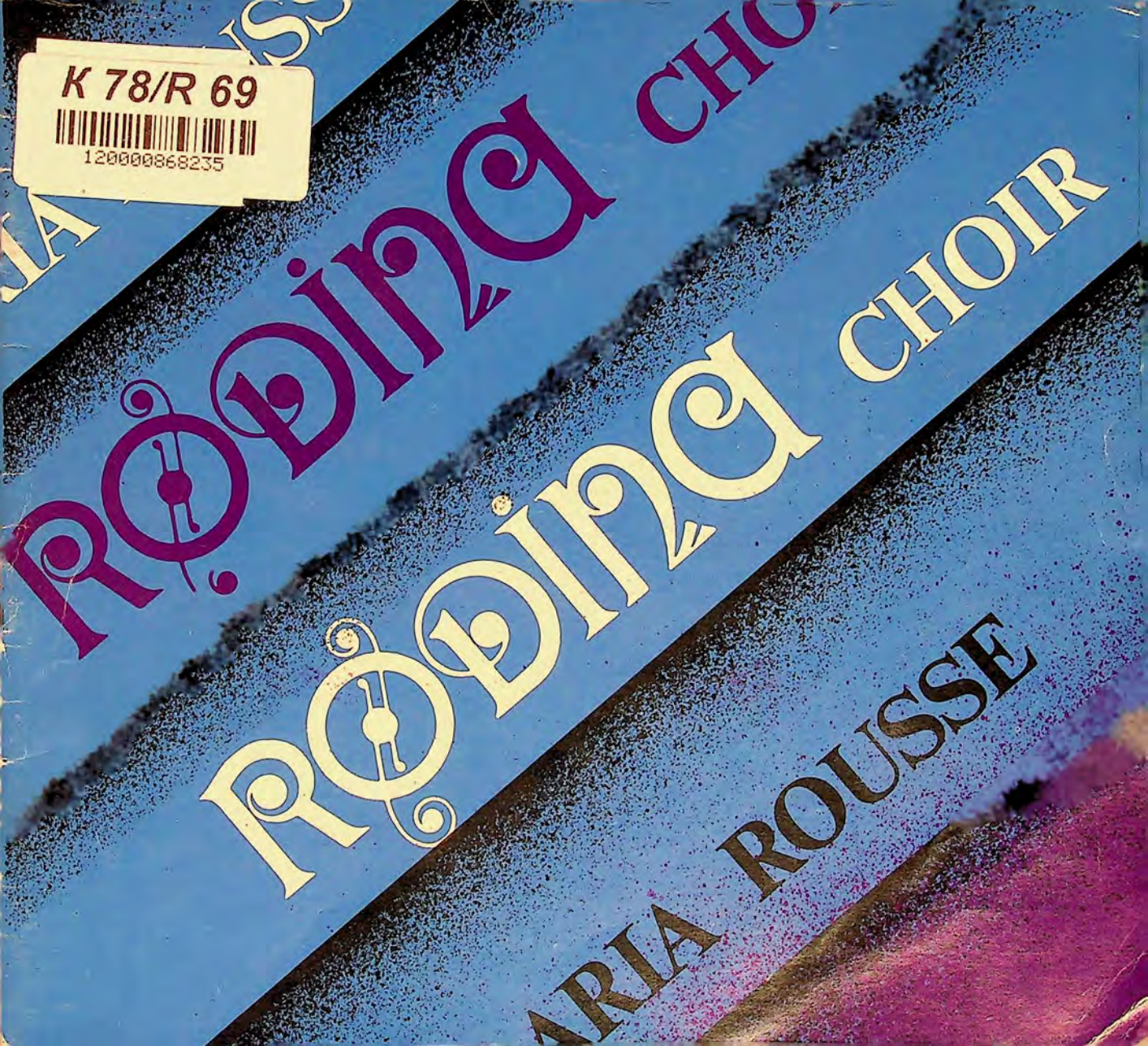


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ROBINGA CHOIR

ROBINGA CHOIR

ARIA ROUSSE

INTERNATIONALER
CHORWETTBEWERB

HARMONIE

LINDENHOLZHAUSEN

28. JULI - 1. AUG. '81



K 48
R. 69

BULGARIA

RODINA

CHOIR

ROUSSE

Регионална библиотека
"Любен Каравелов"



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For over 20 years now the Bulgarian Artistic Agency "SOFIACONCERT" has been carrying out cultural exchange with more than 60 countries from all continents.

The agency negotiates artistic tours as well as longterm engagements.

"SOFIACONCERT" EXPORTS AND IMPORTS:

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The performers and groups represented by "SOFIACONCERT" appear on the most prestigious concert and opera stages all over the world, receiving superlative reviews by the music critics.

"SOFIACONCERT" brings the most famous musicians and music ensembles to the following international music festivals held in Bulgaria.

the "Sofia Music Weeks" International Festival

the "Varna Summer" International Festival

the "March Musical Days" International Festival in Rousse

the Chamber Music International Festival in Plovdiv

the "Katya Popova Laureate Days" in Pleven etc.

For over 20 years now "SOFIACONCERT" has been a loyal partner, preferred and sought – after by hundreds of impresarios and agencies all over the world.

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Bulgarian Artistic Agency
3, Volov Street
1527 Sofia, Bulgaria
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SOFIACONCERT

RODINA choir

THE "RODINA" CHOIR

The "Rodina" Choir has a long history. It was founded in 1936 in the town of Rousse – one of the important musical centres of Bulgarian musical culture.

Since 1963 Chief Artistic Director of the choir has been professor Vassil Arnaoudov – one of the leading figures in the field of choral singing in Bulgaria. The obvious success of the choir in the last decades is undoubtedly owing to his exceptional gift as a conductor, interpreter and pedagogue. A number of talented musicians from the younger generation have been attracted by his fascinating personality and have been launched into a successful career. Under the direction of professor Arnaoudov the choir has invariably set itself high artistic goals and has always achieved such interpretative perfection, that the music critics have unanimously defined their performances as the top of contemporary choral singing.

The "Rodina" Choir has been awarded a number of Laureate titles and prizes at the most prestigious national reviews and competitions. It has also won numerous awards at international competitions:

1966 – LLANGOLEN (GREAT BRITAIN) – THE GREAT WELSH DRAGON and THE THREE FIRST PRIZES

1974 – CORK (IRELAND) – FIRST PRIZE

1974 – MIDDLESBROUGH (GREAT BRITAIN) – SECOND PRIZE

1978 – TOLOSA (SPAIN) – 3 GOLD, 2 SILVER AND 1 BRONZE MEDAL

1981 – LIMBURG (THE FRG) – GRAND PRIX and 3 FIRST PRIZES

1983 – POLHEIM (THE FRG) – GRAND PRIX AND 4 FIRST PRIZES

1987 – LIMBURG (THE FRG) – SPECIAL PRIZE OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR, 3 GRAND PRIX, 5 FIRST PRIZES, 1 SECOND PRIZE

1988 – LLANGOLEN (GREAT BRITAIN) – THE TITLE "CHOIR OF THE WORLD'88" and 4 FIRST PRIZES

Many are the famous international festivals, both at home and abroad, where the participation of "Rodina" Choir has been welcomed as a special treat. They have participated in:

"Sofia Music Weeks" – 1970, 1975, 1977, 1982, 1985

"March Musical Days" in Rousse – 1967, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1982, 1985

"Varna Summer" in Varna – 1967, 1970, 1973, 1985

New Year Music Festival in Sofia – 1988/89

Festival of Chamber Choir in Pecs, Hungary – 1976

Kephalonia Island International Festival, Greece 1979, 1980

Choral Festival of Athens, Greece – 1983

Music Festival – Carpentras, France – 1984

The choir has a large repertoire, which includes both small à cappella works and large oratorical forms of all styles and periods, beginning with the works of the old masters (15th – 16th century) and ending with the most striking works of contemporary composers.

The choir is a regular partner of the Rousse Opera and all symphony orchestras in Bulgaria.

ORATORIO AND OPERA REPERTOIRS

J. Strauss	- Geschichten aus der Wiener Wald
D. Shostakovitch	- A song about the Forests, The Execution of Stepan Razin
Gluck	- Orpheus and Eurydice
Todor Popov	- A Happy Holiday
S. Rachmaninov	- Spring
Beethoven	- Mass in C Major
Schubert	- Mass No. 2 in G Major
Mozart	- Coronation Mass, Requiem
Konstantin Iliev	- Spring Holidays
J. Haydn	- The Seasons, The Creation
E. Lalo	- Le roi d'Yf
B. Britten	- War Requiem
Berlioz	- Requiem
Rossini	- Stabat Mater
J. S. Bach	- Mass in B minor

The "Rodina" Choir has made records with the "Balkanton", "Melodia", "Harmonia Mundi" companies, etc. The choir has participated in TV productions of the televisions of Bulgaria, the USSR, the FRG, BBC, etc. They have made recordings for Radio Sofia, Radio Riga, Radio Paris, the BBC, the Berlin Radio, Radio Prague, etc.

The "Rodina" Choir can perform in five different groups: a ladies' choir of 75, a men's choir of 70, a mixed choir of 90, a mixed chamber choir of 32, and a joint oratorio choir of 150 singers.

TOURS ABROAD

ROMANIA(1956)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (1960, 1975)
FRANCE (1966, 1984)
GREAT BRITAIN (1966, 1974, 1988)
THE GDR (1969, 1975)
THE USSR (1970, 1973, 1979)
IRELAND (1974)
POLAND (1975)
HUNGARY (1976)
SPAIN (1978)
GREECE (1979, 1980, 1983)
THE FRG (1981, 1983, 1987)

REVIEWS:

"The performing art of "Rodina" Choir made the greatest impression on me. I am full of admiration for its wonderful sonority, excellent diction and unusual expressiveness. "Rodina" Choir is one of the most striking phenomenon in Bulgarian musical culture."

DMITRIY SHOSTAKOVITCH, the USSR

"I was delighted and happy to hear the "Rodina" choir. Its performances unite the beauty of voices, the radiant tone, vitality, a very clearly marked pianissimo and fortissimo, a precision of intonation."

ERNST HERMANN MEYER, the GDR

"As to your "Rodina" Choir, I have to express my delighted surprise at its exceptional qualities, demonstrated in the performance of Mass in C major by Beethoven."

JOSIF CONTA, ROMANIA

"Llangollen is full of praise for this admirable choir and its wonderful conductor V. Arnaoudov, to whom we owe a completely new experience. The 120 emissaries of Bulgaria carried off the three greatest prizes of the festival – for men's, ladies' and mixed choir. The choirs from Rousse were among the finest ever heard at the festival."

"The Daily Post", Great Britain, 1966

"With their total devotion, the singers of "Rodina" Choir and their conductor V. Arnaoudov have created one of the best choirs in the world. Their achievements at the International Music Festival in Llangollen, in 1966, are unique in the 21-year-history of the festival."

ROY BOHANA, WALES, GREAT BRITAIN

"Sonority, abundance of nuances, clearness and expressiveness of diction, the finest rendering of sound – such are the characteristic features of this unique vocal ensemble, whose creative power is due to its members' ardent love for music."

"SOVETSKAYA MUZIKA", the USSR

"The "Rodina" Choir demonstrated to our choirs in Potsdam the true model of perfect choral art."

"MAERKISCHE VOLKSTIMME", the GDR

"This was not the first time that the "Rodina" Choir sang with inspiration. But this time there was something new in its sonority – inspired and spontaneous to such a degree that it made any professional comments superfluous. The work of its artistic director Vassil Arnaoudov was felt in the confident singing of the choir. The perfect intonation and sound balance led to the most exquisite interpretation of Schubert's melodiousness in his Mass No. 2 in G major. The "Sofia Soloists" Orchestra was a partner worthy of the choir."

"BULGARSKA MUZIKA", Bulgaria

"The great vocal range and the rich timbre gave the performance of "Rodina" Choir an unusual wealth, power and finesse of tone."

"CORK EXAMINER", IRELAND

"The gold and the silver – for Bulgaria. Extremely remarkable was the participation of "Rodina" Choir, which carried off 6 out of a total of 12 medals. Its 120 voices were at a remarkably high level in the performance of the mixed choir, as well as in the separate performances of the ladies' choir and the men's choir. We have already announced that this is an exceptional choir with excellently schooled voices. Each of yesterday's participations was a surprising demonstration of supremacy and perfection."

"UNIDAD", Spain

"In the big hall of the Moscow Conservatoire, the "Rodina" Choir demonstrated its profound and highly qualified artistic interpretation. The beauty of sound, the virtuoso technique, the purity of intonation, the breadth of range and dynamics – all these qualities, characteristic of the choir, captivated the audience in the course of the varied and interesting programme."

"SOVETSKAYA KULTURA", the USSR

"A wonderful multitude of marvelous elements with the musical architect, conductor Vassil Arnaudov! What is one to admire first of all?"

"I PHONI TIS KEPHALONIAS", GREECE

"The chief Artistic Director of the choir, Vassil Arnaudov, is one of those rare conductors, who know how to penetrate the spirit of a song, and how to present it with profound artistic skill. He has an equally manifested attitude to detail and to the whole. However, his exactingness does not oppress the choir members, but sets them free, leaving them to make music with an artistic verve – the most striking feature of "Rodina" Choir singers."

"MUZIKALNI HORIZONTI", BULGARIA

"The choir – ideally balanced, possessing a broad dynamic range, and a suitable psychological adjustment for the performance of "The Seasons" – was able for the first time probably among our choirs to interpret in oratorical style and truly, as far as sound content went, a work which had been heard in Bulgaria, more than once at that, but never with such perfection as regards its choral presentation. The great variety offered to the singers by Haydn's score, each number being so different in treatment and sonority, had been worked out to a degree which we can indeed call perfection."

**PROFESSOR KONSTANTIN ILIEV
"MUZIKALEN ZHIVOT", BULGARIA**

"To produce Haydn's oratorio "The Seasons" is an exceptionally difficult task, and the fact that the Rousse Choir has done it, is already a major success in itself. The choir sings with unusual precision and enthusiasm and inspires respect."

HEINRICH GATTERMEYER, President of the Union of Austrian Composers

"However, the mixed choir offered a revelation of the possibilities of choral singing, beginning with Lotti's mysteriously soaring "Crucifixus", passing through Bruckner's "Gradual" and folksongs to reach the impressively sung choral parts of Haydn's "The Seasons". Georgi Stefanov and Dobromir Dobrev sang the solo-parts in exquisite tone and voice. However, emphasis should be laid on the particularly superior guidance of Professor Vassil Arnaudov, Vice President of the Musical Academy in Sofia, who with rare verve and with great skill, had been able to stimulate the high qualities of his choral group and draw remarkable achievements from them."

"HANNOVERSCHE ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG", the FRG

"An impressive production, a remarkable choir, an excellent orchestra and a very good distribution of the parts, allow this version of "Le roi d'Yf"-84 certainly to remain one of the great moments of opera revivals.

Further admiration without a touch of insincerity: for the philharmonic orchestra led with true feeling by Marc Soustrot and for the mixed choir "Rodina" from Bulgaria – a solid group in which all vocal parts are well balanced, adjusted to the rules of the stage."

"VAUCLUSE MATIN", France

"I worked with your wonderful choir with great pleasure. The quality of voices, the discipline, the precision, the striving for perfection, make this choir one of the best I know.

Bravo to you!

MARK SOUSTROT, France

"The conclusion of the "Sofia Music Weeks" International Festival with Britten's "War Requiem" was a significant event. . .

Perhaps most attractive in the Bulgarian presentation of Britten's "War Requiem" was the equal attention paid to detail and to the different components, which gave meaning to the work as a whole. . .

The "Rodina" Choir from Rouse has now become an inseparable part of our conception of Britten's world, and is quite different from the oratorial choir which had performed Haydn's "The Seasons" as a revelation."

"NARODNA KULTURA" Bulgaria

"Enthusiastic applause from over 50000 visitors to the Lindenholzhausen.

For two days outstanding choirs from all over Europe have competed in the different categories.

The worthiest out of the best took part in the concert of the prize winners.

Only one choir could attain the crown, the Prize of the Federal Cancellor It was won by the Ladies' Choir Group of the "Rodina" Choir under the direction of professor Vassil Arnaoudov, for their fantastic achievements. . .

On the final evening "Rodina" Choir offered us what a choir can show, when it stands at the absolute European top in sonority, musicality and precision. The temperamental professor Vassil Arnaoudov inspired his singers and made them reach a dizzying fullness of sound. ..."

HEINZ KLEITER

"NASSAUISCHE NEUE PRESSE", the FRG

"The vocal power of the Bulgarians swept them towards a new well-deserved victory at the International Music Competition in Liangolen.

Sir Thomas Armstrong, member of the jury, characterized the performance of the mixed choir as "convincing and brilliant". "During the whole performance the choir sounded impressively – this was a skilful manipulation with the wealth of tones", he added."

"DAILY POST", GREAT BRITAIN

"We would like to point out the brilliant performance of "Rodina" Choir. Together with the Bourgas Philharmonic the choir performed Mass in C major by Mozart. This was a performance which could grace any international festival."

"RABOTNITCHESKO DELO", Bulgaria

XXII МЕЖДУНАРОДЕН ФЕСТИВАЛ
МАРТИНСКИ МУЗИКАЛНИ ДНИ
ПОСВЕТЕН НА 100 ГОДИШНИНАТА ОТ РОЖДЕНИЕТО НА ГЕОРГИ ДИМИТРОВ









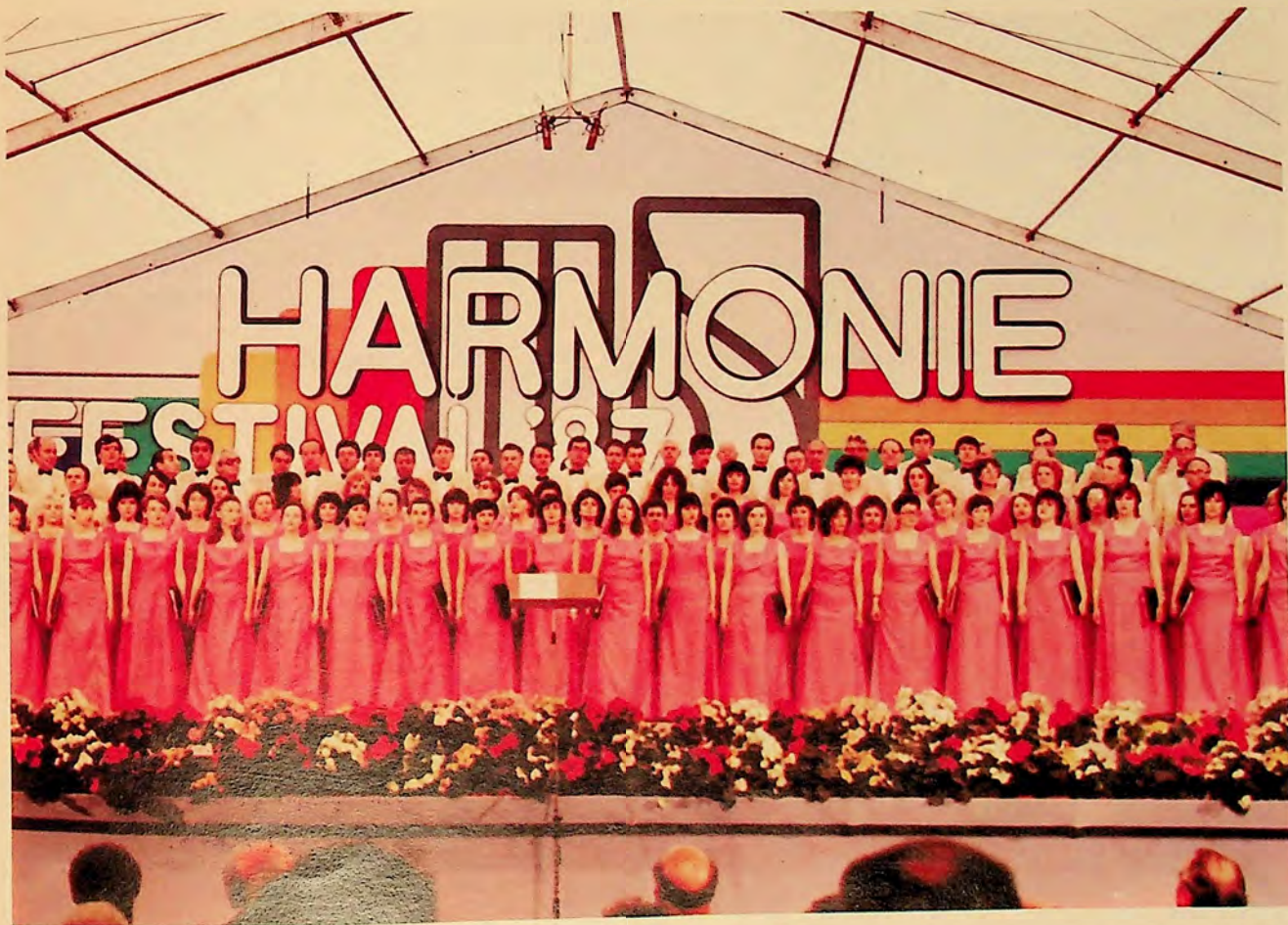












Cathedrale
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21 H 30

Festival de Carpentras



A friendly take-off

20 Juillet

CONCERT A CAPELLA

Par le Chœur mixte Rodina

... "La parité avec les plus grands
chœurs professionnels du monde..."

(Vendredi matin, 15 juillet
1984)

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