



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	Guriyov: 'I Shall Tell Mama'	1:30	23	Dunaevsky: Song of the Sea	2:03
11	Guriyov: 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-Artemovsky: <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

FIRST RECORDINGS

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 Yasenkov, 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	

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