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'Gypsy Caravan'

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If one were out to undo stereotypes about the Gypsy lifestyle, one could think of at least a dozen better ways of going about it than trailing itinerant performers as they traipse around 16 cities. Still, it's hard not to be impressed by the breadth of cultural personalities embodied in the Romani musicians and dancers of "Gypsy Caravan," which couples concert clips from a North American tour with in-situ interviews with the artists on their home turf.

The tour Jasmine Dellal captures reflects the purpose of this sprawling documentary: to demonstrate that the Roma character is manifold and multinational, but consistently family- and life-affirming. Her stars are Macedonia's volcanic earth mother Esma Redzepova, Romania's violin virtuosos Taraf de Haidouks and boisterous brass band Fanfare Ciocaria, Antonio El Pipa's Flamenco Ensemble from Andalucia and the Rajastani folk troupe, Maharaja.

Everyone is having so much fun, one would really like to be a part of it. But the performance sequences are too jaggedly truncated to pull us in entirely.

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1:51. In English, Romani, Spanish, Romanian, Macedonian, Hindi and Marwari, with subtitles. At the Angelika, Lincoln Plaza, Manhattan.

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