

## On Becoming a Rug Weaver

### Bulgarian transcript:

Ние сме една групичка от трима души - София, Варна и Велико Търново. Живеем в София, Варна и Велико Търново. Това, което ни обединява, е любовта към българските позабравени занаяти - в случая тъкачеството - нещо което доскоро се считаше за отживелица, но, така, напоследък все по-млади хора искат да се занимават със това, което за нашите баби е било ежедневие.

Да работиш по принцип нещо със ръцете си е много интересно, много красиво, дава ти много сила, променя ти мисленето, начина на виждане. Нашият майстор от 30 години практикува този занаят, аз от 10, а нашето момиченце, което във момента работи - от 2. Събрали сме се съвсем случайно на такива изложения и понеже имаме еднакво виждане и тримата за нещата и еднаква силна любов към България, българското, миналото и традициите, решихме, че като сме трима и заедно, можем повече.

### English translation:

We are a group of three people – [from] Sofia, Varna and Veliko Tarnovo. We live in Sofia, Varna and Veliko Tarnovo. What brings us together is [our shared] love for the forgotten Bulgarian crafts – weaving, in our case – something that was considered as an anachronism until recently, but lately more and more young people want to get involved with what used to be our grandmothers’ day-to-day life.

In general, working with your hands is very interesting, very beautiful, it gives you a lot of strength, it changes your way of thinking, your point of view. Our expert<sup>1</sup> has been involved with this craft for 30 years; I have [practiced this skill] for 10 years, and our girl, who is working at the moment, for two. We came together [as a group] randomly, at fairs like this, and due to our shared vision of [how] things [should work] and our strong love for Bulgaria, everything Bulgarian, the past and the traditions, we decided that together the three of us can achieve more.

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<sup>1</sup> Lit. trans. “master” – “майстор.”

**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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