

[www.goldenfest.org](http://www.goldenfest.org)

**2 NIGHTS, 4 STAGES, & MORE THAN 3 DECADES STRONG**  
**ZLATNE USTE GOLDEN FESTIVAL**  
**NYC'S FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND DANCE FROM THE BALKANS AND BEYOND**

On January 13 and 14, 2017, Brooklyn's Grand Prospect Hall will again come alive with the music, song, and dance of the Balkans (and well beyond) as some 60 bands and 3000 revelers gather for the 32nd annual Zlatne Uste Golden Festival.

Golden Festival has been called a once-in-a-lifetime experience that happens every year. Crowds join hands and dance, shop for folk arts, nibble feta, sausage, and desserts, and share midwinter cheer. It's a pop-up community where young and old, the folklorist, music professional and party animal come together in two nights of joy.

Part showcase, part benefit, part Balkan Mardi Gras, the Golden Festival features an enormous range of artists freely sharing their music. In what the Village Voice called a "grassroots folk rave," seasoned veterans and rising stars in their own communities (think Macedonian, Bulgarian, Albanian), join top musicians from across the country, devoted amateurs, and Balkan-inflected jazz masters. Anchored in Balkan traditions (roughly Romania to Greece, Croatia to Turkey), and venturing generously beyond, the programming spans the ancient and the experimental, the oud and the synthesizer.

High spirits are fueled by such preeminent performers as Eleanor Reissa with Frank London's Klezmer Brass Allstars, or Merita Halili, Raif Hyseni & Montclair State University Ensemble, while burgeoning talents shine in teen band Cocek Nation and Young Bulgarian Voices New York. Enchantment pervades the Atrium where Tenores de Aterúe, the Yale Slavic Chorus, and others immerse listeners in vocal wonderment. Brooklyn's own beloved Balkan brass acts (Slavic Soul Party, Raya, Black Masala) are well represented, and of course Zlatne Uste, New York's pioneering Balkan brass band and festival sponsors, performs both nights. A complete schedule will be posted on the website [www.goldenfest.org](http://www.goldenfest.org).

Friday night includes a dance workshop and dancing to 12:30am in the Grand Ballroom. The festival lifts off again at 6 p.m. Saturday, whirls on four concurrent stages, and only lands at 2 a.m., with an after-party scene at nearby nightspots. Grand Prospect Hall is located at 263 Prospect Avenue, between 5th and 6th Aves (R train to Prospect Ave., limited valet parking, ample street parking).

Entrance to the festival is \$35 for Friday and \$55 for Saturday, or \$80 for both (food included), with discounts for students (with ID) and online purchase. Profits are donated to charitable or educational organizations serving Balkan communities.

#### ABOUT ZLATNE USTE

Zlatne Uste Balkan Brass Band ([www.zlatneuste.org](http://www.zlatneuste.org)) began the Golden Festival in 1986. Zlatne Uste is comprised of American-born musicians steeped in the brass and dance traditions of Serbia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, and Northern Greece. They have traveled from Brazil to Canada and coast to coast, playing for American and Balkan audiences. IN 1987 Zlatne Uste was the first foreign band ever invited to play Serbian music at the Dragačevo Brass Festival in Guča, Serbia, and the band's fifth trip to the now legendary Guča festival is featured in *Brasslands*, a new documentary by Meerkat Media Collective. Zlatne Uste has released four CDs.

## DETAILS

Golden Festival 2017, [www.goldenfest.org](http://www.goldenfest.org)

NYC's Festival of Music and Dance from the Balkans and Beyond

Venue: Grand Prospect Hall, 263 Prospect Avenue, between 5th and 6th Aves, Brooklyn, NY

Telephone contact: (646) 844-4653

Email: [info@goldenfest.org](mailto:info@goldenfest.org)

Friday, Jan 13th, 7:30pm to 12:30am; Admission: \$35, students with ID: \$30

Saturday, Jan 14th, 6pm to 2am; Admission: \$55, students with ID: \$45

Two Night Festival Admission: \$80, students \$65

Children 12 and under: free

Advance online purchase: [www.goldenfest.org/tickets](http://www.goldenfest.org/tickets)

Complimentary Balkan & Middle Eastern Snacks/Cash Bar

Subway: R to Prospect Ave. Limited on site valet parking

Facebook: Zlatne Uste Golden Festival

# THE ZLATNE USTE GOLDEN FESTIVAL

in partnership with...



NOTE: This press release is available in digital form on the festival website  
<http://goldenfest.org/press/golden-festival-2017-press-release/>

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# THE ZLATNE USTE GOLDEN FESTIVAL

## MEDIA LINKS

### Official Press Materials

<http://goldenfest.org/press>

### WFMU Free Music Archives

<http://freemusicarchive.org/search/?quicksearch=golden+festival>

### YOUTUBE

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=zlatne+uste+golden+festival](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=zlatne+uste+golden+festival)

### FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/ZlatneUsteGoldenFestival>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/206446383133107/>

### TWITTER

<https://twitter.com/nycgoldenfest>