

# Flowing North

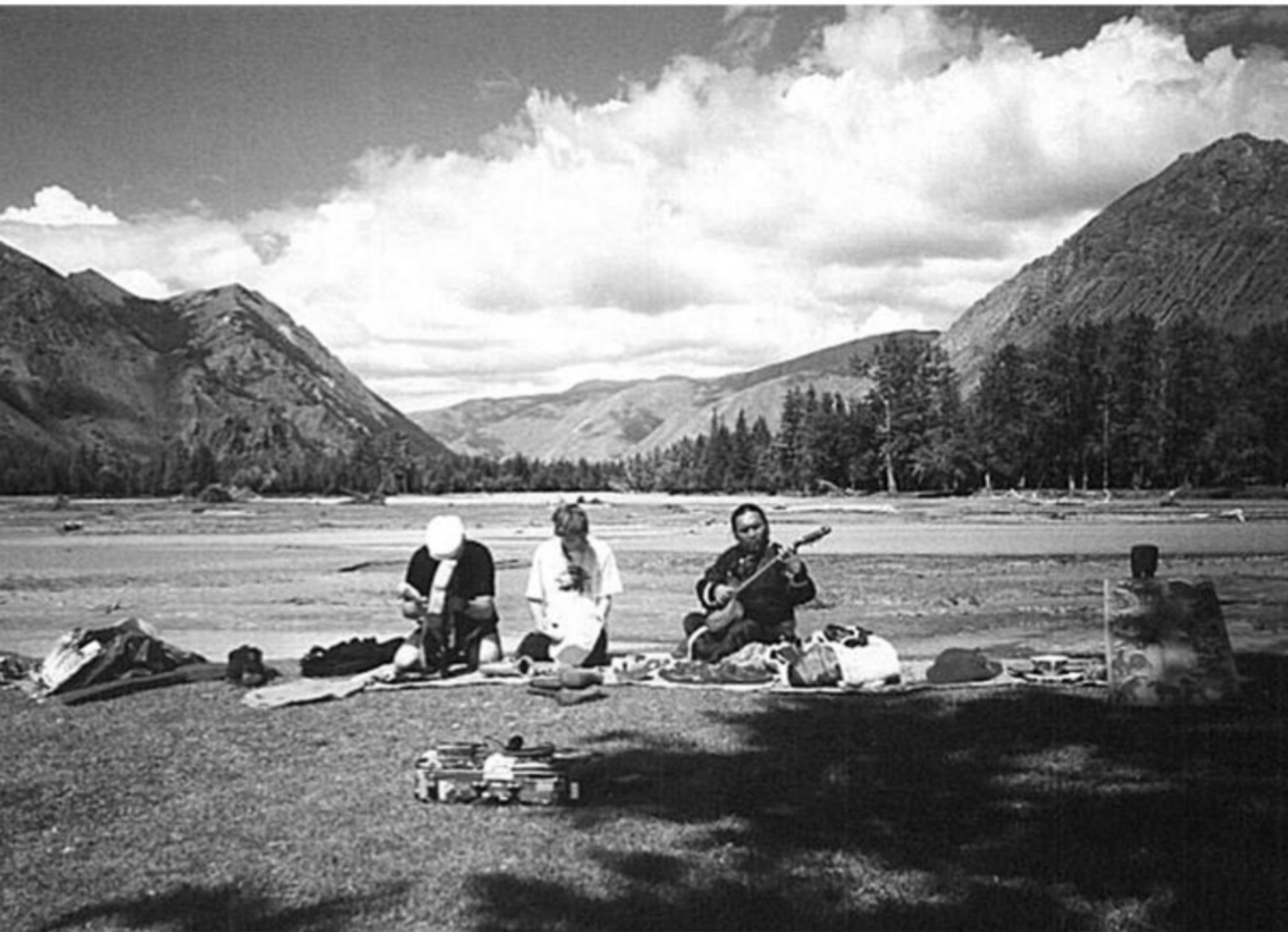


photo Ken Hyder

*The course of the Yenesai, the Amazon of the North, flows north through Tuva, the tiny independent country at Asia's heart. Its leading cultural export is Khoomei, or overtone 'throat' singing, described in the whole region as 'the voice of the land'. Yat-Kha, part of the Yenesai Punk scene, mixing Khoomei with drum machines, are a peek into the future of World Music – as viewed from the heart of Asia's mountains, forest, and rivers.*

The photo above and on page 11 shows another west meets Altai region outfit called K-Space, formed around Gendos Chamzynyn, Ken Hyder and Tim Hodgkinson. (see [www.hyder.demon.co.uk](http://www.hyder.demon.co.uk))

The Chinese call the Tuvans 'the people of the Far Forest'. For the Siberians it is Uriankhai country. They refused the bidding of Ghenghis Khan, disappearing into the region's northern forests despite Ghenghis wanting their 'wonderful horsemen and skilled archers' for his armies, and even though the country, geographically and culturally, is part of Mongolia Douglas Carruthers, a late nineteenth-century British explorer, cut his way through some of the thickest