## HAMÍS FOR ORTHODOX LITURGA

## MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD

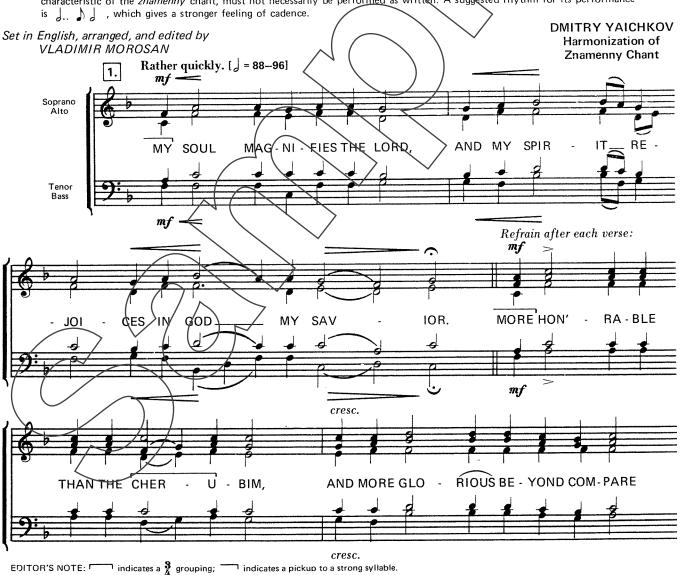
(THE CANTICLE OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS)

Dmitry Moiseevich Yaichkov (dates unavailable) was active in the last decades of the 19th and the first decades of the 20th centuries. Stylistically his works tend to utilize ancient chants in their unaltered modal form and rich choral textures reminiscent of Russian folk polyphony.

My Soul Magnifies the Lord is a harmonization of a znamenny chant found in the Obikhod Notnago Peniia (Moscow: Sinodal'naia Tipografiia, 1900 and earlier editions) pp. 62-63. Yaichkov's original setting requires a massive chorus: each verse is set for five voices (SSATT), while the refrain is set for seven voices (SSATTBB). In the present arrangement the work has been transposed from C major to F major and the number of voice parts has been reduced; however, the contrast in sonority between the verses and the refrain has been maintained by the additional soprano part in the refrain. In the verses the chant lies in the top voice, while in the refrains it is in the second soprano, doubled to a large extent by the bass.

Yaichkov's harmonizations are noted for the thoughtful and meticulous placement of expansics and marks of articulation; in the present edition all the marks of expression and tempo have been preserved from the original Slavonic version published by P. Yurgenson in the composer's lifetime.

Performance Note: The rhythmic figure at the end of the refrain and verses 2 and 6 ( ), which is characteristic of the znamenny chant, must not necessarily be performed as written. A suggested rhythm for its performance



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