



# Ensemble Basiani of Georgia

SUN, OCT 21 / 4 PM & 7 PM  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF SANTA BARBARA

Ensemble Basiani

**George Donadze**

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**Shota Abuladze**

**Irakli Tkvatsiria**

**George Gabunia**

**Sergo Urushadze**

**Lasha Metreveli**

**Batu Lominadze**

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## PROGRAM

*Mravalzhamier*

*Elesa*

*Chona*

*Didebata*

*Kali gadmodga mtazeda*

*Guruli Ferkhuli*

*Shen khar venakhi* – in the  
tradition of Kartli-Kakheti (eastern Georgia)

*Shen khar venakhi* – in the tradition of  
Guria (western Georgia)

*Shen Gigalobt*

*Angelosi ghaghadebs*

*Ganatldi, ganatldi*

*Jvansa shensa*

*Netar ars katsi*

*Odoia*

*Khasanbegura*

*Chela*

*Chakrulo*

*Naduri, Shemokmedura*

## About Ensemble Basiani

The patriarchate folk Ensemble Basiani was created in 2000, under the blessing of his holiness and beatitude Ilia II, Catholicos Patriarch of all Georgia. The Ensemble is part of the Tbilisi Holy Trinity Cathedral Church choir and it participates in services conducted by the patriarch.

Ensemble Basiani is composed of singers from different parts of Georgia. Most members come from families that perform traditional singing and many members have sung folk songs in different ensembles since childhood.

The ensemble sings Georgian folk songs and chants by researching and reviving them from ancient phonological and notated recordings, studying songs directly from famous singers and conductors of older generations active in different regions of Georgia. It also works with many world-renowned ethnomusicians. In little more than a decade, Basiani has already performed at numerous international festivals and visited some 20 countries. In that time, Basiani has recorded and released seven CDs. In 2012, Ocora Radio France released Ensemble Basiani's latest CD.

In recent years, Basiani has received international acclaim and recognition, giving performances in some of the world's most well-known concert halls and international festivals, including Auditorio Nacional de Musica (Madrid), the Gulbenkian Great Hall (Lisbon), Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), Aldeburgh Music Festival (Aldeburgh, England) and St. John's, Smith Square (London).

In August 2010, Basiani participated in the Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival, performing for New York

audiences on a program that presented traditional Georgian polyphony along with masterpieces of J.S. Bach and other European classic composers. The event was widely lauded by the American press, including *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. The ensemble will return to New York at the conclusion of their current American tour to perform in Lincoln Center's White Light Festival.

"Basiani" is the name of one of the regions in Southwest Georgia (in what is now modern-day Turkey, northwest of the town of Erzurum). In 1203, Georgian royal troops defeated the Turks there with the victory consolidating Georgia's position in Asia Minor.

### Presented in association with David Eden Productions, Ltd.

David Eden Productions, Ltd. has been one of the leading American organizations devoted to producing international work in the U.S. for more than 25 years. Most recently, David Eden Productions produced American tours of Gate Theatre Dublin's *Krapp's Last Tape*, *Endgame* and *Watt*; Galway's Druid Theatre in *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, *The Walworth Farce* and *DruidSynge*; and the Théâtre de la Ville-Paris production of Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*.

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