Planina—Songs of Eastern Europe Alex's Virtual Folk Arts Series – July 2021

Alex's Virtual Folk Arts Series Entertains Fans Far and Wide

Planina-Songs of Eastern Europe

graced the Avalon stage for the fourth program on July 24. For their first performance in 16 months, the group wowed the audience with an hour-long program of folk songs from Eastern Europe, the Balkans, and countries around the Black Sea. The fourteen singers gave the audience a rare



treat: simple village-style melodies, passion-filled choral arrangements, and compelling dance tunes. Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, and Romania were represented. Planina was joined by a special guest: mandolin, guitar, and tambura player Steve Mullins. About 165 people viewed the show on line and in person.

Planina was started 33 years ago when seven women, who had met at folk dancing in Denver, started learning words and melodies to dance tunes. They performed at many of Alex Wilson's First of Fall Parties and have appeared in concerts and festivals all over Colorado. Planina members travel to Eastern Europe periodically to collect folk songs from singers in villages and cities there. They are dedicated to bringing music from that part of the world to educate and entertain audiences here in Colorado, and now the rest of the world through the miracles of technology.

It's not too late to enjoy this concert on YouTube!