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# WHERE THE ROMA ARE BUFFALOED

By V.A. MUSETTO

## MOVIE REVIEW

Rating: ★★☆☆☆

June 15, 2007 -- JASMINE Dellal's documentary "Gypsy Caravan" has two purposes as it follows a contingent of professional Gypsy musicians on a six-week tour of the United States: to present the music to as many people as possible, and to defend Gypsies, or Roma, against worldwide prejudice.



Members of Fanfare Ciocarlia hit the road in "Gypsy Caravan," a celebration of Roma music.

It only partly succeeds.

The music is infectious and enjoyable (singer Esma Redzepova, "queen of the gypsies," has a charismatic presence onstage), but you don't get nearly enough of it. Viewers would be better off buying a CD or two, so they can listen to their hearts' content.

On the second front, "Gypsy Caravan" avoids any serious discussion of the social issues that confront the world's 10 million Roma.

Johnny Depp puts in a cameo declaring that "most Americans believe the clichés about Gypsies." Unfortunately, the well-intentioned film never gets beyond clichés itself.

### GYPSY CARAVAN

Running time: 111 minutes. Not rated (mature themes). At the Angelika and the Lincoln Plaza.

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