

# Cherubic Hymn

## (Sofroniev Hermitage Melody)

CHESNOKOV, Pavel Grigor'yevich (b. 12 [ 24] October, 1877, near Voskresensk, Moscow region; d. 14 March, 1944, Moscow)—graduated from Moscow Synodal School of Church Singing in 1895; 1895–99, studied composition with Sergei Taneyev; graduated from Moscow Conservatory in 1917 in conducting and composition (student of Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov). From 1895, taught church singing (chant) at the Moscow Synodal School; served as precentor in several Moscow churches and taught choral music at various schools. From 1920 to 1944 was professor of choral music at the Moscow Conservatory and conductor of several state choirs in Moscow.

Chesnokov is the most prolific composer associated with the Moscow Synodal School: his compositional output includes over 500 choral works, over 400 of which are sacred. His major opera include three complete settings of the Divine Liturgy, two complete settings of the All-Night Vigil, two settings of the Memorial Service, and a setting of the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts. In addition, he composed numerous settings of individual hymns taken from the ordinary of the Liturgy and Vigil, from feast-day propers, and paraliturgical concertos. His choral writing is characterized by a variety of textures, from austere unisons to sumptuous eight-voice polyphony, and colorful harmony, which he often “spices” with chromaticism. Approximately one-third of his sacred works are chant-based, while the rest are free compositions.

Among the commonly used chant settings of the Cherubic Hymn found in the Russian Orthodox repertoire, few possess the other-worldliness and mystical exaltation of the Sofroniev Hermitage Melody. Once sung in unison or in improvised harmony, this melody has captured the imagination of several composers, among them Alexander Kastalsky and Johann von Gardner. The present English adaptation of Chesnokov's arrangement is based upon the Russian first edition. All the performance markings are the composer's; editorial markings are enclosed in brackets.

Pavel Chesnokov

Op. 27, No. 5

English adaptation by Priest George Johnson

[Molto adagio e sostenuto.  $\text{♩} = 46$  ]

**Soprano**

**Alto**

**Tenor**

**Bass**

**Piano**  
(for rehearsal only)

mys

mys

mys

mys

mys

ti - c'ly rep - re -

mf

A musical score for a vocal piece titled "Rubim". The score consists of eight staves of music, divided into two systems by a vertical bar line. The music is in common time and includes lyrics in Portuguese. The vocal parts are in treble and bass clef, with a bassoon part in bass clef. The lyrics are as follows:

sent the Che - - - - -  
ru - bim and sing, - - -  
mf

Dynamic markings include "mf" (mezzo-forte) placed above the vocal parts in the second system, and "mf" placed above the bassoon part in the eighth staff. The vocal parts are connected by a large, faint watermark reading "SheetMusicSample.com".

1-800-326-3192 Sample.com

sing the

sing the

sing the

thrice ho

thrice ho

thrice ho

ly hymn un - to the

ly hymn un - to the

ly hymn un - to the

un - to the

f 8

lay a - side

all earth - ly

care, now lay a - side

all earth - ly care, all earth - ly

all earth - ly care, all earth - ly

all earth - ly care, all earth - ly

all earth - ly care, all earth - ly

care.

care, all earth - ly care.

care.

care, all earth - ly care.

[Poco più mosso.  $\text{♩} = 72$  ]

*mf*

A - men. That we may re -

A - men. That we may re -

A - men. That we may re -

A - men.

[Poco più mosso.  $\text{♩} = 72$  ]

ceive the King

ceive the King

ceive the King

*p*

*mf*

of all, the King of

of all, the King of

of all, the King of

all who com - - - -

who com - - - -

f 8

eth in - vis - i - bly

up - borne in tri - umph by the

up - borne in tri - umph by the

up - borne in tri - umph by the ranks of

up - borne in tri - umph by the ranks of

ranks of an - gels, by the ranks of an - gels, \_\_\_\_\_  
 ranks of an - gels, by the ranks of an - gels, \_\_\_\_\_  
 an - - - - -  
 an - - - - -  
 by the ranks of an - - - - - gels. Al -  
 by the ranks of an - - - - - gels. Al -  
 gels, by the ranks of an - - - - - gels. Al -  
 gels, by the ranks of an - - - - - gels. Al -  
 gels, by the ranks of an - - - - - gels. Al -  
 f 8