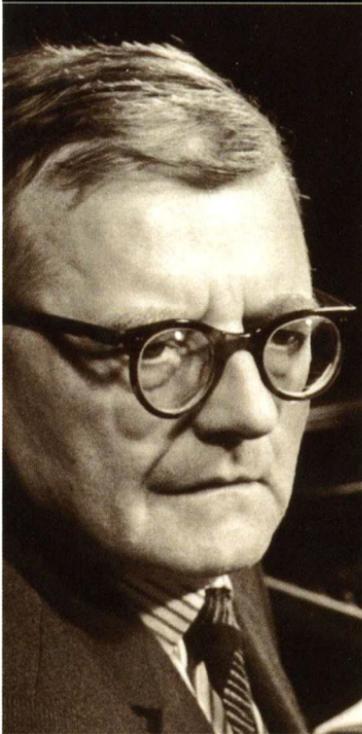


Dmitry Shostakovich

A PORTRAIT



- 26 tracks featuring Shostakovich's music in all its styles
- Shostakovich's own voice in a radio address
- Shostakovich plays Shostakovich
- Detailed essay by Richard Whitehouse, richly illustrated with photographs

Dmitry Shostakovich (1906–1975) is a rare figure in modern music: a composer who, having achieved international success when still in his teens, went on to become the leading light in Russian music of the Soviet era, and a mainstay of concert halls in Europe and America – championed by many international conductors and musicians. Yet this fame was to be increasingly accompanied by a constant debate between East and West over just what his music was about; an ideological battle that has only intensified in the three decades since his death. Together with a comprehensive essay that surveys his musical output, these two CDs present a detailed overview of Shostakovich's achievement.

Includes music from nine symphonies, two string quartets, two ballet suites, Piano Concerto No. 2, *The Gadfly*, *Hamlet* and other works, as well as Shostakovich himself playing the piano and making a radio address.

2 CDs

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