is sung after the first toast for peace.