

## Meet Ilusha!



Creetings from  
**Brighton Beach,  
Brooklyn**



Gamarjoba!

My name is Ilusha, and I sing and play music from Georgia, the country where I was born. My family moved to the United States when I was eight years old. It was hard to be an immigrant then because I didn't know English, and I had to learn how to fit in at school. But with time, I realized that coming from a different place was cool. I'm so happy to share a couple of Georgian folk songs with you!

Ketili survilebit,

Ilusha

Musical Explorers  
c/o Carnegie Hall  
881 Seventh Ave  
New York, NY 10019



Ilusha

## We asked Ilusha ...

### Where did you grow up?

For my first eight years, I lived in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. We then moved to Bloomfield, New Jersey, where we lived in an apartment complex with 20 or 30 other families who came from the same part of the world as we did. I had friends there from Ukraine, Russia, Uzbekistan, Belarus, and other countries.

### What are Georgians known for?

Georgians love feasts! The word for a feast is supra, and if you ever visit a Georgian, you might be in for one. One person will be asked to make lots of toasts at a supra, to wish for good health, love, and most importantly, peace for all the people there.

### What is some of the traditional clothing worn in Georgian culture?

For dances and concerts, men may wear the chokha and women wear the kartuli kaba.



kartuli kaba



chokha



Tbilisi, Georgia



Arriving at  
**Brighton Beach, Brooklyn**

