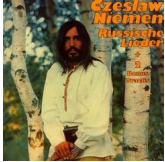


Czeslaw Niemen – Russische Lieder (1973)

Written by bluelover

Thursday, 10 June 2010 10:04 - Last Updated Monday, 27 July 2020 14:51

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01. *Steppe ringsumher (Степь да степь кругом)* - 4:14
 02. *Heimkehr von der Weide (Ты пойдь моя коровушка домой)* - 1:28
 03. *Monoton klingt das Glockchen (Однозвучно гремит колокольчик)* - 3:41
 04. *Ich gehe allein hinaus (Выхожу один я на дорогу)* - 5:19
 05. *Kleine Tannen und Kiefern (Елочки-сосеночки)* - 2:24
 06. *Braune Augen (Черные брови, карие очи)* - 2:08
 07. *Wiegenlied (Колыбельная)* - 3:55
 08. *Ruhiges Meer (Раскинулось море широко)* - 1:57
 09. *Auf wilden Steppen in Sabaikal (По диким степям Забайкалья)* - 3:14
 10. *Ruhreiches Meer, geheiligter Baikal (Славное море, священный Байкал)* - 3:34
- Bonuses from Single (1974):*
11. *Strange Is This World* - 2:52
 12. *We've Got The Sun* - 4:13

Personnel:

- Czesław Niemen - vocals, guitar, bass, piano

This is the 3rd album recorded by Polish singer / keyboardist / composer / lyricist / poet Czeslaw Niemen as part of his 4 albums deal with CBS. It was the last of the albums to be recorded in Germany and is the most unusual of all of his albums ever recorded. "Russische Lieder" (or "Russian Songs" in English) take Niemen back to his childhood and give him an opportunity to re-examine his musical roots. He was born in a small village in Bielorrussia, near the Niemen river (his artistic pseudonym "Niemen" comes from that river's name, his real name being Czeslaw Wydrzycki). His family was Polish (before WW II large parts of Bielorrussia and Ukraine were part of the Polish State) and they immigrated to Poland in the late 1950s. As a highly sensitive and musical child, Niemen was exposed to a wide range of Russian music, both classical and folklore, which undoubtedly became deeply embedded into his musical personality and a well trained ear can often hear echoes of these influences in his later work. On this album

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Niemen performs 10 Russian folk songs, all arranged and performed by his own. He plays several instruments and overlays vocal tracks to achieve an effect of transcribing the original material into contemporary setting. Although almost completely detached from his usual Prog and Jazz-Rock output, this is a fascinating album, especially in view of the fact that the song's musical treatment is highly original and unusual. Although some of Niemen's fans found this album difficult to swallow, any sensitive music lover will recognize the artistic value of this recording. This reissue includes also 2 bonus tracks taken from the CBS single, which includes a single version of the "Strange Is This World" title track and a non-album track – both extremely rare. Definitely worth investigating. ---Jazzis, rateyourmusic.com

Folklor rosyjski jest mi szczególnie bliski. Piosenki te śpiewałem przecież w dzieciństwie – tak artysta mówił o płycie Russische Lieder, na której sam nagrał wszystkie partie. Są tu czastuszki w beatowym rytmie (Jołoczki, sosionoczki), ale i bywa o wiele ciekawiej. W też trochę unowocześnionym Kałakolcziku Niemen-wokalista zostawił z oryginalnej melodii tylko ośnowę, zachował się niczym jazzowy śpiewak. W Po dikimi stepiam Zabajkalia – śpiewając już z typową dla siebie ekspresją – również nieco przekształca melodię, ale wejścia multiplaybackowego chóru są już bardzo rosyjskie, akompaniament gitarowy odpowiednio tradycyjny... Z kolei białoruskie Cziornyje browi, karyje oczi mają cerkiewny klimat, choć Niemen chwilami wypada tu... bardzo niemenowo. I tylko niekiedy drażnić może pomieszanie estetyk – jak w Stiep da stiep krugom (fortepian w stylu gospel niezbyt pasuje do śpiewu na głosy w duchu rosyjskiej ludowości). ---Wiesław Królikowski, zbroiowisko.pl

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