

Animating the City

Paul Manning
Trent University



Old Tbilisi from the vicinity of Ortachala



Mukhambazi
(Prince Grigol Orbeliani, c. 1861)

ortachalis baghshi mnaxe, vina var!
dardimandis lxinshi mnaxe, vina var!
jamit tolumbashi mnaxe, vina var!
aba mushtis kvrivshi mnaxe, vina var!
mashin shegiqvarde, stkva: dzvirpasi xar!

In the gardens of Ortachala see me, who I am!
In a happy-go-lucky feast see me, who I am!
A toastmaster with a drinking bowl, see me, who I am!
Well in a fist fight see me, who I am!
Then you will fall in love with me, saying,
“you are precious!”

The Island Gardens of Ortachala



Kintos



Prince Grigol Jambakur Orbeliani



ПЛАНЪ
ГОРОДА ТИФЛИСА

СЪ ОКРЕСТНОСТЯМИ

Масштабъ 1:100,000

1887

О. ПЕТЕРБУРГЪ



Издано въ Петроградѣ въ Типографіи А. Панагова.

Russian

Colonial

**Orbeliani
District**

City

Old Tbilisi

Ortachala



“See me, who I am!”

The aristocratic author (left) and the typical kinto speaker (right) of the mukhambazi



ПЛАНЪ
ГОРОДА ТИФЛИСА
СЪ ОКРЕСТНОСТЯМИ

Масштабъ 1:100,000

1887

О. ПЕТЕРБУРГЪ



Издание Императорскаго Генеральнаго Штаба.

Russian

Colonial

**Orbeliani
District**

City

Old Tbilisi

Ortachala

“At this time Grigol Orbeliani was coming home from Ortachala”



“A Feast in Ortachala” Skandarnova, 1912



“A city hemmed by the gardens of heaven”

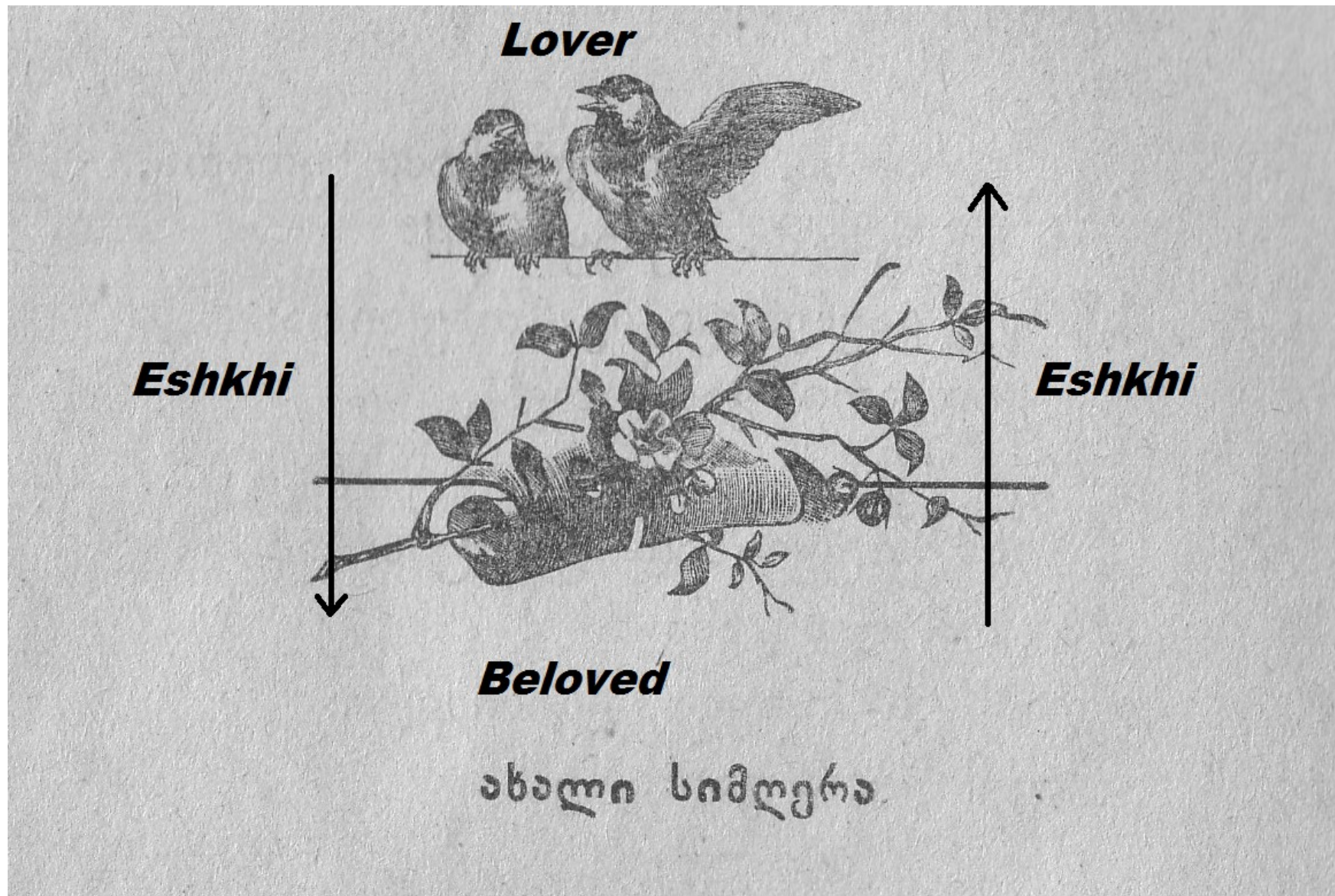


Nightingale and Rose

(from urban poet Skandarnova's *Nightingale's
Mandolin* 1912)



eshkhi is a *symmetric* property both of the subject (the nightingale) and the object (the rose) that elicits that love



To the poet,

I do not like the sound (*k'ilo*) of the mukhambazi,
The sound (*k'ilo*) of the k'int'o, the sound (*k'ilo*) of the
central Bazaar;

With this meter (*k'ilo*) of what would you sing, poet,
If not of wine, toastmasters and k'int'os,
Their duduk'i, dip'lip'it'o and zurna [instruments]
Their pointless buffoonery, whooping?

I do not like such scenes,

What else would you say with a mukhambazi, tell me?

--Vakhtang Orbeliani (1884)

“Kinto Poem” (Anonymous, 1886)

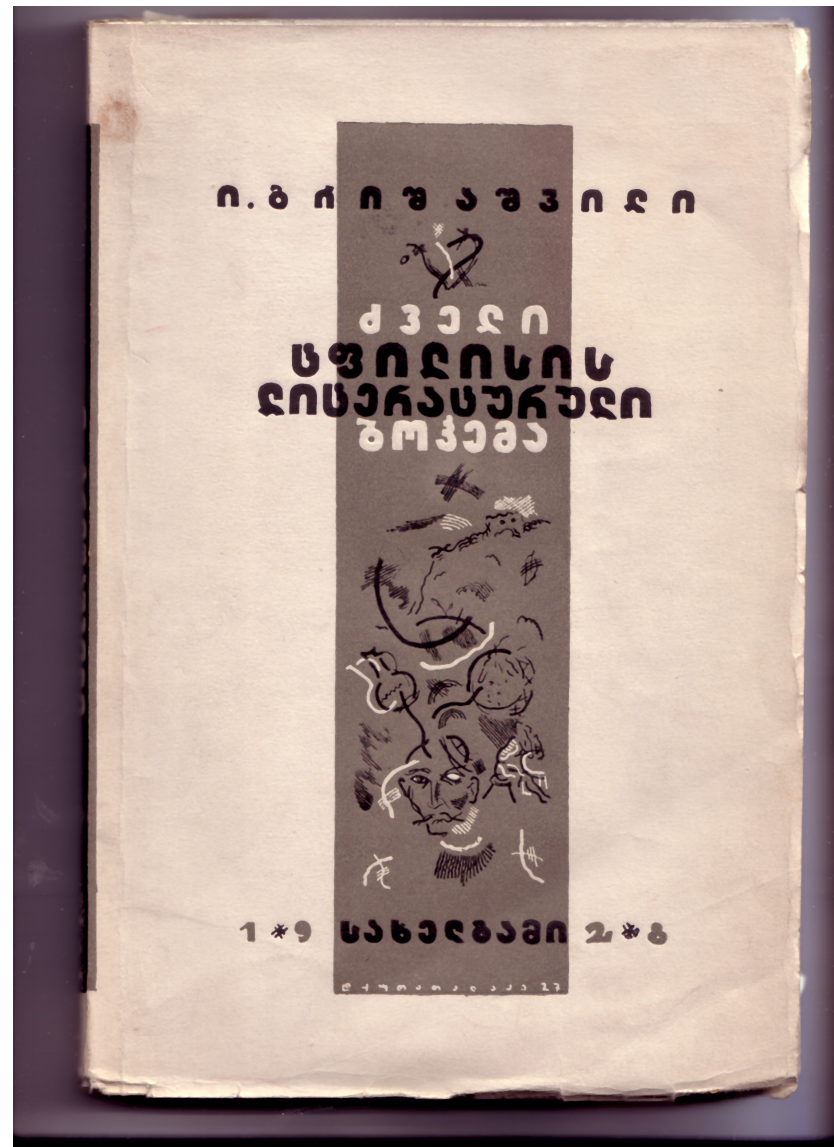
*ganze, ganze, chemi t’oli ara xar,
me kint’ua—shen k’i gospodini xar!...
chemi sk’ola iarmukis dakhlia,
t’ancis [verer] orta ch’alis baghia
chemi dukhi —ghvinit savse k’ulia
chemi muzik’—st’ep’k’os zurnis sulia.*

Aside, aside, you aren’t my equal,
I am a kinto, but you are a *gentleman*!
My *school* is the counter of the *market*,
My *dance floor* is the gardens of Ortachala
My *spirit* – is a jug of wine.
My *music* – is the soul of Stepko’s zurna

“A feast of some drunken lads, a 'Mukhambazi Latiauri' of the so-called Feuilletonists”



Grishashvili's *Literary Bohemia of Old Tbilisi* (1928)



Qarachoghelis (and ram) (from Grishashvili)





Kinto



Musicians

1959

Kinto



Musicians

Qarachogheli's

1959