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Feodor Chaliapin (1873-1938)

A Vocal Portrait

Playing Time  
152:01

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CD 1 Acoustic Recordings

- 1 MOZART: *Don Giovanni*:  
Madamina, il catalogo è questo
- 2 BELLINI: *Norma*: *Ite sul colle, o Druidi*
- 3 DONIZETTI: *Lucrezia Borgia*:  
Vieni, la mia vendetta
- 4 MEYERBEER: *Roberto il diavolo*:  
Le rovine...Suore che riposare
- 5 VERDI: *Ernani*:  
Che mai vegg'io!...Inferno
- 6 VERDI: *Don Carlos*: *Dormirò sol*
- 7 PUCCINI: *La bohème*: *Vecchia zimarra*
- 8 DELIBES: *Lakmé*:  
Lakmé, ton doux regard
- 9 RUBINSTEIN: *The Demon*:  
Do not weep, child
- 10 RUBINSTEIN: *The Demon*:  
On the ocean of the air
- 11 BORODIN: *Prince Igor*:  
Have you enjoyed yourself, Prince?
- 12 BORODIN: *Prince Igor*:  
Are you well, Prince?
- 13 BORODIN: *Prince Igor*:  
Neither sleep nor rest
- 14 MUSSORGSKY: *The Song of the Flea*
- 15 KORGANOV: *Elegy*
- 16 TCHAIKOVSKY: *The Nightingale*
- 17 RACHMANINOV: *When yesterday we met*
- 18 GLAZUNOV:  
Chanson Bachique, Op. 27, No. 1
- 19 BRAHMS: *Sapphische Ode*, Op. 94, No. 4
- 20 GRIEG: *Abschied*, Op. 4, No. 3
- 21 GRIEG: *Stambogsrin*, Op. 25, No. 3
- 22 TRAD.: *Maschenka* (folk-song)

CD 2 Electric Recordings

- 1 ROSSINI: *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*:  
La calunnia
- 2 BELLINI: *La Sonnambula*:  
Il mulino, il fonte... Vi ravviso
- 3 GOUNOD: *Faust*:  
Un rat, plus poltron...Le veau d'or
- 4 GOUNOD: *Faust*:  
Vous qui faites l'endormie
- 5 BOITO: *Mefistofele*: *Ave Signor!*
- 6 BOITO: *Mefistofele*: *Son lo spirito*
- 7 MASSENET: *Don Quichotte*:  
Oh, mon maître...Où! Je fus le chef
- 8 GLINKA: *Ruslan & Ludmila*:  
O joy!...the hour of my triumph
- 9 RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: *Sadko*:  
Against the cruel crags
- 10 MUSSORGSKY: *Boris Godunov*:  
In the town of Kazan
- 11 MUSSORGSKY: *Boris Godunov*:  
Boris's Farewell and Death Scene
- 12 RACHMANINOV: *Aleko*:  
All the gypsy camp is sleeping
- 13 MUSSORGSKY: *Trepak*
- 14 RUBINSTEIN: *Persian Love Song*
- 15 TRAD.: *Down the Petersky* (folk-song)
- 16 TRAD.: *Black Eyes* (Gypsy folk-song)
- 17 MUSSORGSKY: *The Song of the Flea*
- 18 TRAD.: *Song of the Volga Boatmen* (folk-song)

The legendary Russian bass Feodor Chaliapin was born in 1873 and is widely regarded as the greatest bass singer of his generation. He possessed a magisterial voice of great power and range, and was an unrivalled singing-actor. A major exponent of the Russian repertoire, his operatic portrayals, notably of the title role in Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov*, exerted a strong influence upon subsequent generations of singers. This two-disc celebration of the art of Chaliapin covers both his acoustic and later electrical recordings, and includes examples of all the major elements of his extensive repertoire. They include Italian French and Russian, operatic repertoire, Russian songs (Rachmaninoff spoke of Chaliapin's 'limitless and phenomenal talent'), and folk-songs, of which the *Song of The Volga Boatmen* is probably the most popular. Of particular interest in this new issue are the commercial recordings of excerpts from *Mefistofele* and *Boris Godunov*, made at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, during performances in 1926 and 1928, when Chaliapin's magnetic stage presence comes across with full force.

MADE IN  
E.C.



Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Ward Marston

With thanks to Gregor Benko, J. Richard Harris, Lawrence F. Hodridge and Andrew Karzas

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A complete track list can be found in the booklet

Cover image: Feodor Chaliapin as Don Quichotte 1924  
(Private Collection)

