



П. Г. Чесноков, app.

Ах вы, сени

перел. для мужского хора



Pavel Chesnokov, arr.

My Front Porch

(Ah vi, séni)

arr. for men's chorus



NOTES

Russian choral composer Pavel (Paul) Chesnokov (1877-1944) was one of those representatives of Russian culture who somehow managed to live and create trapped between two opposite worlds in collision; he found a prominent place in both pre-Revolutionary imperial Russia and the totalitarian Soviet Union. Born into the family of a church choirmaster, he studied at both the Moscow Synodal School of Church Singing and the Moscow Conservatory, where his teachers were Sergei Taneyev (1856-1915) and Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov (1859-1935). Later, he taught at both institutions; during his career he conducted both church choirs and the most illustrious Soviet choruses, including the Moscow Philharmonic Kapella, the USSR State Kapella, and the Bolshoi Theater Chorus. Consequently, his compositions span both the sacred and secular realms, comprising over 100 secular choruses and more than 400 sacred works, as well as a large number of Russian folk song arrangements.

The latter are characterized by poetic warmth, elegance, and subtle humor. The primordial aspects of Russian folk music—its quasi-primitive modes, complex rhythmic patterns, and mosaic-like motive-formulas—in which Stravinsky revelled, had no influence whatsoever upon Chesnokov's style. His was a 19th-century stylized approach, characterized by broad melodic lines and the use of variation as a unifying principle. These features are exemplified in his arrangement of the dance song "My Front Porch."

Russian folk dancing has never been mechanical. "Dancing opens the soul. Dancing is how the soul celebrates," say the Russian people. Here is how one Russian choreographer describes a village gathering:

In a big room men and women sat opposite each other and sang songs. After a while the singing stopped, and for a short time everyone sat silently. Then, one after another, groups of villagers stepped into the center of the room, danced, and sat back down. Each dance bore no similarity to the preceding one. Remarkably, the mood was expressed so colorfully by the hands, the feet, and body movements, by the dance steps and figures, that nobody needed words to understand what was being expressed—who was jealous, who was in love, who was modestly hiding their thoughts, who was anxious, and who was playing the fool.

Dance songs are derived from games and *khorovods* (round dances or roundlays; the Russian word means "to lead a circle dance"), but unlike *khorovod* songs, their main role is to support the movements of the dance. Dance songs are performed throughout the year. When danced by women they tend to be slower, graceful, and tender; when danced by men, they fast and vigorous, full of virtuosity and extroverted energy. Bodily movements in dance songs are considerably more complex than in *khorovod* songs; therefore, their melody and rhythm—active, compact and concrete, inversely reflecting the bodily movement of the dance—are never complicated, giving the participants the freedom to improvise. The melodies, constructed out of short motives, are full of prominent accents, and the instrumental accompaniment (if any) tends to be more elaborate than in *khorovod* songs.

Thematically, dance songs usually cover the subjects of love and family life; they may also be about work and everyday social life; many songs are humorous or satirical in character. Quite often, however, the content is the least important thing in a dance song: resilience of rhythm and motion that is either beautifully graceful or reckless in its abandon offer the dancers the chance spontaneously to express emotions ranging from spiritedness and vitality to frustration and grief.

The song "My Front Porch" was used by Stravinsky in the fourth scene of his ballet *Petrushka* (1911).

—Vadim Prokhorov



Ах вы, сени

Ah vi, séní

Ah, vi, séní, møyi séní,
séní novíye, klenóviye, řeshótchatíye.
Uzh kak znáť tō mñe pō sénichkam ñe házhívaři,
mñe mǐlá drushká za rúcheňku ñe vázhívaři.
Ah, vihóđila mółodá da za novíye vörótá,
za novíye, dubovíye, za řeshótchatíye:
Ah, vüpuskála, sokólá da iz pravóvó rukavá:
“Ah, tí lětí, lětí, sökól, da vísokó i dałekó,
i vísokó, i dałírkó na rödímú stórónu.
Na rödímoy tō stórónke gróžen báříshka zhiřít.
On gróžíon, sudář, gróžíon, da ñe mǐlóstíf kō mñe,
ñe vélít pozdnó hóđíf,
s mółodtsamí góvóřít.
Ñe pöslúshayu öttsá,
eh, raspořéshu mółodtsa!
Ya za to yevo pöřéshu, shto ödín sín u öttsa,
shto ödín sín u öttsá, da urödílsía v mółodtsa!”

My Front Porch

Ah, my front porch, my new front porch,
My new porch, made of maple, with a screen of filigree.
Nevermore shall I stroll along my porch
or hold my sweetheart's hand.
A young lass ventured out
beyond the new oak gate,
From her right sleeve she let loose a falcon, saying:
“Fly, my falcon, high and far,
to the distant land where I come from.
In that land still lives my stern father,
my father who is strict and not at all kindly.
My stern father will not let me stay out late
or talk with young lads.
But I'll pay no heed to father's words
and tease the young lad anyway.
I'll tease him because he is his father's only son;
but, oh, what a fine fella he is!”

[**Giocoso.**] [$\text{♩} = 108\text{--}120$]

Russian Dance Song
arr. for men's chorus by P. Chesnokov

Sheet music for a men's chorus arrangement of the Russian Dance Song "Ah vi, séní". The score includes parts for Tenor Solo, Bass Solo, Additional Tenors (from the chorus), Tenor, Bass, and Piano (for rehearsal only). The vocal parts feature lyrics in Russian and English. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords. The tempo is marked as **Giocoso.** with a tempo of $\text{♩} = 108\text{--}120$.

The vocal parts are as follows:

- Tenor Solo:** Treble clef, 2/4 time, key signature of one flat.
- Bass Solo:** Bass clef, 2/4 time, key signature of one flat.
- Additional Tenors (from the chorus):** Treble clef, 2/4 time, key signature of one flat. This part is shown in two staves, with lyrics appearing under the second staff.
- Tenor:** Treble clef, 2/4 time, key signature of one flat.
- Bass:** Bass clef, 2/4 time, key signature of one flat.
- Piano (for rehearsal only):** Treble and bass clefs, 2/4 time, key signature of one flat. The piano part consists of a series of chords.

Lyrics (in Russian and English):

Additional Tenors (from the chorus) lyrics:

Ah, vi, séní, séní, Ah, vi, séní, séní, Ah, vi, séní, séní,

Tenor lyrics:

Ah, vi, séní, séní, Ah, vi, séní, séní, Ah, vi, séní, séní,

Bass lyrics:

Ah, vi, séní, séní, Ah, vi, séní, séní, Ah, vi, séní, séní,

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Ah, uzh kak znáť - tō
Ax, уж как знать - то
znať - tō mñe pō
знать - то мне по
Uzh kak znáť - tō
Уж как знать - то
znať - tō mñe, mñe ñe
знать - то мне, мне не
znať - tō mñe, mñe ñe
знать - то мне, мне не
rú - cheñ - ku ñe
ру -чен - ку не
lá la
ла ла
lá drush - ká
ла друж - ка
ká, ka,
ка, ка,
ká, ka,
ка, ка,

ñe há - zhï - vař, mñe mī - lá drush - ká za
не ха - жи - вать, мне ми - ла друж - ка за
shé - ních-kam_ ñe_ há - zhï - va - - tì, ah, mñe mī -
се - нич - кам_ не_ ха - жи - ват - ти, ах, мне ми -
mñe ñe há - zhï - vař, mñe mī -
мне не ха - жи - вать, мне ми -
mñe ñe há - zhï - vař, mñe mī - lá drush -
мне не ха - жи - вать, мне ми - ла друж -
mñe ñe há - zhï - vař, mñe mī - lá drush -
мне не ха - жи - вать, мне ми - ла друж -
Ah, vī - hó -
Ax, вы - хо -
dí - la mō - lō -
di - la mo - lo -
Vī - hó -
Вы - хо -
dí - di -
di - di -
mf

26

poco rit.

dí - la, ah, za no - vī - ye, za du - bo - vī - ye, za ū -
ди - ла, ах, за но - вы - е, за ду - бо - вы - е, за ре -

dá da za no - vī - ye, vō - rō - tā, za no - vī - ye, du - bo - vī - ye, za ū -
да да за но - вы - е, во - ро - та, за но - вы - е, ду - бо - вы - е, за ре -

26

falsetto

poco rit.

dí - la mō - lō - da za no - vī - ye, za no - vī - ye,
ди - ла мо - ло - да за но - вы - е, за но - вы - е,

la mō - lō - da za no - vī - ye, du - bo -
ла мо - ло - да за но - вы - е, ду - бо -

la mō - lō - da za no - vī - ye, du - bo -
ла мо - ло - да за но - вы - е, ду - бо -

26

poco rit.

31

[*a tempo*]

shót - cha - tī - ye. Oh, vī - pus - ká - la, ah, iz prá...
шёт - ча - ты - е. Ох, вы - пус - ка - ла, ах, из пра...

shót - cha - tī - ye. Ah, vī - pus - ká - la, so - kō - lá - da iz pra - vó - vō ru - ka -
шёт - ча - ты - е. Ах, вы - пус - ка - ла, со - ко - ла - да из пра - во - го ру - ка -

[*a tempo*]

du - bo - vī - ye. Vī - pus - ká - la so - kō -
ду - бо - вы - е. Вы - пус - ка - ла со - ко -

vī - ye. Vī - pus - ká - la so - kō - lá.
ви - е. Вы - пус - ка - ла со - ко - ла.

31

[*a tempo*]

36

ah! Tí ñe - ū, ñe - ū, só - kól, da ví - só - kó i da - ñe - kó, ah, i ví -
ax! Ты ле - ти, ле - ти, со - кол, да вы - со - ко и да - лё - ко, ах, и вы -

vá. Ah, tí ñe - ū,
ba. Ax, ты ле - ти,

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lá. Tí ñe - ū, tí ñe - ū,
la. Ты ле - ти, ты ле - ти

— Le - ū, tí ñe - ū, tí ñe - ū, tí ñe - ū, i ví -
— Ле - ти, ты ле - ти, ты ле - ти, ты ле - ти и вы -

— Le - ū, tí ñe - ū, tí ñe - ū, tí ñe - ū, i ví -
— Ле - ти, ты ле - ти, ты ле - ти, ты ле - ти и вы -

36

f

só - kó, i da - lñó - kó na ró - dí - mu stó - ró - nu. Na ró -
co - ko, и да - лё - ко на ро - ди - му сто - ро - ну. На ро -

ah, i ví - só - kó, i da - lñó - kó.
ax, и вы - со - ко, и да - лё - ко.

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falso i ví - só - kó, i da - lñó - kó.
i ví - só - kó, и вы - со - ко, и да - лё - ко.

só - kó, i da - lñó - kó, kó, na ró -
co - ko, и да - лё - ко, ко, на ро -

só - kó, i da - lñó - kó, kó, na ró -
co - ko, и да - лё - ко, ко, на ро -

41

f

45

di - мой - то сто - рон - ке гро - зен ба - тюш - ка жи - вёт. Он гро -

Aх, на сто - рон - ке гро - зен ба - тюш - ка жи - вёт.

45

Na rō - dí - мой на сто - рон - ке.
Ha po - ди - мой на сто - рон - ке.

ди - мой на сто - рон - ке. Он гро -
ди - мой на сто - рон - ке. Он гро -

49

зиён, су - дарь, гро - зён, он гро - зён, су - дарь, гро -

On grō - зён, су - дарь, гро - зён, да не ми - ло -

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On grō - зён, су - дарь, гро - зён.
Он гро - зён, су - дарь, гро - зён.

зиён, зён, он гро - зён, он гро - зён, он гро -

зиён, зён, он гро - зён, он гро - зён, он гро -

49

он гро -

53

žiōn, — da ñe mí - lō - stīf, ñe ñe - lít pōzd - nō hō - dīf, — smó - lōd -
зён, — да не ми - ло - стив, не ве - лит позд - но хо - дить, — смо - лод -
stīf, da ñe mí - lō - stīf kō mñe, ñe ñe - lít pōzd - nō hō - dīf, smó - lōd -
стив, да не ми - ло - стив ко мне, не ве - лит позд - но хо - дить, смо - лод -

53

žiōn — da ñe mí - lō - stīf, ñe ñe - lít.
зён — да не ми - ло - стив, не ве - лит.

53

žiōn — da ñe mí - lō - stīf, ñe ñe - lít.
зён — да не ми - ло - стив, не ве - лит.

58

tsa - mí gō - vō - rítl. — ñe pō - slú - sha - yú,
ца - ми го - во - рить. — Не по - слу - ша - ю,
tsa - mí gō - vō - rítl. — ñe pō - slú - sha - yu ót - tsá, eh, ras - pō -
ца - ми го - во - рить. — Не по - слу - ша - ю от - ца, эх, рас - по -

58

— ñe ñe - lít. — ñe pō - slú - sha - yu, — ras - pō -
— не ве - лит. — Не по - слу - ша - ю, — рас - по -
— ñe ñe - lít. — ñe pō - slú - sha - yu, — ras - pō -
— не ве - лит. — Не по - слу - ша - ю, — рас - по -

58

f

62

eh, ras - pō - ū - shu! Ya za to ye - vō pō - ū - shu, shto ū - dīn sīn u ū -
эх, рас - по - тешу! Я за то е - го по - тешу, что о - дин сын у от -

te - shu mó - lōd - tsa, eh, ras - pō - ū - shu, eh, ras - pō -
тешу мо - лод - ца, эх, рас - по - тешу, эх, рас - по -

falsetto

ras - pō - ū - shu, ras - pō - ū - shu, ras - pō - ū - shu mó - lōd -
рас - по - тешу, рас - по - тешу, рас - по - тешу мо - лод -

te ū - shu, ras - pō - ū - shu, ras - pō - ū - shu ū -
тешу, рас - по - тешу, рас - по - тешу ū -

te ū - shu, ras - pō - ū - shu, ras - pō - ū - shu ū -
тешу, рас - по - тешу, рас - по - тешу ū -

62

67

tsá. Ya za to ye - vō pō - ū - shu, shto ū - dīn sīn u ū -
ца. Я за то е - го по - тешу, что о - дин сын у от -

te ū - shu! Ya za to ye - vō pō - ū - shu, shto ū - dīn sīn u ū -
тешу! Я за то е - го по - тешу, что о - дин сын у от -

tsa! Ya pō - ū - shu, tī pō -
ца! Я по - тешу, ты по -

shu. Tī pō - ū - ū - shu, tī pō - ū - ū -
шу. Ты по - тешу, ты по - тешу

shu. Tī pō - ū - ū - shu, tī pō - ū - ū -
шу. Ты по - тешу, ты по - тешу

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