

8.110242-44

MUSSORGSKY: Boris Godunov

NAXOS Historical



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3 CDs

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MADE IN
THE EU

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn
A complete track list can be found in the booklet

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Cover image: Boris Christoff as Boris Godunov, anonymous
[Private Collection/Lebrecht Collection]

Modest MUSSORGSKY

(1839-1881)

Boris Godunov

(Revised and orchestrated by Rimsky-Korsakov)

ADD

Playing
Time
3:24:26

Boris Godunov / Pimen / Varlaam Boris Christoff
Grigory / Dmitry Nicolai Gedda
Fyodor / Marina Eugenia Zareska
Xenia Ludmilla Lebedeva
Nurse / Hostess Lydia Romanova
Shuysky / Khrushchyov / Missail Andrzej Bielecki
Shchelkalov / Rangoni Kim Borg
A Boyar Gustav Ustinov
The Simpleton Wassili Pasternak
Police Officer / A Guard Stanislaw Pieczora
Lavitzky Raymond Bonte

Russian Chorus of Paris

French National Radio Orchestra • Issay Dobrowen

Recorded 7th-21st July 1952

in the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Paris

First issued on HMV ALP 1044 through 1047

Folk-song and liturgical chant inspire many pages of *Boris Godunov*, heard on these discs in Rimsky-Korsakov's colourful orchestration. By 1952, when this recording was made, Boris Christoff, who had been singing excerpts in public as early as 1944, was steeped in Mussorgsky's music and knew every note of the score. It is for Christoff's triumph in three contrasting rôles, the young Gedda as the False Dmitry, Zareska as Marina, Borg as the wily Rangoni and Dobrowen's conducting that this set is treasured by opera enthusiasts.

CD 1	64:35	CD 2	68:12	CD 3	71:39
1-8 Prologue	25:02	1-12 Act II	32:15	1-12 Act IV	45:08
9-20 Act I	39:33	13-22 Act III	35:57	13-18 Appendix: Studio Recordings of Fyodor Chaliapin as Boris Godunov 1926-31	26:31



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