

# VINCENZO DELLA RATTA Gongs of the Bahnar: A Buffalo Sacrifice Ceremony

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## DESCRIPTION

The Buffalo sacrifice is a significant ritual among the Bahnar people, an ethnic group residing in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. It symbolizes a connection to ancestral spirits and the natural world. Prior to the sacrifice, the community gathers to prepare offerings and adorn the buffalo with symbolic decorations. The ceremony typically involves prayers, chants, and dances led by village elders. The sacrifice is performed with reverence and gratitude, honoring the buffalo's sacrifice for the well-being of the community. It's believed to ensure fertility, protection, and prosperity for the village. The ritual underscores the Bahnar people's deep-rooted spiritual beliefs and their harmonious relationship with nature. After the sacrifice, the buffalo's meat is shared among the villagers in a communal feast, fostering unity and solidarity within the community. This tradition serves as a cultural cornerstone, preserving the Bahnar's heritage and spiritual practices for generations. Recorded in the village of Plei Hven (Vietnam) in 2019 by **Vincenzo Della Ratta**, this unique album offers a deep immersion in this ancestral ceremony. Includes liner notes.

## TRACKLISTING

- 01. Home Invocation
- 02. Toˆn Taīp
- 03. Night Ceremony
- 04. Night Ceremony (Suite)
- 05. Alms
- 06. Sacrifice
- 07. Morning Ceremony
- 08. Toîn Taīp
- 09. Morning Ceremony (Suite)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Recorded in the village of Plei Hven (Vietnam) in 2019 by **Vincenzo Della Ratta**, this unique album offers a deep immersion in the Bahnar people's buffalo sacrifice ceremony.
- The Buffalo sacrifice is a significant ritual among the Bahnar people, an ethnic group residing in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. It symbolizes a connection to ancestral spirits and the natural world.
- Includes liner notes.

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