



TOCC 0121

During the Siege of Leningrad, which lasted from 1941 to 1944, Shostakovich was famously photographed in a fireman's outfit on the burning rooftops. But he also made a musical contribution to the defence of the city, arranging a series of songs – operatic arias, classical numbers and popular Soviet hits – for voices, violin and cello. The musicians then climbed into the back of a truck and were driven to the front, where they performed to the soldiers. The cheeky, folksy – and defiantly Russian – insouciance of many of the songs, recorded here for the first time, must have brought a ray of hope and humour to the cold and hungry troops.

SHOSTAKOVICH Songs for the Front

1	Rossini: The Alpine Shepherdess	2:22	14	Dargomyzhsky: 'Fever'	0:58
2	Beethoven: Scottish Drinking Song	1:22	15	Dargomyzhsky: 'Grenada Clothed in Mist'	1:56
3	Bizet: <i>Carmen</i> , Habañera	3:05	16	Dargomyzhsky: <i>Rusalka</i> , Olga's Song	1:54
4	Weckerlin: 'Mother, what is love'	0:55	17	Dargomyzhsky: <i>Rogdiana</i> , Comic Song	0:45
5	Leoncavallo: <i>Pagliacci</i> , Arlecchino's Serenade	1:29	18	Verstovsky: Gypsy Song	2:41
6	Musorgsky: Gopak	2:43	19	Pritzker: Girl's Song	2:57
7	Musorgsky: <i>Sorochintsy Fair</i> , Khivrya's Song	4:18	20	Dunaevsky: <i>The Merry Fellows</i> , Anyuta's Song	2:35
8	Musorgsky: <i>Sorochintsy Fair</i> , Parasya's Dumka	3:23	21	Dunaevsky: <i>The Beethoven Concerto</i> , March of the Pioneers	1:28
9	Rimsky-Korsakov: <i>Sadko</i> , Song of the Varangian Guest	2:27	22	Dunaevsky: <i>The Children of Captain Grant</i> , 'Sing for us, wind'	1:24
10	Gurilyov: 'I Shall Tell Mama'	1:30	23	Dunaevsky: Song of the Sea	2:03
11	Gurilyov: The Little Sarafan	1:42	24	Dmitri Pokrass: Farewell	1:24
12	Ippolitov-Ivanov: 'I Sit on a Rock'	1:34	25	Daniil and Dmitri Pokrass: <i>Sons of a Working People</i> , 'Those are not Storm Clouds'	1:31
13	Gulak-Artemovskiy: <i>A Cossack beyond the Danube</i> , Duet of Karas and Odarka	8:25	26	Milyutin: <i>Mitka-Lelyuk</i> , 'Do not touch us'	2:18
			27	Blanter: Shchors's Song	1:32

TT 60:40

Soloists of the Russkaya Conservatoria Chamber Capella

Natalia Pavlova, soprano 1, 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22
 Varvara Chaikova, soprano 3, 7, 11, 12, 15, 17, 19
 Tatiana Abramenko, mezzo soprano 21, 22
 Magdalina Ganaba, mezzo soprano 21, 22
 Mikhail Vekua, tenor 5
 Ivan Bolgov, tenor 23, 27
 Taras Yashenkov, tenor 23, 26, 27

Dmitry Volkov, bass 2, 9, 13
 Ayako Tanabe, violin 1, 4, 6, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25
 Alexander Yuts, violin 20, 23, 26, 27
 Ivan Ivanov, violin 5, 12, 17
 Valery Masterov, cello 1, 4, 6, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25
 Valery Verstyuk, cello 5, 12, 17, 20, 23, 26, 27
 Nikolay Khondzinsky, artistic direction and recording supervision

FIRST RECORDINGS

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