

A student of Rimsky-Korsakov and the teacher of Rachmaninov and Scriabin, Anton Arensky holds a distinguished place in the history of Russian music as both an academic and a composer. For his 1900 ballet *Egyptian Nights*, based on Pushkin, he chose an exotic theme – the dangerous love of the handsome Amoun for Queen Cleopatra – and sought authentic melodic material in scholarly texts. With his gift for orchestration and colour, Arensky fashioned a sensuous and vivid score, featuring a brilliantly conceived series of dances.

Anton Stepanovich
ARENISKY
(1861–1906)

Egyptian Nights, Op. 50 (1900)

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| 1 | Overture | 6:13 |
| 2 | No. 1. Scène et danse de coquetterie ('Scene and Coquetry Dance') | 4:33 |
| 3 | No. 2. Entrée de Cléopâtre et scène ('Entry of Cleopatra and Scene') | 3:34 |
| 4 | No. 3. Danse d'Arsinoë et des esclaves ('Dance of Arsinoë and the Slaves') | 2:33 |
| 5 | No. 4. Danse de Bérénice et scène ('Dance of Berenice and Scene') | 5:01 |
| 6 | No. 5. Scène d'empoisonnement ('Poisoning Scene') | 5:09 |
| 7 | No. 6. Danse des Juives ('Dance of the Jewish Girls') | 2:17 |
| 8 | No. 7. Danse des Égyptiennes ('Dance of the Egyptian Girls') | 1:22 |
| 9 | No. 8. Charmeuse des serpents: Deuxième danse d'Arsinoë ('Snake-charmer: Second Dance of Arsinoë') | 1:17 |
| 10 | No. 9. Danse des Ghazies ('Dance of the Ghazis') | 2:54 |
| 11 | Cadence de la harpe ('Harp cadenza') | 0:31 |
| 12 | No. 10. Pas de deux (Tempo di valse) | 3:43 |
| 13 | No. 11. Allegro moderato | 0:45 |
| 14 | No. 12. Entrée solennelle d'Antoine ('Solemn Entry of Antony') | 5:20 |
| 15 | No. 13. Finale | 5:16 |

Alexander Avramenko, Violin solo 1 5 13

Vladimir Kolpashnikov, Cello solo 13

Moscow Symphony Orchestra • Dmitry Yablonsky

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Playing Time
50:38



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