

The composer Modest Altschuler was a cousin of Leonard Slatkin's grandfather. Although the origins of his *Russian Soldier's Song* remain unknown, it became a hotbed of controversy when Altschuler tried to sue Walt Disney for copyright infringement, claiming the song *Whistle While You Work* was stolen from the little march. This piece was among the very first recordings made by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, where Leonard Slatkin would become music director 80 years later. The album *Slatkin Conducts Slatkin* is available on Naxos 8.574352.

# Modest ALTSCHULER (1873–1963)

1 Russian Soldier's Song (1917)

1:11

Manhattan School of Music Symphony Orchestra  
Leonard Slatkin

Recorded: 18 and 20 October 2019 at Neidorff-Karpati Hall, Manhattan School of Music, USA

Producer: Henry Valoris • Engineer and editor: Dan Rorke

Mastering: Silas Brown • Booklet notes: Leonard Slatkin

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