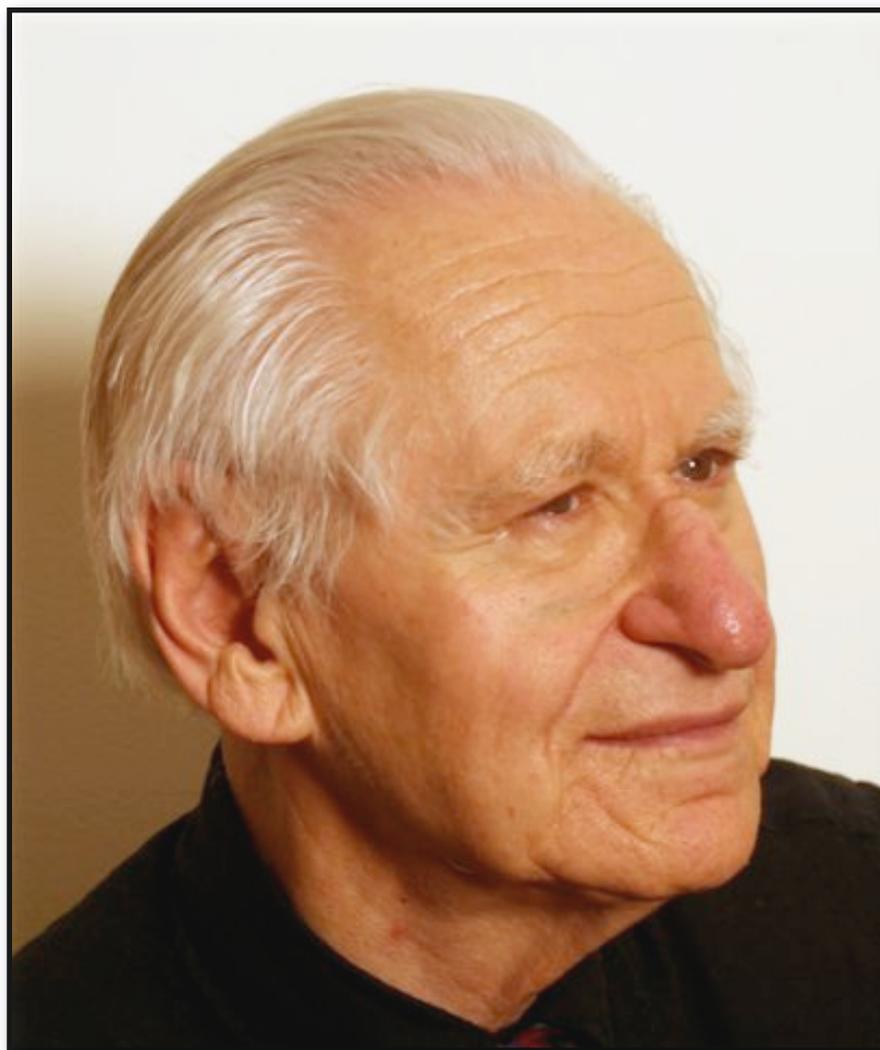


ACÆDE CONSORT
THE LITURGICAL MUSIC OF
VLADIMIR PLESHAKOV



SATURDAY JUNE 19TH AT 7:00 PM
SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH
515 19TH STREET
WATERVLIET, NEW YORK

Program

Music for the All-Night Vigil

- ❖ Блаженъ мужъ (“Blessed is the man”; verses from Psalms 1–3) Vladimir Pleshakov

Introductions and piano solos:

- Prelude in E-flat, Op. 23, No. 6 (1900) Sergei Rakhmaninov (1873-1943)
 - Etude-Tableau in D, Op. 39, No. 9 (1917) Rakhmaninov
- Vladimir Pleshakov, piano

- ❖ Свѣте тихій (“O gladdening Light,” *Phos hilaron*) Pleshakov
- ❖ Нынѣ отпускаеши (“Nunc dimittis,” *The Song of Simeon and the Thrice-Holy Hymn*)
- ❖ Богородице Дѣво, радуйся (“God-bearing Virgin, rejoice”)
- ❖ Величить душа моя Господа (“Magnificat anima mea,” *The Song of Mary*)
- ❖ Взбранной Воеводѣ (“Dauntless Champion,” *Kontakion*)

✧ **Intermission** ✧

- Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111 (1822) Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
 - I. Maestoso – Allegro con brio ed appassionato
 - II. Arietta: Adagio molto semplice e cantabile
- Vladimir Pleshakov, piano

Music for the Divine Liturgy

- ❖ Псаломъ 102 (Psalm 103 by Hebrew numbering) Pleshakov
- ❖ Псаломъ 145 (Psalm 146 by Hebrew numbering)
- ❖ Трисвятое (*Thrice-Holy Hymn*, sung in English)
- ❖ Прокимень, гласъ 3 (*Prokeimenon*, tone 3, verses from Psalm 46 (47))
- ❖ Херувимская Пѣснь (*Cherubicon*)
- ❖ Достойно есть, *Всехъ скорбящихъ радость* (“It is truly meet”, *Joy of All who Sorrow*)
- ❖ Отче нашъ (*The Lord’s Prayer*)
- ❖ Хвалите Господа съ небесъ “O praise the Lord” (Verses from Psalm 148 & 150, in English)

Welcome

This is the first concert of an extraordinary ongoing project. We now have a remarkable body of sacred music that has been written by Vladimir Pleshakov in just the last eighteen months. The music was generated directly by the words of holy texts: the psalms, prayers and allied poetry of the Divine Liturgy and the All-Night Vigil. We sing them mostly in Slavonic, a language ten centuries old. Its ethos is rooted in Russia, in the choral tradition which was at its apogee during the last two decades before the Russian revolution. Aœde Consort has been touched by a divinely inspired composer; we are blessed to be the vessel for his music.

–Dan Foster, founder/director

Notes

Rakhmaninov's Prelude, op. 23, no. 6, comes from 1900, and the Étude tableau, op. 39, no. 9, comes from 1917. This was a time of great activity and ferment in Russian music, both secular and sacred. Composers active at that time, besides Rakhmaninov, were Medtner, Skryabin, Taneyev, Glazunov, Grechaninov and many others; composers of sacred music included Smolensky, Kastalsky, Nikolsky, Chesnokov, and Grechaninov again, while large publishing initiatives such as the comprehensive *Anthology of Church Singing* were brought into existence. In 1917 the active development of church music was brought to a sudden halt by the Bolsheviks, and at that time many of the secular composers also took refuge elsewhere. This put the whole development of Russian church music on hold while the exile communities, such as Shanghai, maintained the pre-revolutionary traditions. Later, as a result of the political developments of the 1980s, vigorous activity was resumed in Russian Orthodox communities in Russia and all over the world.

The æsthetic of the happy and fertile period bracketed by those years in the early 20th century was nurtured in Vladimir Pleshakov by his parents. At the same time he sang in the boys' choir at Shanghai in the church of St. John Maximovich, and went on to study piano with three pupils of Alexander Siloti, friend and cousin of Rakhmaninov, thus absorbing the best of the Russian tradition, both sacred and secular. The secular music of Rakhmaninov and the sacred music which was composed at that pre-revolutionary time, and was still being sung at the great churches in exile, stemmed from the same source; we have Stravinsky's word for that. In composing his sacred works in a late career, Pleshakov tapped into the hidden resources he had inherited in this way many years before, and is making his distinctive contribution to the renaissance of Russian Orthodox music.

Beethoven was also a composer with great spiritual wealth. A French couple the Pleshakovs knew in Australia claimed that only Beethoven's piano music could be played during a Catholic mass, particularly Op. 111 in C minor, the last of the sonatas, with its sublime concluding Arietta in C major, composed in 1822. Rakhmaninov played Beethoven's music in recitals, not just the middle-period works but also the late ones. He programmed Op. 111 in San Francisco. Artur Schnabel said that Rakhmaninov's performance was the best that could be imagined or ever heard, including Schnabel's own. Rakhmaninov absorbed Beethoven from the inside; his formal and textural methods, as in the violoncello sonata, remind one of Beethoven's.

Beethoven kept copious notes of his musical thoughts, but when he came to write, the music did not always resemble the notes, which he had already put away. Rakhmaninov did the same, writing them to preserve the ideas, but then putting them away, never to look at them again. Pleshakov takes notes on the backs of envelopes, on deposit slips, on paper plates, on menus at Ca' Mea in Hudson, New York, and on napkins at Bob's Restaurant in nearby Greenport. They then go into the archive, and only reappear when the music pours out into the finished composition. The counterpoint in the Magnificat was written one evening during a concert, and handed to me to edit the next morning.

Pleshakov's liturgical music is not modern, nor is it the imitation of ancient sources. It does not matter when it was written; it is timeless, or out of time. It is both new and old, not new and not old, pre-revolutionary and post-revolutionary. It is his by virtue of having been written by him, and not his because of the richness of the inspiration which he had received.

–William Carragan, musicologist

The piano is a 1974 Steinway 'D' Concert Grand, prepared for this concert with regulation, voicing and tuning by Rand Reeves. Mr. Reeves has been a Registered Piano Technician with the *Piano Technicians Guild* and a restorer of pianos since 1974. Mr. Reeves has a restoration shop in the town of West Milton, New York, and continues to bring back to life many fine old instruments every year. He may be reached at (518) 885-5472, or Rreeves1@nycap.rr.com.

Transliterated Texts and Translations

Blazhen muzh...

Blessed is the man...

izhe ne ide na sovêt nechestivykh.
who has not walked in the counsel of the ungodly.

Alliluïa, alliluïa, alliluïa!

Yako vest Gospod put pravednykh,
i put nechestivykh pogibnet. Alliluïa!
*For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of
the ungodly shall perish. Alleluia!*

Rabotajtê Gospodevi so strakhom,
i raduytesya yemu s trepetom. Alliluïa!
Serve the Lord with fear; and rejoice in him with trembling.

Blazheni vsi, nadêyushchiisya nan. Alliluïa!
Blessed are all that trust in him. Alleluia!

Voskresni, Gospodi; spasi mya, Bozhe moj. Alliluïa!
Arise, O Lord; deliver me, O my God. Alleluia!

Gospodne yest spaseniye,
Deliverance is the Lord's,

i na lyudekh tvoikh blagosloveniye tvoye. Alliluïa!
and your blessing is upon your people. Alleluia!

Slava Ottsu, i Synu, i Svyatomu Dukhu,
i nynê, i prisno, i vo vêki vêkov. Amin.
*Glory to the Father; and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Alliluïa, alliluïa, alliluïa. Slava tebê, Bozhe!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to you, O God!

Svête tikhij...

O gladdening Light...

svyatya slavy bezsmertnago, Ottsa nebesnago,
of the sacred glory of the immortal Father; heavenly,

svyatago, blazhennago, Iisuse Khrîste!
holy, and blessed, Jesus Christ!

Prishedshe na zapad solntsa
videvshe svêt vechernij,
*Now as we come to the setting of the sun
and our eyes behold the vesper light,*

poyem Ottsa, Syna, i Svyatago Dukha, Boga.
We sing to Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God.

Dostoin yesi vo vsya vremena
pêt byti glasi prepodobnymi,
*You are worthy at all times
to be praised by holy voices,*

Syne Bozhij, zhivot dayaj, têmzhe mir tya slavit.
O Son of God, giver of life, and the whole world glorifies you.

Nunc dimittis

Nynê ôtpuschayeshi raba tvoyego, Vladyko,
Now let your servant depart in peace, O Lord,

po glagolu tvoyemu s mirom;
yako vidêsta ochi moi Spasenïe tvoye,
according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation

yezhe yesi ougotoval predlitsem vsêkh lyudej,
which you have prepared before the face of all peoples:

svyêt, vo otkrovenïeazykov,
i slavu lyudej tvoikh Izrailya.
*to be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of your people Israel.*

Svyatyj Bozhe, Svyatyj Krêpkyj,
Svyatyj Bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Slava Ottsu i Synu, i Svyatomu Dukhu,
i nynê, i prisno, i vo vêki vêkov. Amin.
*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Bogoroditse Devo, radujsy...

God-bearing Virgin, rejoice...

blagodatnaya Mariye, Gospod s tobouy;
you are blessed, O Mary, the Lord is with you;

blagoslovenna ty v zhenakh,
you are blessed among women,

i blagosloven Plod chreva tvoyegô,
and blessed is the Fruit of your womb,
yakô Spasa rodila yesi dush nashikh.
for you have given birth to the Savior of our souls.

Magnificat

Velichit dusha moya Gospoda,
i vozradovasya dukh moj o Bozê Spasê moyem.
*My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my savior.*

Refrain: Chestnêjshuyu kheruvîm, i slavnêjshuyu bez
sравnenîya serafim, bez istlênîya Boga Slova
rozhdshuyu, sushchuyu Bogorodistu, tya velichayem.

Refrain: More honorable than the cherubim, and more glo-
rious beyond compare than the seraphim, you gave birth to
God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify you.

Yako prizrê na smirenîye raby svoeyea,
For he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden,
se bo otnyne ublazhat mya vsi rodi. – *Refrain*
for behold, all generations will call me blessed. – Refrain

Yako sotvori mnyê velichîye sil'nyj,
For he who is mighty has done great things for me,
i svyato imya yego, i milost yego v rody rodov
boyashchymysya yego. – *Refrain*
and holy is his Name; and his mercy is from generation to
generation on those who fear him. – Refrain

Sotvori derzhavu myshtseyu svoeyeu, rastochi
gordyya mysliyu serdsta ikh.– *Refrain*
He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the
proud in the imagination of their hearts. – Refrain

Nizlozhi sil'nyya so prestol, i voznese smirennyya;
alchushchiya ispolni blag, i bogatyashchyyasya
otpusti tshchy. – *Refrain*
He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and he has
exalted those of low degree. – Refrain

Vosprîyat Izrailya otroka svoyego, pomyanuti milosti,
yakozhe glagola ko ottsem nashim, Avraamu i sêmeni
yego dazhe do vêka. – *Refrain*
He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his
mercy, as he spoke to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed
forever. – Refrain

Kontakion

Vzbrannoï Voyevodê pobêditel'naya,
O dauntless and victorious Commander,
yakô izbavshesya ot zlykh,
for your aid in delivering us from evil's prison,
blagodarstvennaya vospisuyem ti rabi tvoi, Bogoro-
ditse, no yakô imushchaya derzhavu nepobêdimuyu,
your servants proclaim your triumph, O Theotokos,
and as you have invincible might,
ot vsyakikh nas bêd svobodi, da zovem ti:
free us from all kinds of disaster; that we may cry out to you:
radujsya, nevêsto nenevêstnaya!
rejoice, unwedded Bride!

Psalm 103 (First Antiphon)

Blagoslovi dushe moya Gospoda,
blagosloven yesi, Gospodi;
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
you are blessed, O Lord;
i vsya vnutrennyaya moya, imya svyatoye yego.
and all that is within me, [bless] his holy Name.
Blagoslovi dushe moya Gospoda,
Bless the Lord, O my soul,

i ne zabyvaj vsyêkh vozdayanij yego,
and do not forget all his benefits,
ochishchayushchago vsya bezzakoniya tvoya,
istêlyayushchago vsya nedugi tvoya,
who forgives all your transgressions,
who heals all your mortal ills,
izbavlyayushchago ôt istlêniya zhivot tvoj,
vênychayushchago tya milostiyu i shchedrotami.
who redeems your life from corruption,
who crowns you with steadfast love and compassion.

Blagoslovi dushe moya Gospoda,
i vsya vnutrennyaya moya, imya svyatoye yego.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, [bless] his holy Name.

Blagosloven yesi, Gospodi.
You are blessed, O Lord.

Psalm 146 (Second Antiphon)

Khvali, dushe moya, Gospoda,
voskhvalyu Gospoda v zhivotê moyem,
Praise the Lord, O my soul!
I will praise the Lord as long as I live,
Poyu Bogu moyemu, dondezhe yesm.
I will chant to my God, as long as I have being.
Ne nadêjtesya na knyazi, na syny chelovêcheskiya,
v nikhzhe nêst spaseniya.
Do not put your trust in princes, nor in the sons of men,
in whom there is no salvation.

Izydet dukh yegô, i vozvratitsya v zemlyu svoyu;
His spirit will go out of him and he will return to the earth;
v toj den pogibnut vsya pomyshleniya yegô.
on that very day all his plans will perish.

Blazhen yemuzhe Bog Iakôvl pomoshchnik yegô,
Blessed is the man whose helper is the God of Jacob,

oupovanië yegô na Gospoda Boga svoyego,
whose hope is in the Lord his God,

sotvorshago nebo i zemlyu, more, i vysa yazhe v nikh,
who has made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in it,
khranyashchago istinu v vêkh, tvoryashchago sud
ôbidimym dayushchago pishchu alchushchym.
who keeps truth unto eternity, who executes judgement for the
wronged, who gives food to the hungry.

Gospod rêshyt ôkovannyya,
Gospod oumudryayet slêptsy,
Gospod vozvodit nizverzhenniya,
Gospod lyubit pravedniki.

*The Lord releases the fettered;
the Lord gives wisdom to the blind;
the Lord sets up the broken-down;
the Lord loves the righteous.*

Gospod khranit prisheltsy, sira i vsdovu prîimet,
i put grêshnykh pogubit.

*The Lord preserves the converts; the orphan and widow he will
raise up and the way of the sinners he will destroy.*

Votsaritsya Gospod vo vêk, Bog tvoj Siône,
v rod i rod.

*The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion,
from generation to generation.*

Thrice-Holy Hymn (In English)

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,
have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever,
and unto ages of ages Amen.

Prokeimenon, tone 3

Pojte Bogu nashemu, pojte Tsarevi nashemu, pojte.
Sing praises to our God, sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Vsi yazytsy vospleshchite rukami,
voskliknite Bogu glasom radovaniya.

*All you nations, clap your hands!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy.*

Cherubicon no. 1

Izhe kheruvimî, tajno obrazuyushche,
Let us, who mystically represent the cherubim,

I zhiivotvoryashchej Trojtsê
Trisvyatuyu pêsnn pripêvayushche,
*and to the life-giving Trinity
sing the hymn of three-fold holiness,*

Vsyakoye nînê zhitejskoye otlozhim popecheniye,
now cast aside every earthly care,

Yako da tsarya vsêkh podimem, anhelskimi
nevidimo dorünosima chinmi. Alliluia!
*to receive the King of all creation, by the hosts of angels
invisibly upborne in triumph. Alleluia!*

Dostojno yest,...

It is truly meet,...

yako voistinu, blazhiti tya, Bogoroditsu,
prishnoblazhennuyu i preneporochnuyu
i Mater Boga nashego.

*to glorify you, O Theotokos,
ever-blessed and wholly immaculate,
and the mother of our God.*

Chestnêjshuyu kheruvîm,
i slavnêjshuyu bez sravneniya serafim,

*More honorable than the cherubim,
and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim,*

bez istlênîya Boga Slova rozhdshuyu,
sushchuyu Bogorodistu, tya velichayem.

*without defilement, you gave birth to God the Word;
true Theotokos, we magnify you.*

Otche Nash (The Lord's Prayer)

Otche Nash, izhe yesi na nebesêkh,
Our Father, who art in heaven,

da svyatitsya imya tvoje, da prîidet tsarstvie tvoje,
hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,

da budet volya tvoya, yakô na nebesi, i na zemli.
thy will be done, as in heaven, so on earth.

Khlêb nash nasushchnyj dazhd nam dnes,
i ostavi nam dolgi nasha,

*Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,*

yakôzhe i my ostavlyaem dolzhnikom nashim,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,

i ne vvedi nas vo iskushenië,
no izbavi nas ôt lukavago.

*And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.*

Psalm 148/150

O praise the Lord, from the heavens,

O praise him in the highest. Alleluia!

O praise the Lord,

O praise him with the sound of the trumpet!

O praise him with psaltery and harp! Alleluia!

O praise him with timbrels and sacred dance,

O praise him with strings and organ! Alleluia!

Let all things that live and breathe,

sing praises to the Lord. Alleluia!

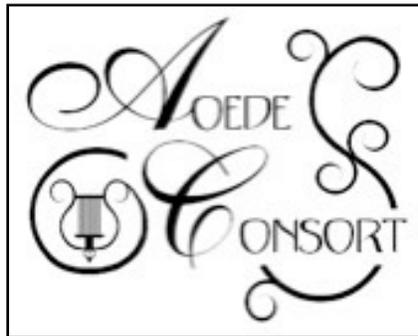
Aoede Consort

Sopranos

Anne Agresta Dugan
Sabrina Elyse Manna
Kristin Sands

Tenors

Dan Foster
John Schreiner
Derek Stannard
Stephen Sands



Mezzo-sopranos

Mary Abba-Gleason
Darcy Crum Meadows
Ann Marie Grathwol

Basses

Jim Crum
Raymond Bailey
David Loy
Stephen Piwowarski

Dan Foster, founder/director

Distinguished Guest

Dr. Vladimir Pleshakov, renowned pianist and composer

Acknowledgements

The Immaculate Heart of Mary	Peter Marotta, producer
The Curcio Family	Professor William Carragan
Patricia Pedota	Rand Reeves, piano technician

Named after the Greek muse of song, Aoede Consort [ay-uh-dee] is dedicated to the preservation and furtherance of the choral arts. Through the performance of masterpieces from antiquity to the present day, community outreach and education, Aoede Consort seeks to present the highest standards of vocal performance and aims to bring a deeper understanding and appreciation for choral music to the community. Be sure to check our website or email us for information on future performances.

Your tax deductible contribution can be made to:

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