

Alla Melnik Bayan Workshop

Button accordion (bayan) soloist Alla Melnik was born in Ukraine and started playing the bayan at age eight. At age 16 she entered the Leontovych Music College in Vinnytsia where she studied with N. Baginskiy. After graduation from the music college Alla worked as a teacher and accompanist at several music schools in Ukraine, teaching piano, bayan, accordion and music theory. In 1999 she graduated from Kiev University of Arts and Culture with an advanced degree in music education, concert performance and conducting.

Alla came to the United States in 2003. She is a member of Atlanta Balalaika Society Orchestra, performing as the group's bayan soloist. She also performs with the ensemble Balalaika Fantasie, the Ukrainian-Swedish duo YellowBlue, and has performed and taught at several past BDAA conventions.

Alla's comprehensive repertoire include several pieces by Russian bayan virtuosi such as Victor Gridin, and Vyacheslav Semyonov, as well as works by composers such as Shostakovich, Khachaturian, Strauss, Mozart, V. Monti, G. Diniku and the Swedish composer Hugo Alfven.