

Pancho Vladigerov is considered by many to be the most influential composer that Bulgaria has yet produced, gaining fame between the World Wars and earning the admiration of Shostakovich. The three works recorded here are a testament to Vladigerov's mission to bring Bulgarian music to international attention, successfully combining elements of folk music with European classical tradition. The *Vardar Rhapsody* has been called 'the Bulgarian equivalent of Chopin's *Polonaise in A*', and the lively and exotic *Seven Symphonic Bulgarian Dances* is among the most notable of a series of works that fuse joyous regional melodies with sophisticated Western orchestration.

Pancho
VLADIGEROV
(1899–1978)

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| Seven Symphonic Bulgarian Dances, Op. 23 (1931) | | 38:08 |
| 1 | Allegro moderato | 5:42 |
| 2 | Allegro moderato grazioso | 3:51 |
| 3 | Presto | 3:13 |
| 4 | Andante con moto | 7:42 |
| 5 | Vivamente | 4:33 |
| 6 | Allegro comodo | 7:21 |
| 7 | Animato con vivezza – Vivacissimo | 5:33 |
| 8 Vardar Rhapsody, Op. 16 (1922, orchestrated 1928) | | 9:28 |
| Bulgarian Suite, Op. 21 (1927) | | 26:38 |
| 9 | Quasi marcia | 5:35 |
| 10 | Chant | 7:37 |
| 11 | Chorovodna | 5:41 |
| 12 | Ratchenitza | 7:40 |

Rousse Philharmonic Orchestra
Nayden Todorov

Recorded: 30 January 2016 [1]–[7] and 7–8 November 2016 [8]–[12] at the Rousse Philharmonic Hall, Bulgaria
 Producer: Nayden Todorov • Engineer: Ivailo Janev • Editor: Roumiana Stoyanova
 Booklet notes: Richard Whitehouse • Publisher: Édition d'état 'Science et Arts', Sofia
 Cover photograph: Tsarevets Fortress, Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria by taseffski (iStockphoto.com)



8.573422

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Playing Time
74:25



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Made in Germany

Booklet notes in English

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