

standing work of Soviet cinematography, a magnificent musical picture of a kind matching the film in its scale and scope.

On completing his work on this film that had taken him several years, Bondarchuk said: "To my mind, Ovchinnikov is an unusually, extraordinarily gifted musician and composer. Vyacheslav Ovchinnikov's music always brings to my mind a sense of life's indomitable power..."

Ovchinnikov has written music to the films "They Defended Their Country" and "The Steppe" directed by Sergei Bondarchuk, "The Land" and "Arsenal" by Alexander Dovzhenko and to many other films by prominent Soviet film-makers.

It would be incorrect, however, to describe Ovchinnikov as merely an illustrator of major works of cinematographic art. His cinema music is symphony music and therefore music in its own right which is often performed in concerts and recorded.

Today Vyacheslav Ovchinnikov is also known as a conductor.

In connection with the appearance of Ovchinnikov's first record as conductor (Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet" and "Francesca da Rimini"), the Japanese music critics wrote: "A new star has appeared - Vyacheslav Ovchinnikov. His performance demonstrates the vital force of his talent which can leave no audience indifferent. It is like a burst of energy, a staggering musical squall. Power, vitality, inspiration - these are the qualities one wishes to stress particularly. Also the profound yet restrained playing of the orchestra. Ovchinnikov possesses an innate gift of controlling the orchestra, an amazingly subtle understanding of each instrument... Listeners will undoubtedly enjoy the highly satisfying performance of the orchestra under Ovchinnikov..."

His first public debut as a conductor took place in Moscow in April, 1973. It was a concert commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Sergei Rachmaninov. The success exceeded all expectations. Prominent musicians, writers, actors and spacemen enthusiastically hailed V. Ovchinnikov, the conductor. That day marked the beginning of his brilliant performance career. Besides his own works he included in his repertoire music by Bach, Beethoven, Wagner, Brahms, Glinka, Dvořák, Sibelius, Strauss, Rachmaninov and Tchaikovsky.

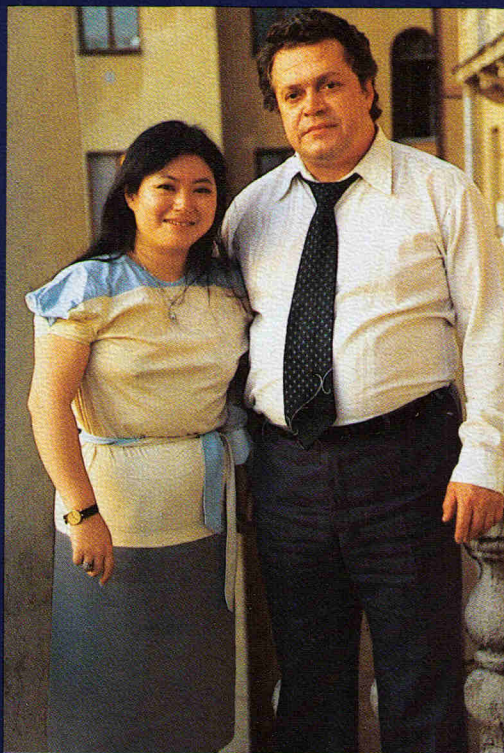
Every new performance demonstrates his growing skill as conductor. He strives to penetrate the innermost, the very heart of the musical piece.



Симфонический концерт в Большом зале Московской консерватории
Солисты - В. Овчинников,
Э. Гилельс



Symphony concert at the Large Hall
the Moscow Conservatory
Soloists - Vladimir Ovchinnikov
Emil Gilels



В. Овчинников и Йоко Сато - японская скрипачка, лауреат Международного конкурса им. П. И. Чайковского
Vyacheslav Ovchinnikov and Joko Sato,
a Japanese violinist, winner of the
Tchaikovsky International Contest



В. Овчинников и японской музыкальный критик Е. Сидорин
Vyacheslav Ovchinnikov and E. Chido
a Japanese music critic

We offer you several gramophone records of music conducted or composed by Vyacheslav Ovchinnikov, issued by Melodiya firm.