

Anna Netrebko & Daniel Barenboim - Russian Songs (2010)

Written by bluesever

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Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov 1. *What it is, in the still of night op. 40 no. 3* 2. *Forgive me! Remember not the downcast days op. 27. no. 4* 3. *It was not the wind, blowing from the heights op. 43 no. 2* 4. *The lark's song rings more clearly op. 43. no. 1* 5. *On Georgia's hills op. 3 no. 4* 6. *To the realm of rose and wine op. 8 no. 5* 7. *Zuleika's song op. 26 no. 4* 8. *Captivated by the rose, the nightingale op. 2 no.2* 9. *The line of flying clouds grows thin op. 42 no.3* 10. *The Nymph op. 56 no. 1* 11. *Dream on a Summer's Night op. 56 no. 2*

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

12. *Say, when under shady boughs op. 57 no. 1* 13. *So soon forgotten* 14. *Reckless nights op. 60 no. 6* 15. *Why? op 6 no. 5* 16. *Serenada op. 63 no. 6* 17. *Lullaby op. 16 no. 1* 18. *Was I not a blade of grass in the field? op. 47 no. 7* 19. *Amidst gloomy days op. 73 no. 5* 20. *Amidst the day op. 47 no. 6*

Antonín Dvorák

21. *Songs my mother taught me op. 55 no. 4*

Richard Strauss

22. *Cäcilie op. 27 no. 2*

Anna Netrebko – soprano Daniel Barenboim - piano Recorded in 2010 at the Berlin Philharmonie

When world-class soprano Anna Netrebko gives a recital of exquisite, rarely heard Russian songs, you can be sure that she will pour her entire Russian soul into her interpretation, and draw out every last drop of expressiveness from these songs. Indeed, what she and her accompanist, the all-round musical phenomenon Daniel Barenboim, presented in Berlin was a truly one-of-a-kind concert: a rare occasion to enjoy these Russian songs sung from and by the heart. And despite the vast dimensions of the Philharmonie, the two artists succeeded in creating an incredibly intimate atmosphere.

The songs of Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky encompass an entire universe of styles and genres, from dramatic scenes, long melancholy melodies and passionate

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serenades to light-hearted folk-like tunes, lullabies and love songs of graceful simplicity. Performed by two of the most congenial musicians of our time, they become much more than insider tips for connoisseurs of Russian music. Netrebko casts a spell upon her listeners, and the audience is immediately captivated by the vivacity of her gestures and the inwardness of her singing. At the piano, Daniel Barenboim is subtle and delicate, accompanying Netrebko on her journey into the world of these mini-dramas.

Anna Netrebko proves that she can command her audience's unbroken attention not only on the opera stage, but also in the smaller, more intimate framework of the recital. In the words of a major Berlin daily, "Has anyone ever heard her sing more beautifully, more technically flawlessly than on this evening in the Philharmonie?" ---mezzo.tv

Pianist Daniel Barenboim and soprano Anna Netrebko, performing at the Berliner Philharmonie in 2010 for a recital of works by Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov.

Next to the great maestro Daniel Barenboim, this all-Russian programme shows the different sides of Anna Netrebko's personality, as well as her stunning virtuosity and captivating voice. The works performed here and composed by Russian composers Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky suit perfectly the former pupil of Valery Gergiev at the Mariinsky Theatre.

It was not the first time that Barenboim and Netrebko performed together. They released *In the Still of the Night*, an album of art songs, recorded live at the Salzburg Festival in 2009, which features the same programme. Here gathered on the Berlin Philharmonie prestigious stage, Barenboim and Netrebko captivated and charmed the audience who thanked the two performers with a standing ovation. ---medici.tv

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