

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 unremittingly 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.



Royal
Liverpool
Philharmonic
Orchestra

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

Recorded at the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, England, on 6th and 7th April, 2009
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(courtesy of the DSCH Archive, Moscow)



8.572392

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Playing Time

61:57



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