ПАМЯТНИКИ РУССКОЙ ДУХОВНОЙ МУЗЫКИ

Павел Чесноков

Спасение соделал

Ор. 25, № 5 (перелож. для мужск. хора)

MONUMENTS OF RUSSIAN SACRED MUSIC

Pavel Chesnokov

Spasěniye sodělal

(Salvation Is Created)

Ор. 25, № 5 (arr. for male chorus)
NOTES

CHESNOKOV, Pavel Grigor’evich (b. 12 [24] October, 1877, near Voskresensk, Moscow region; d. 14 March, 1944, Moscow) — graduated from Moscow Synodal School of Church Singing in 1895; 1895–99, studied composition with Sergei Taneyev; graduated from Moscow Conservatory in 1917 in conducting and composition (student of Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov). From 1895, taught church singing (chant) at the Moscow Synodal School; served as precentor in several Moscow churches and taught choral music at various schools. From 1920 to 1944 was professor of choral music at the Moscow Conservatory and conductor of several state choirs in Moscow.

Chesnokov is the most prolific composer associated with the Moscow Synodal School: his compositional output includes over 500 choral works, over 400 of which are sacred. His major opera include three complete settings of the Divine Liturgy, two complete settings of the All-Night Vigil, two settings of the Memorial Service, and a setting of the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts. In addition, he composed numerous settings of individual hymns taken from the ordinary of the Liturgy and Vigil, from feast-day propers, and paraliturgical concertos. His choral writing is characterized by a variety of textures, from austere unisons to sumptuous eight-voice polyphony, and colorful harmony, which he often “spices” with chromaticism. Approximately one-third of his sacred works are chant-based, while the rest are free compositions.

“Spasëniye sodëlal” is one in a cycle of ten Communion Hymns, opus 25, composed by Chesnokov during his tenure as precentor at the Church of the Holy Trinity “at the Mud Baths” in Moscow. The cycle culminates a number of opera in which Chesnokov wrote richly sonorous harmonized settings of traditional chant melodies—znamenny, Kievan, and Greek. These chant settings, while part of a general movement among followers of the Moscow Synodal School towards restoring the prominence of chant in Russian Orthodox church music, were very likely composed for practical use by Chesnokov’s church choir; in 1904 this choir was known to have comprised 42 singers—ten women sopranos, seven women altos, twelve tenors, and thirteen basses.

The text “Spasëniye sodëlal” is the Communion Hymn for Fridays, prescribed to be sung during a Divine Liturgy served on that day. In practice, however, it was probably sung as a “sacred concerto” at Sunday Divine Liturgies, after the proper Communion Hymn of Sunday. The Kievan Chant cantus firmus is taken from Obihod notnago peniya, the square-note unison codex that contained the major elements of the Russian Orthodox liturgical repertoire. The first phrase of the chant melody is sung twice by the first tenors (mm. 1–4) and then repeated (mm. 5–8). The second phrase (mm. 9–12), which in the unison original resembles a sequential repetition a fifth higher, is sung by the second basses, along with the third phrase (mm. 13–16), before returning to the top voice in mm. 17–20.

The present edition for men’s chorus is based upon the original first edition (SATTBB) published by P. Jurgenson, Moscow. All performance indications have been retained from the source. Solid barlines indicating divisions between major musical phrases have been retained from the original. Dotted barlines have been added editorially as an aid to phrasing and text accentuation.

—Vladimir Morosan
Павел Чесноков
Спасение соделал (Кievского роспева)

Pavel Chesnokov
(1877 – 1944)

Spaséniye sodéral
(Kiéevskogo rospéva)

Salvation Is Created
(Kievan Chant)

Spa - šé - ňi - ye so - dé - lal ye -
Cpa - cę - ni - e so - de - lal e -

Spa - šé - ňi - ye so - dé - lal ye -
Cpa - cę - ni - e so - de - lal e -

Spa - šé - ňi - ye so - dé - lal ye -
Cpa - cę - ni - e so - de - lal e -

Покойно. [Andante.] Alla breve.

Arranged for TTBB chorus
by Vladimir Morosan

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*)EDITOR'S NOTE: If the size of the chorus permits, the measures between the asterisks should be sung by a semi-chorus to create a contrasting texture.
*) See Editor's Note on page 4.