



SKYLARK

Sergei Rachmaninoff

All-Night Vigil, Op. 37

June 3, 2022, Corpus Christi Parish, Sandwich

June 4, 2022, Belleville Church, Newburyport

June 5, 2022, St. Paul Parish, Cambridge

Sergei Rachmaninoff
All-Night Vigil, Op. 37
1915

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- XV. Взбранной воеводѣ. *To Thee, the Champion Leader*

Skylark Vocal Ensemble

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Sophie Amelkin	Luthien Brackett	Jonas Budris	Eric Alatorre
Sarah Moyer	Carrie Cheron	John K. Cox	Matthew Goinz
Fotina Naumenko	Doug Dodson	Paul D'Arcy	Michael Hawes
Camila Parias	Carolyn Guard	Erik Gustafson	Christopher Jackson
Janet Stone	Helen Karloski	Nathan Hodgson	Enrico Lagasca
Alissa Ruth Suver	Clare McNamara	Robbie Jacobs	Dana Whiteside
	Megan Roth		Thou Yang

Luthien Brackett, Mezzo Soprano Soloist (Movement 2)
Jonas Budris, Tenor Soloist (Movements 4, 5, 9)
Matthew Guard, Artistic Director



Rachmaninoff Vespers

Tackling a piece that has been capably performed and recorded by many world-class ensembles requires a healthy dose of both humility and insanity. I never would have imagined programming this piece for Skylark had it not played such a pivotal role in my own life in late 2014. Rather than write lengthy program notes on each movement (those who are keen on that hopefully attended the pre-concert talk!) I thought it would be more meaningful to share our story.

(Written November 20, 2014)

Carolyn and I have always loved the Robert Shaw recording of the Rachmaninoff *Vespers*. It was a favorite of her family for drives to Deer Isle, Maine when she was a child, and I've always played it when I wanted to just sit and "be" surrounded by something beautiful. Yesterday, it took on a whole new meaning for our family.

We had our portable speaker with us in the delivery room at Piedmont Hospital yesterday, and at some point during the day, we clicked over to the Shaw *Vespers* recording on the Ipod, looking for something calming.

The delivery did not go "as planned." (I'm sure they never do.) After ten hours of stressful rigamarole that I will not go into, there came a time when something drastic needed to be done to help dear baby and dear Carolyn finish the Herculean task at hand. Suddenly, as if out of nowhere, there were ten people in our room, and the order was "we're going to the OR, stat!" The whirlwind of activity left the room in under a minute. I gave Carolyn a quick kiss goodbye and watched them leave.

Suddenly, I was in the room alone with a nurse-in-training, who helped me gather our belongings to move to a recovery waiting area. The sense of emptiness in the room was palpable, my sense of disoriented confusion and worry at its highest ever. On the counter in the corner, the beautiful choir in France continued to sing.

After being told that I would not be able to go with Carolyn, because the procedure was too much of an emergency and needed to happen so quickly that she would require general anesthesia, I gathered the suitcases, the shoes, the snacks, the clothes, and the speaker, and walked some distance I'll never recall to a descriptionless recovery room where I was to wait.

The speaker kept singing on the walk. When we arrived in the room, my companion asked "Do we need to turn this off?" "No, it's fine, leave it on," was the response. It was only about 15 minutes, but it was the scariest time of my life. A non-praying man uttered some prayers for his wife and child. And the choir sang on.

Little Harry was born at 7:17 p.m. When a nurse came to see me at 7:19 or so, the sixth movement, the *Bogorditse Dyevo*, which is a setting of *Ave Maria* that was sung at our wedding seven years ago, was coming to a close. It's a little over three minutes long. I surmised then that the *Ave Maria*, a hymn to the miracle of birth (although a virgin one!) was playing at the moment that Harry and mom were rescued from their ordeal.

I pressed pause to talk to the nurses who told me all was well, and who then darted to the operating room to take pictures of little Harry.

After a few frantic sobs, I regained my composure and pressed play again. The seventh movement started. Slava v vyshnikh Bogu... "Glory to God on High, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men...open thou my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise."

Ten minutes later, they brought Harry to our room. They ran his first tests, gave him a bath, and pronounced him in perfect health. I watched alone, as Carolyn was still asleep from the surgery.

After his bath, they gave Harry an adorable blanket and a little hat, and handed him to me. We sat together and waited for Carolyn for thirty minutes, just the two of us. Well, the two of us and a beautiful choir singing a beautiful piece...a meditation on beauty and the divine...a vigil. In this case, it wasn't quite all-night. But, it filled the time between when Harry was born and when he met his mother for the first time.

When they wheeled Carolyn in, the music was still playing. It had carried me through the most important hour of my life, and carried Harry through the first hour of his.

Thank you, Mr. Rachmaninoff. Thank you, Mr. Shaw. Thank you, all the lovely people who were a part of that experience. It is changing lives still today.

- Matthew Guard, Artistic Director





Preface to the new edition being debuted today

The desire to create this new edition of the *All-Night Vigil* emerged over nearly a decade. First, a recording (the ethereal 1989 Telarc recording by Robert Shaw's Festival Singers in France) played a profound role in the birth of our first child. This engendered what one might charitably refer to as an obsession to understand the work at a deeply personal and professional level.

After studying the piece for several years, we performed it with Skylark for the first time in the Spring of 2016 at Spivey Hall outside of Atlanta, the site of one of Shaw's last performances of the work. Three years later in the fall of 2019, we re-visited the work in another run of concerts, this time joined by three of greatest basso profundo singers in the English-speaking world.

Before the 2019 performance, I was able to obtain a facsimile of the composer's handwritten manuscript from the Glinka Museum in Moscow. I remember being awestruck by the autograph on two levels. First, it was humbling to see every minute detail of the intricately orchestrated score written in Rachmaninoff's own hand – it seemed to create a profound burden on the performer to attempt to realize the highly specific musical vision that was so clearly in the mind of the composer. Second, the visual layout of the score, especially portions of the music with extended chant-like phrases without barlines, brought very clear musical ideas of phrasing to life.

Glenn Miller, likely the best-known basso profundo singer in America, joined us for the 2019 performances. I was quite intimidated leading the work with Glenn involved, as he had roughly a hundred different experiences with the piece over 3 decades: indeed, his very first experience with the piece was the very same 1989 Shaw recording that I had known for most of my life. In the aftermath of that magical concert week, Glenn sent me a message. He had an idea: I simply must make a new edition of the work based on the autograph manuscript!

I politely chuckled at the idea at first, thinking about what a mammoth undertaking this would be – there are so many details, it seems like it would take a lifetime to absorb them all, much less re-create in a software program. I also had deep reservations about the language – unlike some of my peers, I am far from a linguistics expert. However, there was an obvious answer to this quandary: a collaboration with Fotina Naumenko, a professional soprano and Russian diction expert who had performed with Skylark the same week. When a global pandemic paused our concert schedule for over a year, Fotina and I decided it was time to get started on the project.

Fotina is the best language coach I have ever seen work with a choir. Her background as part of a Russian-American Orthodox family, her training as a professional soprano, her practical experience as a voice teacher, and her immersion studying in St. Petersburg on a Fullbright fellowship all create the perfect mix of skills to help a highly competent choir of non-native speakers bring the work to life in an authentic way. And her use of IPA places the language in a world that professional singers can quickly understand and re-create.

We believe that the work we put into creating this edition will have a meaningful impact on our choir's understanding and performance of the work. We are so pleased to sing from it for the first time during this week of performances.

Approaching this piece in light of current events

I don't think we can shy away from the complex discussion of performing music of Russian heritage during a time of profound violence inflicted by Vladimir Putin's regime. On its face, it could seem that performing music from a Russian composer is out of synch with the current moment, and could be perceived as insensitive. Several arts organizations have made programming changes in recent months, in some cases removing Russian performers (which, in the case of apologists for Putin's regime, I tend to agree with) or replacing Russian repertoire (for example, Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*, which given the martial nature of the piece and the invocation of cannons, I can also understand). However, I believe that the current events in the world make engaging in this particular work more difficult, but perhaps more important and meaningful than ever.

The composer's own story has several important parallels to the current moment. Rachmaninoff composed the piece in 1915 during a time of gathering violence of World War I, something with which he was deeply uncomfortable. The work was viewed at the time by some contemporaries as a pacifistic repudiation of the war itself. Rachmaninoff himself fled Russia and became an immigrant to America just two years after he wrote the piece, never to return to Russia. He became a citizen of the United States, and even co-authored an article in the *New York Times* with other Russian exiles condemning violence against the Russian people inflicted by the government of Stalin.

This is not music from an artist who stood by passively in the face of violence and oppression from the leaders of Russia, but one who spoke out with the beauty of his art and with the conviction of his beliefs. I believe that sharing this profound work art is our way of demonstrating the best of humanity at a time when the absolute worst is on display.





Texts and translations

IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) transliteration of original Church Slavonic text by Fotina Naumenko

I. Приидите, поклонимся. *Come, Let Us Worship*

амѣн.	Amen.
při-idite, poklonimša tsarevi našemu bogu.	Come, let us worship God our King.
při-idite, poklonimša i pŕipađem	Come, let us worship and fall down before
xřistu tsarevi našemu bogu.	Christ our King and God.
při-idite, poklonimša i pŕipađem samomu	Come, let us worship and fall down before
xřistu tsarevi i bogu našemu.	Christ himself our King and God.
při-idite, poklonimša i	Come, let us worship and
pŕipađem jemu.	fall down before Him.

II. Благослови, душе моя, Господа. *Bless the Lord, O My Soul*

blagoslovi, duše moja, gospoda	Bless the Lord, O my soul.
blagosloven ješi, gospodi	Blessed art Thou, O Lord.
gospodi bože moī, vozvelitilša ješi zelo	O Lord my God, Thou art magnified exceedingly.
blagosloven ješi, gospodi	Blessed art Thou, O Lord.
vo ispovedanije i v velelepotu oblēkl ješi.	Thou art clothed in honor and majesty.
blagosloven ješi, gospodi.	Blessed art Thou, O Lord.
na gorax stanut vodi	The waters stand upon the mountains.
đivna đela tvoja gospodi	How marvelous are Thy works, O Lord.
posređe gor proidut vodi.	The waters flow between the hills.
đivna đela tvoja gospodi	How marvelous are Thy works, O Lord.
fša pŕemudrostiju sotvoril ješi	In wisdom has Thou made them all.
đivna đela tvoja gospodi.	How marvelous are Thy works, O Lord.
slava ti, gospodi, sotvoriv jemu fša.	Glory to Thee, O Lord, who hast created them all.

III. Блаженъ мужъ. *Blessed is the Man*

blažen muž, izē ne idē na sovet	Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the
nefestivix.	wicked.
aļiluija, aļiluija, aļiluija.	Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
jako vešt gospod puť pŕavednix, i puť	For the Lord knows the way of the righteous and the way of the
nefestivix pogibnet.	wicked will perish.
aļiluija, aļiluija, aļiluija.	Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
rabotaite gospodevi so straxom, i raduiťesa jemu s tŕepetom.	Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in Him with trembling.
aļiluija, aļiluija, aļiluija.	Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
blaženi fši nađeju. fliša naŕ.	Blessed are all they that hope in Him.
aļiluija, aļiluija, aļiluija.	Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
voskŕesni, gospodi, spaši ma bože moī.	Arise, O Lord, save me, my God.
aļiluija, aļiluija, aļiluija.	Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
gospodne ješt spašenije, i na luđex tvoix blagoslovenije	Salvation is from the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon
tvoje.	Thy people.
aļiluija, aļiluija, aļiluija.	Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
slava ottsu, i sinu, i syatomu duxu,	Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
i nīne i pŕisno, i vo veķi veķov. amēn.	both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
aļiluija, aļiluija, aļiluija. slava tebe, bože.	Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.





IV. СВѢТЕ ТИХІЙ. *Gladsome Light*

svęte tixii svatija slavi,	Gladsome light of the holy glory
bezsmertnago ottsa nebesnago,	of the immortal heavenly Father
svatago blažennago, iisuše xriste!	holy blessed Jesus Christ
prijedje na zapad sontsa,	having come to the setting of the sun
videfje svęet vetšernii.	having beheld the evening light
pojem ottsa, sina i svatago duxa boga.	we praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit God.
dostoin ješi vo fša vřemęna	Meet it is at all times
řet biři glasi přepodobnimi,	to worship Thee with reverend voices
siņe boziı, život dajaı:	Son of God, the Giver of life
řemže mir řa slavit.	therefore the world glorifies Thee.

V. НЫНѢ ОТПУЩАЕШИ. *Now Lettest Thou*

niņe otpuřaje ři raba tvojego vladiko,	Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart, Master,
po glagolu tvojemu s mřrom,	according to Thy word, in peace,
jako vidęsta oři moi spařeniје tvoје,	for my eyes have seen Thy salvation
ježe jeři ugotoval před liřem řřex řuđeı,	which Thou has prepared before the face of all people
vet vo otkroyeniје jazikov,	a light to enlighten the gentiles
i slavu řuđeı tvoix izraıļa.	and the glory of thy people Israel.

VI. Богородице ДѢВО. *Rejoice, O Virgin*

bogoroditse devo, radiřsa,	Theotokos and virgin, rejoice,
blagodatnaja mařiје, gospođ s toboju.	Mary full of grace, the Lord is with Thee
blagoslovenna ti v ženax,	Blessed art Thou among women
i blagosloven plod řřeva tvojego,	and blessed is the Fruit of Thy womb,
jako spasa rođila jeři duř na řix.	for Thou has born the Savior of our souls.

VII. Слава въ вышнихъ Богу (шестопсалміе). *Glory to God in the Highest*

slava v viřnix bogu,	Glory to God in the highest,
i na zemli mřir,	and on earth peace,
v řfelovętřex blagovolenije.	good will among men.
gospođi, ustņe moi otvęrže ři,	Lord I have opened my mouth,
i usta moja vozvęřtat xvalu tvoju.	and my mouth has declared your praise.

VIII. Хвалите имя Господне. *Praise the Name of the Lord*

xvaliře ima gospođne. aliluija.	Praise the name of the Lord. Alleluia.
xvaliře, raři, gospoda. aliluija aliluija.	Praise the Lord, servants. Alleluia.
blagosloven gospođ ot řiona,	Blessed is the Lord of Sion,
živii vo ierusalıme. aliluija aliluija.	who dwelleth in Jerusalem. Alleluia.
isповедajřęsa gospođevi, jako blag. aliluija aliluija.	Oh praise the Lord, for He is good. Alleluia.
jako v vęk mřloř jeęo. aliluija aliluija.	For His mercy endures forever. Alleluia.
isповедajřęsa bogu nebesnomu. aliluija aliluija.	Praise the God of Heaven. Alleluia.
jako v vęk mřloř jeęo. aliluija aliluija.	For His mercy endures forever, Alleluia.





IX. Благословенъ еси, Господи. *Blessed Art Thou, O Lord*

blagosloven ješi, gospodi, nauči ma opravdanijem tvoim.
 angelskii sobor uđivija, zra
 tebe v mertvix vmeņivjaša.
 smertnuju ze, spaše, krepot razorivja.
 i s soboju adama vozdvigja,
 i ot ada ša svobodja.

Blessed art Thou, Lord, teach me thy statutes.
 The angelic hosts were astonished,
 seeing thee among the dead.
 But you have destroyed the gates of death, Savior,
 and with Thyself raised up Adam,
 and delivered all from hades.

blagosloven ješi, gospodi, nauči ma opravdanijem tvoim.
 pošto mira s milostivnimi slezami, o ušeniši, rastvoaete?
 blištajaša vo grobe angel,
 mironošitsam vešfaše:
 vidite vi grob, i urazumejte:
 spas bo voskreše ot groba.

Blessed art Thou, Lord, teach me thy statutes.
 Why do you mix myrrh with tears, o women disciples?
 Shining from the grave, the Angel spoke to the women bearing
 myrrh, saying:
 See the grave, and understand:
 the Savior is risen from the tomb.

blagosloven ješi, gospodi, nauči ma opravdanijem tvoim.
 zelo rano mironošitsi tetfaxu ko grobu
 tvojemu ridajušija,
 no pveda k nim angel, i reše: ridanija
 vreme pveda, ne plašite
 voskrešenije ze apostolom rsiše.

Blessed art Thou, Lord, teach me thy statutes.
 Very early the myrrh-bearing women came to
 Thy tomb lamenting,
 but the Angel stood before them, and said: the time for lamenta-
 tion is past, weep not,
 tell of the resurrection to the apostles.

blagosloven ješi, gospodi, nauči ma opravdanijem tvoim.
 mironošitsi zeni, s miri
 prišedšija ko grobu tvojemu, spaše, ridaxu.
 angel ze knim reše, glagoła:
 što s mertvimi živago pomišljajete?
 jako bog bo voskreše ot groba!

Blessed art Thou, Lord, teach me thy statutes.
 The myrrh-bearing women,
 with myrrh came to thy tomb, Saviour, lamenting.
 The Angel said to them:
 Why do you seek the living among the dead?
 As God He is risen from the grave!

slava ottsu, i sinu, i syatomu duxu.
 poklonimša ottsu, i jego sinovi,
 i syatomu duxu,
 syatei troitse vo jedinom sušestve
 s šerašimi zovuše:
 svat, svat, svat, ješi, gospodi!
 i niše, i prisno, i vo veķi veķov. amiņ.
 žiznodavtsa rodši,
 grexa, devo, adama izbayila ješi.
 radost ze jeve v pešali mesto podala ješi:
 padšija ze ot žizni, k šei napravi,
 iz tebe vplotivija bog i tšeloček.
 aliluija, aliluija, aliluija, slava tebe, bože!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
 Let us worship the Father, and His Son,
 and the Holy Spirit,
 The Holy Trinity one in Essence,
 crying with the Seraphim;
 Holy, holy, holy, art Thou, Lord!
 Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
 Having given birth to the giver of life,
 Virgin, you have delivered Adam.
 You have given Eve joy instead of sorrow:
 those fallen from life you have restored to life,
 for from you was incarnate God and man.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, God!





X. Воскресение Христово видѣвше. *Having Beheld the Resurrection*

<p>voskręesenije xristovo viděvše, poklonimša svatomu gospodu iisusu, jeđinomu bezgrešnomu. křestu tvojemu poklanajemša, xriste, i svatoje voskręesenije tvoje pojem i slavim: bo ješi bog naš, razče tebe inogo ne znam,em, ima tvoje imenujem. priidite fši vernii, poklonimša svatomu xristovu voskręeseniju: še bo priide křestom radost fšemu miru, fšegda blagoslovaše gospoda, pojem voskręesenije jęgo: raspatije bo preterpev, smertiju smert razruši.</p>	<p>Having beheld the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the Holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. We worship Thy cross, Christ, and Thy holy resurrection we hymn and glorify: for Thou art our God, we know none other than Thee, we call upon Thy Name. O come all ye faithful, let us worship Christ's holy resurrection: for behold through the cross joy has come to all the world, ever blessing the Lord, we hymn His resurrection: for having endured the cross, He has slain death by death.</p>
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XI. Величитьъ душа моя Господа. *My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord*

<p>velitit duša moja, gospoda, i vozradovaša dux moї o boze, spaše mojem. fšesnejšuju xeruyim i slavnejšuju bez sravnenija šerafim, bez istlenija boga slova rodšuju, suššuju bogoroditsu, ta velitajem. jako prizre na smirenije rabi svojeja, še bo otniše ublažat ma fši rodi. jako sotvoři mne velitije šilni, i svato ima jęgo, i miłost jęgo v rodi rodov bojašimša jęgo. nižloži šilni ja so prestol i vozneše smirenija; alššija ispolni blag i bogatašijaš otpušt tšš. vosprijat izraila, otroka svojęgo, pomanuši miłosti, jakože glagola avraamu i šemeni jęgo, daže do veka.</p>	<p>My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. More honorable than the Cherubim and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim who without corruption gave birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, Thee do we magnify. For He hath looked upon the lowliness of His handmaiden and from now on all generations shall call me blessed. For the Mighty One hath blessed me with great things and holy is His name and His mercies shall be from generation to generation to those that fear Him. He hath put the mighty from their seats and exalted the humble ; He hath fed the hungry and the rich He hath sent empty away. He has helped His children, Israel, remembering mercy, as He promised to our father Abraham and his descendants, forever.</p>
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ХІІ. Великое славословіе. *The Great Doxology*

slava v višnix bogu, i na zemlji mir, v ťelovetsex blagovolenije. xvalim ťa, blagoslovim ťa, klačajem ťi ťa, slavoslovim ťa, blagodarim ťa, veličija rađi slavi tvojeja. gospođi, tsarju nebesnii, bože otťe ťšedezžitelu. gospođi, sine jedinodnii, iisuse xriste, i syatii duťe. gospođi bože, agnťe bozi, sine otetť, vzemlaj grex mira, pomilui nas; vzemlaj grexi mira, priimi molitvu našu. ťedať ođesnuju ottsa, pomilui nas. jako ti jeťi jeđin syat, ti jeťi jeđin gospođ, iisus xristos, f slavu boga ottsa. amin.	Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we bow down to Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for thy great glory. Lord, King of heaven, Lord God almighty. Lord, only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; Thou who hast taken away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou who sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou alone are holy, Thou alone are Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.
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na ťsak deň blagoslovlu ťa i vosxvalu ima tvoje vo veđi i v veđk veđka. na ťsak deň blagoslovlu ťa, ima tvoje vo veđi i v veđk veđka. spodobť, gospođi, v deň ťei soxranitťša nam. blagosloven jeťi, gospođi, bože otets našix, i xvalno i proslavleno ima tvoje vo veđi. amin. buđi, gospođi, milost tvoja na nas, jakože upovaxom na ťa.	Every day will I bless Thee and glorify Thy name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless Thee, and glorify Thy name for ever and ever. Vouchsafe, Lord, to keep us this day without harm. Blessed art Thou, Lord, God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy, Lord, be upon us as we have put our hope on Thee.
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blagosloven jeťi, gospođi, nauťi ma opravdanijem tvoim. pomilui ma. isteli duťu moju. k tebe pribegox. gospođi, pribezitťe bil jeťi nam v rod i rod.	Blessed art Thou, Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Have mercy on me. Heal my soul. I have fled to Thee. Lord, Thou hast been our refuge for generation and generation.
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az rex: gospođi, pomilui ma, isteli duťu moju, jako sogreťix tebe. gospođi, k tebe pribegox, nauťi ma tvořitť volu tvoju, jako ti jeťi bog moť: jako u tebe istoťnik zivota, vo syete tvojem uzrim syet. probayi milost tvoju veduťim ťa.	I said: o Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. Lord, unto Thee have I fled, teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God: for in Thee is the fountain of life, in Thy light shall we see light. Continue Thy mercy unto those that know Thee.
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syatii bože, syatii krepkii, syatii bessmertnii, pomilui nas.	Holy God, holy mighty, holy immortal, have mercy on us.
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slava ottsu i sinu i syatomu duxu, i niťe i prisno, i vo veđi veđkov. amin.	Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
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XIII. Тропарь. Днесъ спасеніе. *Troparion: Today Salvation is Come*

dneš spašenije mīru bist,	Now salvation is come to the world,
pojem voskresjemu iz groba	let us sing to the One risen from the tomb
i našfalniku žizni našeja: razrušiv bo smertiju smert,	the Lord of our life: having destroyed death by death,
počedu dađe nam i veliju milost.	He has given us victory and great mercy.

XIV. Тропарь. Воскресъ изъ гроба. *Troparion: Thou Didst Rise from the Tomb*

voskres iz groba i	Having risen from the tomb and
uzi rasterzal ješi ada,	destroyed the bonds of hades
razrušil ješi osuzdenije smerti, gospođi,	Thou hast destroyed the curse of death, O Lord,
fša ot šetei vraga izbavivii,	delivering all from the snares of the enemy
javivii že šebe apostolom tvoim,	Thou hast appeared to your apostles
poslal ješi ja na propoveđ,	and sent them forth to preach
i temi mir tvoi podal ješi ššelennei,	and through them has granted the world Thy peace,
jediņe mnogomilostiye.	O greatly merciful One.

XV. Взбранной воеводѣ. *To Thee, the Champion Leader*

vzbrannoī vojevođe pobeditel'naja,	To Thee the champion leader,
jako izbavlješa ot zlix,	having been delivered from evil,
blagodarstvennaja vospisujem ti raši tvoi,	with gratitude we Thy servants dedicate a feast of victory, The-
bogorođitse;	otokos,
no jako imušaja derzavu nepobedimuju,	for as One with might that is invincible,
ot fšaxix nas hēd svobodī, da zovem ti:	deliver us from all dangers, that we may cry to Thee:
raduša, nečesto nečestnaja.	rejoice, Thou bride unwedded.

About Skylark

Three-time GRAMMY®-nominee Skylark, “the cream of the American crop” (BBC Radio 3), is a premier vocal ensemble of leading American vocal soloists, chamber musicians, and music educators. Skylark’s dramatic performances have been described as “gripping” (The Times of London), “exquisite...thrilling” (Gramophone Magazine), and “awe-inspiring” (Boston Music Intelligencer).

Skylark strives to set the standard for innovative and engaging programs that re-define the choral experience for audiences and singers alike. Artistic Director Matthew Guard’s well-researched and creative programs have been described as “engrossing” (WQXR New York) and “original, stimulating, and beautiful” (BBC Radio 3). Skylark’s most recent three recordings all reached the top 10 of Billboard’s Traditional Classical Chart, earning praise for “imaginative” programming (Limelight Australia) and “singing of the highest standard for any area or any repertoire” (Classics Today).

Since its founding in 2011 in Atlanta and Boston, Skylark has branched out to perform its dynamic programs in museums, concert halls, and churches across the United States. Skylark made its international debut in March 2018 at St. John’s Smith Square, London, as part of the UK choir Tenebrae’s Holy Week Festival. The Times of London declared that Skylark was “the highlight” of the festival that included some of the UK’s leading choirs, including The Tallis Scholars, Polyphony, Tenebrae, and the Gabrieli Consort.

A not-for-profit entity with a passion for music education, Skylark performs educational outreach programs with high school and college students across the United States during its concert tours.



Support our Mission

Even the best musical groups in America can only count on ticket sales to cover 50% of operating costs. We rely on your generous donations to help us with the balance of our operating budget. As a supporter, you ensure that we continue to:

- * Provide career opportunities for the most talented ensemble singers in the U.S.
- * Offer educational workshops and opportunities for young singers
- * Expand the reach of Skylark's inspiring and engaging programming to audiences across the U.S. and the world

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