

Written during Rachmaninov's most creative period, which culminated in the *Second* and *Third Piano Concertos*, the 1915 *All-Night Vigil*, popularly known as *Vespers*, is a masterpiece of 20th-century sacred music. Inspired by the Saturday All-Night Vigil celebrated in the Russian Orthodox Church, Rachmaninov's setting is remarkable for its melodic invention, choral virtuosity and Slavic intensity.

Sergey
RACHMANINOV
(1873-1943)

Vespers (All-Night Vigil)

1	Come, let us worship	1:41	10	Having beheld the	
2	Bless the Lord, O my soul	5:57	Resurrection	2:57	
3	Blessed is the man	3:56	11	Hymn of Thanksgiving to the	
4	Gladsome light	2:41	Mother of God	6:21	
5	Canticle of Simeon	3:29	12	The Great Doxology	7:28
6	Troparion for the		13	Troparion of the	
	Virgin Mary	3:25	Resurrection I	1:54	
7	Intonation to the Hexapsalm	2:15	14	Troparion of the	
8	Polyeleopsalm	1:56	Resurrection II	3:09	
9	Troparia of the Resurrection	5:18	15	Kontakion for the Annunciation	
				of the Virgin Mary	1:31

**Raissa Palmu, Soprano • Erja Wimeri, Contralto • Eugen Antoni, Tenor
Finnish National Opera Chorus • Eric-Olof Söderström**

Recorded at St John Church, Helsinki, Finland, on 1st April, 29th, 30th, 31st May, and 5th June, 2001
Recording Engineer: SeaWolf Studios Ltd. / Heikki Savolainen • Producer: Johanna Almark-Mannila

Booklet Notes: Hilkka Seppälä

Cover Picture: *The Mother of God*, a prophecy icon of the Novgorod School, Russia
(Private collection, Moscow)

NAXOS

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8.555908

Playing Time
54:00



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Sung texts and transliteration included
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