

**Malouf**  
**Traditional Tunisian Music**

**Tunisian Arabic transcript:**

في الليل سهريّة العود يعني الملوّف لغنيّ التونسيّ التقليديّ آآ الملوّف الاكثريّة في لمدينة العربيّ. كتقول لمدينة العربيّ تقول يعني... الروح لقديمة في تونس، الفنّ لقديم مش آآ يعني مش كيما الفنّ لجديد تهو ألي طالع كله متأثر ب آآ كلمات آآ مصريّة و الحان مصريّة. يعني تقول فنّ تونسيّ، فنّ تونسيّ آآ الملوّف عنده جذور آآ تركية بما انه الامبراطورية العثمانية تعادت و خلّت اثرها في تونس. الملوّف هو من احد الاشياء ألي خلّتها الامبراطورية العثمانية في تونس و متنزج بالروح التونسيّة... المزيج كان رائع يعني تقول... الملوّف تقول لغنيّ التقليديّ، لغنيّ لقديم مش الشعبيّ طبعاً، الملوّف.

**English Transcript:**

At night, there is the typical Tunisian party with traditional Tunisian music, which is for the most part *malouf*. If you say the Old City, you talk about the old spirit of Tunis and the old music – not like the new form of music, which is influenced by Egyptian lyrics and rhythms. In this case, if you say Tunisian music, it is Tunisian music. *Malouf* has Turkish roots because the Ottoman Empire had influence on Tunisia and *malouf* is one of the things left from the Ottoman Empire. It then mixed with the Tunisian spirit and this mixture was great. If you say “*malouf*,” you speak of the old and traditional songs and obviously not the popular ones.

**About CultureTalk:** CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use every day. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.