

News and Announcements

Online Release of the Ethnomusicological Documentary *Hopa lide*

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The ethnographic film *Hopa lide* (2023) has been released online and is now freely available to all students and scholars. Awarded an Honourable Mention for Best Documentary Film or Video at the 2024 ICTMD Film Prize, *Hopa lide* offers a distinctive perspective on Romani musical life in Slovakia.

Made as part of a PhD research project, the film demonstrates how student work can evolve into a contribution recognized by both academic and film communities. Created in close collaboration with Romani musicians, it avoids the typical outsider gaze and instead invites participants to become co-directors of their own stories through the making of music videos. The result is a lively, three-chapter journey that blends energetic performance with candid backstage moments, and the playful creativity of music video-making.

For students, *Hopa lide* can serve as an accessible introduction to ethnographic filmmaking and the challenges of documenting music. It also works as a case study in participatory methods, showing how collaboration reshapes questions of authorship and representation. At the same time, it is a vivid resource for exploring the musical culture of Slovak Roma. Finally, it may inspire early-career researchers by showing that even as students, one can pursue projects that have an impact within and beyond academia. Watch online here: <https://hopalide.nuska.me>