

# TedX – Baga Toiruu

## Where is Home?

transcript:

*Та бүхэн сайн байцгаана уу?  
Сайхан хаваржицгааж байна уу ?  
Мал, сүрэг тарган тавтай, онд мэргэн оров уу?  
Бие, тэнхээ сайн уу?*

That's how I wish I could great people all the time... *(sharing the huurug with the audience)*

### **Where is home, where is my home, why did I choose Mongolia?**

Well, it all started few years ago, when I was working in Paris, overworking I would say. Barely 15 to 18 hours a days... It was a very depressing time for me, and I was just being over exhausted by work.. I worked in entertainment, motion design, and visual effect industry back then. I ended up in hospital few times because of that and had a lot of dark thoughts.... I couldn't see the point of my life and felt that this existence was meaningless.

### **The “declic”**

One day, a friend gave me that CD that would shape my future. It was Tuvan Music. The first time I heard those sounds, and that music I was swallowed, I felt something in me that was awakening.. That was like a hand given to me and telling me:

*"You can do better, You can do something, You can be someone, You can be me..."*

A funny thing was that I usually work with a headset, and I couldn't hear anything else than that music back then. Each time someone would pass by my desk they would hear the hoomii sound... and feel like if I would listen some weird voodoo stuff...

Listening that music I started to digg into the origin of those melody and happened to find a video of a guy, wearing a deel on top of a mountain, playing the Morin Huur and singing. That was a real shock for me... That was it.... That instrument, its sounds, its shapes, my love was starting to grow and grow....

### **Getting the instruments**

I decided then to get one *-Morin Huur-* and start to learn... It took me few months before I could find one. I met a guy who knows a Mongolian guy who might sell his instrument.. He gave me an appointment few weeks later, in some city in France, with a small map and a time.

I did book a train right away and crossed my fingers pretty well. The day finally came. When I arrived at the time, at the place, no one was there.. so I started to play jaw harp, hoping that would send a signal or something, and make the guy come...

And the guy came with barely 30 40minutes late... I wasn't familiar with the Mongolian time concept back then, so that might have been one of the most stressful 30minutes of all my existence.... ^^

## **Now I got a Morin Huur...**

So I finally got a Morin Huur. It took me a while before daring to play it.. When I finally took the courage to play it, I just cried so much... It was like getting reunited with an old friend or with an old me, or I don't know exactly.. That was a very strong feeling. And I understood that I shouldn't learn on my own. I really wanted to respect the instrument and its playing...

So I found a Mongolian person who could teach me in France, took lessons for 6 months or so and decided to come in Mongolia to see what is that land that made me dream for so long...

I came in Mongolia, and my first impression was a bit disappointing.. there was an airport.... I thought that we would land on the grass... there were road, no deel, no horse, and no hoomiich everywhere.

After a week I went to Hovd and could realise how beautiful and pretty was Mongolia.

I started to realise that I would not go back from that land just yet and tried to find a way to stay here to keep learning.

## **So what happened during that learning process...??**

During that learning process I actually happen to see that Mongolian culture and Morin Huur are way more complex that I imagined... The spiritual dimension of that instrument and it's connection with nature, with energy and with earth is really really strong and deep..

It also made me meet more spiritual, conscious people. I learned a lot about energy, philosophy, nature and humanity thanks to the Morin Huur. I also learned a lot about myself and it helped me go through a LOT of challenges.

I also happened to learn about the Mongol Bichig with whom I also fell in deep attraction. By extend nomadic culture, costum, and tradition also attracted me.

I really feel a deep connection with Mongolian culture, sometime I can't really explain it, but I can't live without it anymore, it was always there, in me I guess and the Morin Huur awoke it!

## **Song playing**

I would like to share a song with you now.

This song is one of my favourite song on the Morin Huur, it's the Jonon Har, Saruul Tal.

The way I play it is like if I would travel to the wide steppes, within a horse herd. We're walking there and there, crossing a river and then taking a break, enjoying the sun, admiring the steppes and just enjoy the moment, feeling the wind.... after that all the herd start galloping to our final destination..

So I will play that song for you now...

## **Conclusion**

The Morin Huur was a real awakening experience for me. We say that we find true love in our life only once, I'm really grateful that I found mine!

I would encourage you to keep digging, exploring untill you find yours if it's not already the case!

This is the most amazing feeling. I can be home, comfortable and in joy anywhere, thanks to that culture, and thanks to that music...

I would like to say that when we have the chance to call a land like Mongolia our home, we have a duty to honour it, respect it, and preserve it!

Thank you for listening.