

A third of a century after his death the symphonies of Dmitry Shostakovich have moved to the absolute centre of the repertoire. Written during World War II, the unusually constructed *Eighth Symphony* is a powerful work built on striking contrasts between music which is at times unrelentingly bleak and at others brutally intense. The predominantly slow opening movement, punctuated by a terrifying central crescendo, is followed by a scherzo of savage parody. At the heart of the Symphony a second fast movement builds remorselessly to a shattering climax over pounding timpani. The rapt, largely introspective fourth movement, *Largo*, leads straight into the last movement, *Allegretto*, which seems to reach out for hope in an uncertain world. Vasily Petrenko's acclaimed interpretations of Shostakovich's *Symphonies No. 11* (8.572082) and *Nos. 5 and 9* (8.572167) are also available.



Dmitry
SHOSTAKOVICH
(1906-1975)

Symphony No. 8

**Symphony No. 8
in C minor, Op. 65 (1943)**

61:57

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | I. Adagio – Allegro non troppo | 25:14 |
| 2 | II. Allegretto | 6:03 |
| 3 | III. Allegro non troppo – | 6:18 |
| 4 | IV. Largo – | 9:34 |
| 5 | V. Allegretto | 14:48 |

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra
Vasily Petrenko

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 (courtesy of the DSCH Archive, Moscow)



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Playing Time
61:57



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