

Sergey Rachmaninov was better known in his day for his pianistic virtuosity than for his compositions, but his creative output has long been acknowledged as the enthralling legacy of a major creative artist. A thrilling masterpiece based on Edgar Allan Poe's famous poem, *The Bells* is a choral symphony in all but name, its theme giving Rachmaninov the opportunity to explore his fascination with bell sounds. *Spring* is a dramatic portrayal of rebirth in a land gripped by ice, while the *Three Russian Songs* are folk-song settings that became a hit after the premiere under the baton of Leopold Stokowski.

The Elite Recordings for Vox by legendary producers Marc Aubort and Joanna Nickrenz are considered by audiophiles to be amongst the finest sounding examples of orchestral recordings

**Sergey
RACHMANINOV
(1873–1943)**

[1]	[4] The Bells (Kolokola), Op. 35 (1913) (sung in English)	34:53
[5]	Spring (Vesna), Op. 20 (1902)	16:45
[6]	[8] Three Russian Songs, Op. 41 (1926)	12:53

**Walter Planté, Tenor [1] • Marianna Christos, Soprano [2]
Arnold Voketaitis, Bass-baritone [4] [5]
St. Louis Symphony Chorus and Orchestra
Leonard Slatkin**

New 192 kHz / 24-bit high definition transfers of the original Elite Recordings analogue master tapes

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

The English and Russian sung texts and translations are included in the booklet, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/VOX-NX-3031CD.htm

Recorded: October 1980 at Powell Hall, St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Producers: Marc Aubort and Joanna Nickrenz • Engineering: Elite Recordings

Tape transfers: Mike Clements • Re-mastering engineer: Andrew Walton

Booklet notes: Richard Freed

Cover photograph: *Gullfoss in Iceland* (www.istockphoto.com)



VOX-NX-3031CD

GEMA ADD

ISRC STEREO

Playing Time

64:39



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