

NAXOS

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8.660543-44

Playing Time
2:26:51

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 Booklet notes and synopsis in English
 Kommentar und Inhaltsangabe auf Deutsch
 Made in Germany

Rimsky-Korsakov's *Christmas Eve*, based on a short story by Gogol, centres on the love of the blacksmith Vakula for the rich farmer's daughter Oksana, who mockingly requires him to obtain for her the Tsarina's shoes in order to win her hand in marriage. However, evil spirits are on the rampage imperilling their love – a witch on her broomstick gathers the stars and the devil steals the moon. Rimsky-Korsakov blends Christian and pagan elements, Ukrainian folk songs and carols, and atmospheric orchestral interludes in this vivacious and fantastical village romance.

} Oper Frankfurt

Nikolay
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV

(1844–1908)

Christmas Eve

Ночь перед Рождеством

Opera in four acts (1894–95)

Libretto by the composer based on the short story *The Night Before Christmas* by Nikolay Gogol (1809–1852)

Sung in Russian

Vakula	Georgy Vasiliev, Tenor
Oksana	Julia Muzychenko, Soprano
Solokha / Woman with a Violet Nose	Enkelejda Shkoka, Mezzo-soprano
Chub	Alexey Tikhomirov, Bass
Devil	Andrei Popov, Tenor
Panas	Anthony Robin Schneider, Bass
The Mayor	Sebastian Geyer, Baritone
Deacon Ossip Nikiforovich	Peter Marsh, Tenor
Tsarina	Bianca Andrew, Mezzo-soprano
Patsyuk	Thomas Faulkner, Bass
Woman with a Normal Nose	Barbara Zechmeister, Soprano

Chor der Oper Frankfurt (Tilman Michael, Chorus Master)

Frankfurter Opern- und Museumsorchester

Sebastian Weigle

CD 1	1–7 Act I	41:01	CD 2	1 Act II (cont'd)	18:59	9–14 Act IV	18:06
	8–14 Act II	27:46		2–8 Act III	40:59		

A production by Naxos and Oper Frankfurt • A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.
 The Russian libretto plus English and German translations can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660543.htm
 Recorded live: 17–19 December 2021 and 8 January 2022 at Oper Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
 Recording producers, editing and mixing: Felix Dreher, Teresa Kunz • Final balance and mastering: Felix Dreher

Microports: Margit Baruschka, Clemens Albus, Tobias Hamann, Felix Straday

Booklet notes: Maximilian Enderle, Christof Loy

Cover photo from the Oper Frankfurt production: © Monika Rittershaus