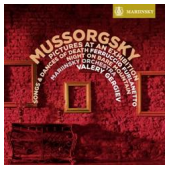
Written by bluesever
Thursday, 12 November 2015 17:07 -

Mussorgsky: Pictures from an Exhibition - Songs and dances of death – Night on Bare Mountain (2014)



1.Pictures at an Exhibition I. Promenade 01:36 2.Pictures at an Exhibition II. No.1 Gnomus 02:31 3.Pictures at an Exhibition III. Interlude Promenade 00:56 4.Pictures at an Exhibition IV. No.2 Il Vecchio Castello 05:26 5.Pictures at an Exhibition V. Interlude Promenade 00:31 6.Pictures at an Exhibition VI. No.3 Tuileries 01:09 7.Pictures at an Exhibition VII. No.4 Bydlo 03:02 8.Pictures at an Exhibition VIII. Interlude Promenade 00:51 9.Pictures at an Exhibition IX. No.5 Ballet des poussins dans leurs coques 01:09 10.Pictures at an Exhibition X. No. 6 Samuel Goldenberg und Schmuyle 02:31 11.Pictures at an Exhibition XI. No.7 Limoges le marché 01:15 12.Pictures at an Exhibition XII. No.8 Catacombæ 02:24 13.Pictures at an Exhibition XIII. Cum Mortuis in Lingue Mortua 02:17 14.Pictures at an Exhibition XIV. No.9 La Cabane sur des pattes de poule 03:18 15.Pictures at an Exhibition XV. No.10 La grande porte de Kiev 05:46 16.Songs and Dances of Death I. Lullaby 05:00 17.Songs and Dances of Death II. Serenade 05:00 18.Songs and Dances of Death III. Trepak 05:13 19.Songs and Dances of Death IV. The Field Marshal 05:43 20.Night on Bare Mountain 12:50 Ferruccio Furlanetto – bass Mariinsky Orchestra Valery Gergiev – conductor Recorded June & October 2014 in the Concert Hall of the Mariinsky Theatre, St Petersburg.

Valery Gergiev and the Mariinsky Orchestra celebrate Mussorgsky with the release of two of his most cherished works, Pictures at an Exhibition and Night on Bare Mountain (performed here in Mussorgsky's original version).

Gergiev is at his finest conducting these paragons of Mussorgsky's work, featured alongside which are the seldom heard Songs and Dances of Death, composed during the years 1875 to 1877 and left languishing unpublished during the composer's lifetime. One of Mussorgsky's most powerful compositions, each song deals with death in a poetic manner reflecting experiences not uncommon in 19th century Russia: child death, death in youth, drunken misadventure and war. --- mariinskylabel.com

Fans of Valery Gergiev and his robust interpretations of Russian classics will be enthralled by this hybrid SACD of music by Modest Mussorgsky, a 2015 release on the Mariinsky label. Recorded in direct stream digital and presented in the multichannel format, the performances by the Mariinsky Orchestra have great depth and clear separation of parts. Gergiev takes pains to give Ravel's marvelous orchestration of Pictures at an Exhibition the most transparent textures and skillfully uses dynamics and shadings of tone to heighten the timbres, especially of the low woodwinds and brass. In Songs & Dances of Death, bass Ferruccio Furlanetto sings with remarkable emotional range and a rich and resonant voice, and while the orchestra pulls back to give him center stage, it nonetheless brings across the fine details of Shostakovich's arrangement. The concluding work is Mussorgsky's original version of Night on Bare Mountain, which is seldom heard yet is arguably more interesting and exciting than any of the other versions available. Gergiev emphasizes the piece's eccentricity and inspires the orchestra to play with bold colors and high energy, so the performance is a brilliant revelation of Mussorgsky's idiosyncratic yet effective orchestration. --- Blair Sanderson, Rovi

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