

CultureTalk Bosnia and Herzegovina Video Transcripts:
<http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
On Being a Professional Musician

Bosnian transcript in Latin:

Baviti se muzikom u Bosni i Hercegovini je uzaludan posao, osim ako niste, je li, partijski ili stranački orjentisan bend koji, recimo, živi od sviranja za neku stranku ili ima neku stranku iza sebe pa promovise njene ideje... Dubioza Kolektiv, pardon. U svakom slučaju, baviti se muzikom u Bosni i Hercegovini... Muzika generalno je jedan fin hobi kao i skupljanje markica, ili odlazak u lov ili ne znam ni ja šta ljudi već rade, heklanje goblena – sad ne znam kako ćete transkript ovoga uradit'. Generalno, mislim da ljudi trebaju da to prihvate kao nešto od čega se trenutno u Bosni i Hercegovini ne može živjeti, osim ako se ne baviš nekom izrazito lošom muzikom, kao što je folk tj. turbofolk muzika, a i ona sama od sebe ima jedan ogroman underground koji generalno, je li, vadi zvijezde na osnovu dobre marketinške kampanje, tako da se ponovo vraćamo na onu priču o „mainstream“ i „underground“ bendovima.

Bosnian transcript in Cyrillic:

Бавити се музиком у Босни и Херцеговини је узалудан посао, осим ако нисте, је ли, партијски или страначки орјентисан бенд који, рецимо, живи од свирања за неку странку или има неку странку иза себе па промовише њене идеје... Дубиоза Колектив, пардон. У сваком случају, бавити се музиком у Босни и Херцеговини... Музика генерално је један фин хоби као и скупљање маркица, или одлазак у лов или не знам ни ја шта људи већ раде, хеклање гоблена – сад не знам како ћете транскрипт овога урадит'. Генерално, мислим да људи требају да то прихвате као нешто од чега се тренутно у Босни и Херцеговини не може живјети, осим ако се не бавиш неком изразито лошом музиком, као што је фолк тј. турбофолк музика, а и она сама од себе има један огroman ундерграунд који генерално, је ли, вадѝ звѝезде на основу добре маркетиншке кампање, тако да се поново враћамо на ону причу о „мејнстрим“ и „андерграунд“ бендовима.

English translation:

Being a professional musician in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a futile job, unless you're closely connected to, say, a political party, and then you either play for them or have them financially support you to promote their ideology... [cough] Like *Dubioza Kolektiv*¹.

¹ *Dubioza Kolektiv*: A politically active band from Bosnia and Herzegovina which gained prominence in the past five years, most notably winning the 2011 MTV European Music Award for the best Balkan artist/band. Recently, they were criticized in the media for favoring one of the political parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina, often playing at their rallies and other gatherings.

Excuse me. [laughter] In any case, being in the music business in Bosnia and Herzegovina [comes down to] music being a nice hobby, like collecting stamps or hunting or crocheting, which I'm not sure you'll be able to translate. [laughter] Generally, I think that people should accept the fact that you currently can't make a living from music in Bosnia and Herzegovina unless you play a particularly bad genre of music such as *turbofolk*² music, although even *turbofolk* has its own lobby that generally produces stars through high-profile advertising campaigns, so we're back to the beginning of the discussion on mainstream and underground performers.

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.

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² *Turbofolk*: a hybrid of traditional folk and modern electronic music which became popular in Serbia and neighboring countries in the early 1990s. Although it was thought to be relatively innocuous when it first appeared (it was seen as a form of escapism during the Yugoslav wars of 1991-1995), it is now considered to be a particularly toxic social factor by many sociologists, psychologists and other experts because of its tendency to glorify crime, vulgarity, extreme kitsch, moral corruption and nationalist xenophobia in its lyrics.