

A group of four people, three women and one man, are shown from the chest up, singing and playing music. They are positioned in front of a backdrop of steep, snow-capped mountains under a clear sky. The woman on the left is playing a stringed instrument, possibly a baglam. The man in the foreground is wearing a striped sweater and a cap. The overall mood is serene and traditional.

A WHITE MOUNTAIN GOAT APPEARED

*Folk music and ancient legends from the remote
mountains of the Republic of Georgia*

A close-up shot of the interior of a minibus. Three passengers are visible. On the left, a woman with curly hair wears a blue and white patterned beret and a dark jacket over a blue and white striped shirt. In the center, a man with a beard and mustache wears a blue and white striped shirt under a dark vest. On the right, a man with a beard and mustache wears a brown fur hat and a red and black patterned shawl. They are all looking towards the right side of the frame. The background shows the interior of the bus with windows and seats.

SYNOPSIS

Three strangers meet on a minibus to the capital city, Tbilisi. They argue about the ancient Georgian legend of the hunter who breaks his promise to the supreme pagan mother-goddess Dali, and is thrown from the cliff to his death.

A wide shot of a minibus driving on a two-lane road that curves through a hilly, grassy landscape. The minibus is small in the distance. The hills are covered in green grass and some trees. The sky is overcast.

These passengers all happen to be famous folk singers, each from a different region with a unique musical style. We jump back and forth from the bus to their home villages, where they team up with elders to explore rituals and sing key songs about the folktale.

Told as a **documentary/ficton hybrid**, the film moves between scripted scenes and field recordings of musical performances by extraordinary musicians.

This film has both cinematic and anthropological value, putting beautiful Georgian polyphonic singing alongside interviews with people who can still point to the locations in which they believe this legend *really* happened.

WHY NOW?

Georgia is at a crossroads; many want to join the EU and embrace technology like social media. Ancient rituals are still alive in remote mountain villages, and are being live-streamed by villagers to their relatives in the global diaspora. The participants in millennia-old round-dances are holding iPhones.



MAIN CAST

The three main subjects are all well-known throughout Georgia for their folk music, performing regularly in concerts and at festivals. In the documentary, they perform with their families, in their home villages, and often inviting older villagers to join their songs.





POSTPRODUCTION

The film's at rough-cut stage, with pretty much everything having already been shot. I just need help refining the edit: either add a voice-over, or shoot a final scene to tie the narrative arc together.

I'm looking for a producer to help me secure a place in an editing workshop, plus funding for the very last stages of post-production: audio mixing, colour correction, titles.

DISTRIBUTION

A White Mountain Goat Appeared will be submitted to festivals including IDFA, HotDocs, Sheffield DocFest, DocnRoll, Sundance, CPH:DOX and Visions du Réel.

This film also has the potential to be screened at music festivals internationally, as it features musicians who are likely to be offered performances (this happened with the Albanian musicians in *Washed by the Moon*, my first music doc, including shows at the Sage, Gateshead, and at the UK Parliament).

I'm looking for a producer to aid with festival submissions and the distribution plan.



CREW

Director: Dan Shutt

My first feature documentary, *Washed by the Moon* (2018) led me to a collaboration with Ludwig Göransson on the soundtrack of *The Odyssey* (2026), for which we recorded traditional music in southern Albania. I've worked in multimedia journalism for international media, run a record label and am a recording musician.

Cinematographer: Isaac Eastgate

Isaac shot music videos for Drake ("Nonstop", 2018) and documentaries for Joshua Gordon ("Krahang", 2018), as well as directing for Bring Me The Horizon ("Oh No", 2016), before settling into commercial work for Vans, Hermes and other global brands. Isaac has been the cinematographer on all of my documentary work.



CONTACT

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LINKS

WASHED BY THE MOON (2018)

TRAILER: www.youtube.com/watch?v=MizNIGzn58Q

FULL FILM: <https://danchfilm.com/>

A WHITE MOUNTAIN GOAT APPEARED (2026)

ROUGH CUT: <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/1189766947/5c54508cd2>

DAN SHUTT IMDB

www.imdb.com/name/nm10026691/