



**Sergei Prokofiev: Cantata for the 20th Anniversary of the October Revolution**

aud 97.754

EAN: 4022143977540



[American Record Guide](#) (Donald R Vroon - 01.09.2018)

This is not a first recording, but it may be the best. The first recording was in 1966, right after the premiere—though it was written in 1937 for the 20th Anniversary of the Revolution. This is the same period as *Alexander Nevsky*, and the music is similar: big, bold, brassy choral pieces with some instrumental movements and small bits of speeches by Lenin. There are long choral sections with texts by Marx and Lenin. It is hard to know how complete any recording of this is, because there were also texts from and references to Stalin that were removed for the 1966 premiere. I think the original was an hour long, but you can see that this recording takes 42 minutes. I don't see any references to Stalin in the texts (Russian, German, and English), so this must be the version of the 1966 premiere. If, like me, you really like Prokofieff's choral writing and film music, then you need this—certainly a brilliant recording and probably the best sounding. (Our reviewer did not like the Jarvi on Chandos because of the sound—May/June 1993.)

**PROKOFIEFF: Cantata for the Anniversary of the October Revolution**  
 Ernst Senff Chöre, Weimarer Staatskapelle / Kirill Karabits  
 Audite 97754—42 minutes

This is not a first recording, but it may be the best. The first recording was in 1966, right after the premiere—though it was written in 1937 for the 20th Anniversary of the Revolution. This is the same period as *Alexander Nevsky*, and the music is similar: big, bold, brassy choral pieces with some instrumental movements and small bits of speeches by Lenin. There are long choral sections with texts by Marx and Lenin.

It is hard to know how complete any recording of this is, because there were also texts from and references to Stalin that were removed for the 1966 premiere. I think the original was an hour long, but you can see that this recording takes 42 minutes. I don't see any references to Stalin in the texts (Russian, German, and English), so this must be the version of the 1966 premiere.

If, like me, you really like Prokofieff's choral writing and film music, then you need this—certainly a brilliant recording and probably the best sounding. (Our reviewer did not like the Jarvi on Chandos because of the sound—May/June 1993.)

VROON

**P**ROKOFIEFF: *Cantata for the Anniversary  
of the October Revolution*

Ernst Senff Choir, Weimar Staatskapelle/ Kirill  
Karabits

Audite 97754—42 minutes

This is not a first recording, but it may be the best. The first recording was in 1966, right after the premiere—though it was written in 1937 for the 20th Anniversary of the Revolution. This is the same period as *Alexander Nevsky*, and the music is similar: big, bold, brassy choral pieces with some instrumental movements and small bits of speeches by Lenin. There are long choral sections with texts by Marx and Lenin.

It is hard to know how complete any recording of this is, because there were also texts from and references to Stalin that were removed for the 1966 premiere. I think the original was an hour long, but you can see that this recording takes 42 minutes. I don't see any references to Stalin in the texts (Russian, German, and English), so this must be the version of the 1966 premiere.

If, like me, you really like Prokofieff's choral writing and film music, then you need this—certainly a brilliant recording and probably the best sounding. (Our reviewer did not like the Jarvi on Chandos because of the sound—May/June 1993.)

VROON