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FOLKSONGS OF RUSSIA

The Ensemble of Soloists

Moskovskaya Kapella Conductor • Gennady Dmytriak

- | | | | |
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66:40

*Galina Volchek soprano, § Valentina Kuznetsova mezzo-soprano

**Vladimir Albatayev tenor

†Christmas Cantata based on Slav folklore.

Soloists Galina Volchek, Vladimir Albatayev, Lubov Abakumova

Alexander Vorobyev, Valentina Kuznetsova.

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Folksongs of Russia



Evening Bells

My Curly headed lad

Susitka

Tanya Tanyusha
and Others

Moskovskaya Kapella
Conductor • Gennady Dmytriak



No country is richer in national music than Russia. For many years the folksongs and dances of the most remote districts were collected by order of the government: musicians and scholars of the highest rank, such as Balakirev, Rimsky-Korsakov, Serov and others, joined in folksong research and assisted in the task of compilation.

It was in the 19th century that Russian music achieved European renown but it has always been loved and cultivated in its own country. The *khorovody* or choral songs belong solely to the Slav races. They celebrate the changing of the seasons, or religious and important events in the working community. Until recent times, no funeral, christening, wedding or any other ceremony had ever been complete without singing voices.

In a typical Russian song, the first voice usually sings the melody; the other voices in succession sing variants of the same melody, and as the voices fall in with one another, a kind of counterpoint is established. There was originally a certain amount of improvisation by Russian village women who, as the most important participants of village life, not only sang, but often invented both the poetry and melodies and were indispensable at every social and religious gathering.

The Ensemble of Soloists **Moskovskaya Kapella** was founded in 1991 by its artistic director **Gennady Dmitryak** and has quickly gained national and international renown as a professional choral ensemble of the highest calibre. A remarkable feature of the Ensemble is that every one of its singers (all graduates of the Moscow Conservatoire), has been hand-picked for excellence, both musically and vocally and their success is the result of daily rehearsal and successful performances at hundreds of concerts, not only inside Russia but in many major European cities and international music festivals.

The Director of the Ensemble, **Gennady Dmitryak** was trained originally as a choral conductor at the Gnessinski institute and later studied conducting at the Moscow Conservatoire. Among his teachers were V. Popov, A. Yurlov, K. Kondrashin, L. Guinsbourg and G. Rozhdestvensky. Prior to creating the Ensemble Moskovskaya Kapella he had worked extensively with the Moscow Chamber Choir, The State Choir of the USSR, the Music Theatre of Stanislavsky and Nemirovitch-Danchenko.

Il n'est aucun pays plus riche en musique populaire que la Russie. Pendant de longues années, les chansons populaires et les danses des régions les plus éloignées étaient recueillies sur l'ordre des musiciens de l'Etat et des hommes de la plus grande érudition, tels que Balakirev, Rimsky-Korsakov, Serov et autres, qui ont participé à la recherche sur les chansons folkloriques et ont été assistés dans la tâche de compilation.

C'est au cours du XIX^e siècle que la musique russe a acquis une renommée en Europe mais elle a toujours été aimée et cultivée dans son propre pays. Les chants chorals dits *khorovody* appartiennent uniquement aux races slaves. Elles glorifient le changement des saisons ou des événements religieux et importants survenus dans la communauté de travail. Jusqu'à ces derniers temps, aucune cérémonie funèbre, de baptême, de mariage ou autre n'était jamais complète sans voix chantantes.

Dans une chanson typiquement russe, c'est d'habitude la première voix qui chante la mélodie; les autres voix chantent successivement des variantes de la même mélodie, et un genre de contrepoint se produit pendant que les voix s'unissent. A l'origine, des paysannes russes improvisaient de temps à autre; étant les plus importantes participantes à la vie du village, elles ne chantaient pas seulement mais bien souvent elles inventaient aussi bien la poésie que la mélodie et elles étaient indispensables à chaque réunion sociale et religieuse.

L'ensemble de solistes **Moskovskaya Kapella**, créé en 1991 par son directeur artistique **Gennady Dmitryak**, a rapidement acquis une renommée nationale et internationale en tant que chorale professionnelle du plus haut rang. Une caractéristique remarquable de cet ensemble est que chacun de ses chanteurs (tous des anciens étudiants du Conservatoire de Musique de Moscou) a été sélectionné pour sa perfection tant musicale que vocale. Le succès des chanteurs tient aux répétitions quotidiennes et aux succès remportés au cours de certaines de concerts donnés non seulement en Russie mais également dans de nombreuses capitales importantes d'Europe et à des festivals internationaux de musique.

Le directeur de la chorale, **Gennady Dmitryak**, a d'abord reçu une formation de directeur de chorale à l'Institut Gnessinski et s'est ensuite confirmé dans cette profession au Conservatoire de Moscou. V. Popov, A. Yurlov, K. Kondrashin, I. Guinsbourg et G. Rozhdestvensky comptaient parmi ses professeurs. Avant de former l'Ensemble Moskovskaya Kapella, il avait beaucoup travaillé avec le Chœur de chambre de Moscou, le Chœur de l'Etat soviétique et le Théâtre de musique de Stanislavsky et de Nemirovitch-Danchenko.

Traduction française Anastasia Papairakleous & Rea Rapa

Kein Land ist reicher an Volksmusik als Rußland. Viele Jahre hindurch wurden die Volkslieder und die Volkstänze der meist abgelegenen Regionen des Landes auf Anweisung der Regierung von Musikern und Gelehrten höchsten Ranges gesammelt, wie z.B. von Balakirew, Rimski-Korsakow, Serow und anderen, die bei der Volksliedforschung mitmachten und zur Sammlung der Lieder beitragen.

Erst im 19. Jahrhundert erlangte die russische Musik europäisches Ansehen, obwohl sie immer im eigenen Lande geliebt und gepflegt worden ist. Die Chorlieder oder *Khorovody*, wie sie auf Russisch heißen, gehören einzig und allein zur Tradition der slawischen Völkern. Sie feiern den Wechsel der Jahreszeiten, sowie wichtige und religiöse Ereignisse in der arbeitenden Bevölkerung. Bis vor kurzem war keine Taufsond Heiratszeremonie, Bestattungsfeier oder irgendein festlicher Anlaß ohne Singstimmen vollkommen.

In einem bezeichnend russischen Lied wird gewöhnlich die Melodie von der ersten Stimme gesungen. Die anderen Stimmen, die ihr folgen, singen Varianten der gleichen Melodie und wenn sich die Stimmen ineinander verschmelzen, wird eine Art Kontrapunkt erzielt. Anfänglich beinhalteten die Lieder einen gewissen Grad von Improvisation durch die auf die russischen Dorffrauen zurückzuführen ist, welche als wichtigste Teilnehmer im Leben des Dorfes nicht nur sangen, sondern auch häufig die Texten und die Melodien für viele Volkslieder erfanden und unentbehrlich bei jedem sozialen und religiösen Zusammentreffen waren.

Das Solistenensemble **Moskovskaya Kapella**, wurde 1991 von seinem Leiter Gennadi Dmitryak gegründet und erlangte bald als professionelles Chorensemble höchsten Kalibers nationalen und internationalen Ruhm. Ein bemerkenswertes Merkmal des Ensembles besteht darin daß, jeder Ensemblesänger (alle sind Absolventen des Moskauer Konservatoriums) wurden sowohl für ihre musikalische als auch für ihre vokale Vortrefflichkeit auserlesen und ihr Erfolg ist das Ergebnis von täglichen Proben und erfolgreichen Auftritten bei hunderten von Konzerten, nicht nur in Rußland sondern auch in vielen wichtigen europäischen Städten und bei vielen internationalen Musikfestspielen.

Der Leiter des Ensembles, **Gennady Dmitryak** wurde anfänglich als Chorleiter an der Gnessinski Institut ausgebildet und studierte später Chorleitung am Moskauer Konservatorium. Seine Lehrer waren, unter anderen, V. Popow, A. Yurlow, K. Kondrashin, L. Guinsbourg und G. Rozhdestvenski. Vor der Gründung des Ensembles arbeitete Dmitryak sehr eng mit dem Moskauer Kammerchor, dem Staatschor der UdSSR, dem Stanislawski-Musiktheater und dem Nemirowitch-Danchenko zusammen.

Übersetzung Andia Phylactou

[1] MY CURLY-HEADED LAD
(OI, KUDRYASH, MOI, KUDRYASH)

My curly-headed lad,
Don't come into my garden,
Don't pave the way
To gossip and ill fame.
Should any gossip spread
No one will marry me.

Here is one - neither landlord,
Nor merchant.
Hopping from one foot to the other,
Beating one high boot over the other,
His high boots coming from somewhere
far away,
So far away, from Moscow.

[2] THE PIPE BLOWS
(A TRUBUSHKU TRUBYAT)

The pipe blows early at dawn.
Marusya cries over her light brown plait.
Nobody could soothe her, the poor
darling.
Neither her father nor mother,
Nor Pavel.

[3] IN THE DARK WOOD
(F TYOMNOM LYSE)

In the dark wood
Behind the forest

I ploughed up a piece of land.
I sowed there some flax seed.
The flax crop grew good,
Fine, high, white.
A sparrow, the thief,
Would fly over
And peck my harvest.
In the dark wood,
Behind the forest.

[4] THE ROAD (THE COACHMAN'S SONG)
DOROZHENKA (YAMSHCHITSKAYA)

My road is long and dusty,
Winding along the fields,
Driven smooth by carts and wheels.

There is no end to this road.
The day is quietly dying down.
The road disappears into the unknown distance.

[5] BESOMS
(VENIKI)

Besom-sweepers, lying over the stove.
Once good, now fallen down.

**[6] THE BELL
(KOLOKOLCHIK)**

The monotonous sound of the coach bell
And the coachman's song, so sad,
Resound over the fields.
His song so full of sadness,
And the melody tender and soft
Flares up in my heart,
Making me recall long-forgotten days,
Filling my eyes with tears.

**[7] HOUR AFTER HOUR
(CHAS PA CHAS)**

Hour after hour the day passes.
The sun will set at this time.
My beloved is nowhere.
I only saw him yesterday.
I don't know where he's gone.

When I hear the bell ring
Sadly on a horse's harness,
It makes my heart tremble.

- [8]** a. I WAS OUT FEASTING
YESTERDAY
b. THE REEDS CRACKLE
a. (YA VICHOR MLADA VO PIRU
BYLA)
b.(I KAMYSH TRESHCHIT)

I was out feasting yesterday,
Drinking, drinking, not honey,
But sweet vodka.
As I walked back through the woods,
Through the fields,
Fearlessly, without staggering.
I did stagger when I stepped into the
yard,
Grasped at a tree to hold myself up.
Hold me up, tree,
A stupid drunk woman, that I am,
So that my father-in-law cannot see,
Can't tell his son,
His son, my husband,
Inveterate drunkard.
The reeds crackle, the river splashes.
To the house of his godmother,
Comes godfather himself, with a perch
pike.
Make me fish soup, my godmother,
We shall drink, we shall merry make,
And when death comes, die we shall.

**[9] ALL AROUND THE STEPPE
(STEP, DA STEP KRUGOM)**

In the steppe
Spread all around,
A coachman is dying.

Feeling his death hour has struck,
Pulling all his strength,
He asks his fellow:

"Bear me no malice
And bury me here,
In this lonely steppe.

Give my horses to my father,
My regards to dear mother,
To my wife you take my wedding ring."

**[10] TANYA, SWEET TANYA
(TANYA-TANYUSHA)**

Her skin is white,
Her cheeks are ruddy,
Her eyes are dark.
In the voivode's yard
Voivode's son stands
Looking at Tanya.
"Who is this Tanya?
The white-skinned, ruddy-cheeked,
Dark-eyed Tanya?
I love Tanya, and will marry her".

**[11] MOTHER WHAT IS THERE OUT
IN THE FIELD?
(MATUSHKA, SHTO VO POLYE
PYLNO?)**

Mother, what is there out in the field?
Just the horses set loose, my dear
daughter.

Mother, people are outside, and
approaching
They will not stop by us, my dear
daughter.

Mother, they are stepping on the porch!
My dear daughter, I will not show you
to them.

Mother, they are sitting themselves at
the table!
Don't you worry, my dear daughter.

Mother, they take the icons,
Mother, they bless me...
God bless you, my dear girl!

**[12] OH, YOU WINTER
(USH, TY ZYMUSHKA -ZIMA)**

With the winter so cold,
The snow storming all the time,
Blocking all the roads with snow,
There is no way for me

To get me to my beloved girl,
I'll walk in there as in old days,
Step into her yard.

Refrain:
Oh, you, winter, cold winter!
Why, Marusya, you don't sleep at
home?

[13] DOWN THE VOLGA RIVER
(VNIS PA MATUSHKE PA VOLGE)

Down the broad river Volga
Water is storming, splashing waves.
Nothing can be seen in the waves
Only a black spot - a boat
With white sails.

[14] LADY-NEIGHBOUR (Ukrainian)
(SUSITKA)

Let us sing a merry song
About my young lady-neighbour.
Let us sing about her
Fill our hearts with joy.

Lady-neighbour, lady-neighbour,
Lend me your sieve,
I shall sieve my flour
And give it back to you.

Let us sing a merry song,
About a young Hungarian girl,
And fill our hearts with joy.

Please, Hungarian girl,
Lend me your mirror,
I shall trim my moustache
And give it back to you.

Let us sing a merry song
About a young girl,
Fill our hearts with joy.

I would not allow my young wife
To bring water from the river,
She might fall and drown, and then
I would have to marry once again.

Let us sing a merry song
About a young man.
Fill our hearts with joy.

Don't trust me, young girl.
I'm on the move, all the time.
I'm here, I'm there, just like this.
And young girls - they fall for me.

[15] ON THE NEVA RIVER
(KAK NA MATUSHKE VA NIVE-
RIKE)

On the river Neva, on the Vasilievsky
island.
On the pier, a young sailor
Was fitting out a ship, a ship with
twelve sails.

Out of a window a maiden
Looked and stepped out
On the river Neva to draw some water.

Asks the maiden: why are you here
So early fitting out the ship,
The ship which has twelve sails.

I'm here against my will,
But following the tsar's order,
The Admiralty order.

And away the maiden went,
Leaving the brave sailor
Raving over her.

[16] TWELVE ROBBERS
(DVINATSAT RAZBOINIKOF)

Refrain:
We shall pray to our Lord,
We shall tell an old legend.
Which we heard in Solovki,
From Pitirim, the monk.

Once upon a time
There lived 12 robbers in the woods,
Headed by their chief Kudiar.
They killed many people,
They robbed piles of plunder;
Their chief Kudiar
Kidnapped a beautiful girl.

During the day he would have fun with
her,
During the night, made his plundering
raids.
All of a sudden, his conscience awoke.
He gave up his friends,
Secluded himself in a cloister
Dedicating himself to God and people.

We shall pray to our Lord,
We shall serve him.
We shall pray to our Lord
For Kudiar.

[17] EVENING BELLS
(VECHERNI ZVON)

Those evening bells, those evening bells,
Their music casts so many thoughts.
About the days, when I was young,
The place where I grew up and fell in
love.

And when I left my house for good
I heard those bells for the last time.
So many friends have passed away,
I still remember them so young.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

[18] 1. HEAVEN AND EARTH (NYEBO I ZEMLYA)

Good evening! Holy evening!
The earth and heaven
Rejoice with great joy!
Angels glorify the newly-born king.
And, we on the earth sing Glory to God.
Virgin Mary has brought forth a son.
Glory we sing to God in the highest.
Christ was born, the Son of God.
Angels rejoice,
Kings and princes come,
And fall down and worship him.
Shepherds rejoice, witnessing a miracle.

[19] 2. NEW JOY (NOVA RADIST)

New joy has come over us,
The stars shine brightly above,
Saying that Christ was born,
The Son of God.
Wrapped in swaddling-clothes,
Like a baby in a manger.
The shepherds from the field
Kneel down and worship him.
Praising Christ the Lord.
"God in the highest,
Give peace and years of happiness
To the host of this house".

[20] 3. HOLY NIGHT (SVYATA NICH)

Quiet is the holy night.
The stars shimmer radiantly.
The holy baby, beautiful as dawn,
Sleeps quietly.
The holy night is approaching.
The radiant light streams down from the sky,
The Son of God came into the world
In Bethlehem, to save the people from their sins.
Holy night is peaceful and quiet.
Wipe away your tears:
The Son of God saved
The whole world with his love.

[21] 4. GOOD EVENING (DOBRY VECHAR)

Good evening!
Good evening to this home.
Good evening to the hosts.
The host himself laid the table,
Filled the glasses, guests awaiting.
The guests shall come,
The beloved guests,
Paul and Peter.
Holy Christmas has come
And brought us joy!

[22] 5. ANGELS IN HEAVEN (ANGELY V NYEBE)

Angels in heaven sing with joy
That Christ was born into the world.
Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace.
In a manger Virgin Mary
Put the Son of God.
The wise men from the east
Presented gifts to him;
Gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.
Good evening!

[23] 6. HERE'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL (KOLYADA PRISHLA)

Christmas is here, Christmas has come!
The hosts of this house shall prosper!
The rye will be thick, the pie will be big.
The pie will rise high.
Those who bring us gifts will be

Rewarded with Pancakes and pies
Through the back door.
Bring them over here.
Serve right now! We shall have a Feast!

[24] 7. HEAVEN AND EARTH (NYEBO I ZEMLYA)

The earth and heaven
Rejoice with great joy!
Angels glorify the newly-born king.
And we on the earth sing glory to God.
Virgin Mary has brought forth a son.
Glory we sing to God in the highest.
Christ was born, the Son of God.
Angels sing praise, kings and princes come,
And kneel down to worship him.
Shepherds rejoice, witnessing a miracle.

Texts translated from the Russian by Marina Ter-Mikaelyan

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