



TOCC 0112

The Siberian-born Vissarion Shebalin (1902–63) is best known for his instrumental music, which includes five symphonies and nine string quartets, some of which have been heard on CD, but this is the first recording of the eight delightful, and very Russian, choral cycles he wrote from 1949. Shebalin had to endure much hardship: along with Shostakovich, a close friend and colleague, he was one of the composers condemned in the infamous 1948 Party congress in Moscow; and in later life he fought to overcome a series of crippling strokes. These tribulations he faced with understated but unshakable optimism, as these touching choruses reveal.

## VISSARION SHEBALIN Complete *A Capella* Choral Cycles

1	<i>Five A Cappella Choruses. Words by A. Pushkin, Op. 42</i>	9:09
6	<i>Three A Cappella Choruses to Words by M. Lermontov, Op. 47</i>	5:32
9	<i>Three A Cappella Choruses to Verses of A. Sofronov, Op. 44</i>	6:22
12	<i>Six A Cappella Choruses to Words by M. Tank, Op. 45</i>	11:24
18	<i>Four A Cappella Choruses to Words by M. Isakovsky, Op. 50</i>	5:31
22	<i>Three Choruses to Verses by Moldavian Poets, Op. 52</i>	4:44
25	<i>To my Grandchildren: Four Choruses A Cappella for Children, Op. 57</i>	2:49
29	<i>In the Forest Clearing: Seven A Cappella Choruses for Children, Op. 59</i>	4:37
36	<i>Home Guards' Chorus, 'Oh, my Dawn!', from the film Glinka</i>	3:03

**The Russkaya Conservatoria Chamber Capella**  
Nikolay Khondzinsky, conductor

FIRST RECORDINGS

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