

## Shusha - Persian Love Songs And Mystic Chants (1971)

Written by bluelover

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*A1 The Silver Gun A2 The Wheat Flower A3 The Rain A4 The Stars In Heaven A5 On Top Of The Hill A6 The Silken Handkerchief A7 Darling Leyli A8 I Have Come To Ravish My Betrothed B1 The Lor Youth B2 Lullaby B3 The Girl From The Boyer Ahmadi Tribe B4 My Beloved Is Short B5 The Water Pipe B6 You Must Come To Me B7 Darling Darenne B8 Masnavi* Flute – Duncan Lamont Goblet Drum [Zarb] – Behboudi Vocals - Shusha

While the Iranian expatriate Shusha is mostly known for this classic 1971 album of Persian love songs, she also had a kind of singer-songwriter career in Britain in the '70s, breathing the same air as Sandy Denny, Bridget St. John, and Vashti Bunyan. (She also wrote children's books as Shusha Guppy.) This is a, odd and wonderful album, however, the voice and flute (played by Lamont Duncan) duets as clear and refreshing as a cool drink of water. Shusha's vocals are so naturally compelling that the absence of any other backing instrument (except for Behboudi's zarb, the Iranian hand-drum) is barely noticeable. ---Richard Mortifoglio, AllMusic Review

Shusha has an incredible voice - earthy and pure - so beautiful that it stands alone and can carry a song without any accompanying instruments at all. I am studying Farsi and have spent a great deal of time trying to find Persian music that fills my soul. So much Persian music has a production value I don't care for, rendering the music rather cheap and tinny-sounding (the organs! those strings!). But this album, with Shusha's sublime voice, accompanied by simple acoustic instruments captures all of the beauty of the Persian culture. The only thing that would make this CD perfect would be to have included the lyrics. I would love to receive recommendations from other people who enjoyed this CD - please tell me where to find other Persian CDs of this caliber! I listen to it almost every day but would like to expand my enjoyment

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