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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.

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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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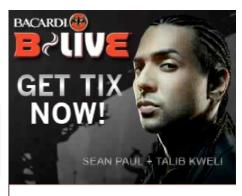
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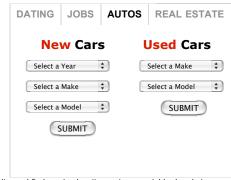
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