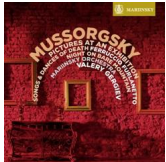


**Mussorgsky: Pictures from an Exhibition - Songs and dances of death – Night on Bare Mountain (2014)**



1. *Pictures at an Exhibition I. Promenade* 01:36 2. *Pictures at an Exhibition II. No.1 Gnomus* 02:31 3. *Pictures at an Exhibition III. Interlude Promenade* 00:56 4. *Pictures at an Exhibition IV. No.2 Il Vecchio Castello* 05:26 5. *Pictures at an Exhibition V. Interlude Promenade* 00:31 6. *Pictures at an Exhibition VI. No.3 Tuileries* 01:09 7. *Pictures at an Exhibition VII. No.4 Bydlo* 03:02 8. *Pictures at an Exhibition VIII. Interlude Promenade* 00:51 9. *Pictures at an Exhibition IX. No.5 Ballet des poussins dans leurs coques* 01:09 10. *Pictures at an Exhibition X. No. 6 Samuel Goldenberg und Schmuyle* 02:31 11. *Pictures at an Exhibition XI. No.7 Limoges le marché* 01:15 12. *Pictures at an Exhibition XII. No.8 Catacombæ* 02:24 13. *Pictures at an Exhibition XIII. Cum Mortuis in Lingue Mortua* 02:17 14. *Pictures at an Exhibition XIV. No.9 La Cabane sur des pattes de poule* 03:18 15. *Pictures at an Exhibition XV. No.10 La grande porte de Kiev* 05:46 16. *Songs and Dances of Death I. Lullaby* 05:00 17. *Songs and Dances of Death II. Serenade* 05:00 18. *Songs and Dances of Death III. Trepak* 05:13 19. *Songs and Dances of Death IV. The Field Marshal* 05:43 20. *Night on Bare Mountain* 12:50 Ferruccio Furlanetto – bass Mariinsky Orchestra Valery Gergiev – conductor Recorded June & October 2014 in the Concert Hall of the Mariinsky Theatre, St Petersburg.

Valery Gergiev and the Mariinsky Orchestra celebrate Mussorgsky with the release of two of his most cherished works, *Pictures at an Exhibition* and *Night on Bare Mountain* (performed here in Mussorgsky's original version).

Gergiev is at his finest conducting these paragons of Mussorgsky's work, featured alongside which are the seldom heard *Songs and Dances of Death*, composed during the years 1875 to 1877 and left languishing unpublished during the composer's lifetime. One of Mussorgsky's most powerful compositions, each song deals with death in a poetic manner reflecting experiences not uncommon in 19th century Russia: child death, death in youth, drunken misadventure and war. --- [mariinskylabel.com](http://mariinskylabel.com)

Fans of Valery Gergiev and his robust interpretations of Russian classics will be enthralled by this hybrid SACD of music by Modest Mussorgsky, a 2015 release on the Mariinsky label. Recorded in direct stream digital and presented in the multichannel format, the performances by the Mariinsky Orchestra have great depth and clear separation of parts. Gergiev takes pains to give Ravel's marvelous orchestration of Pictures at an Exhibition the most transparent textures and skillfully uses dynamics and shadings of tone to heighten the timbres, especially of the low woodwinds and brass. In Songs & Dances of Death, bass Ferruccio Furlanetto sings with remarkable emotional range and a rich and resonant voice, and while the orchestra pulls back to give him center stage, it nonetheless brings across the fine details of Shostakovich's arrangement. The concluding work is Mussorgsky's original version of Night on Bare Mountain, which is seldom heard yet is arguably more interesting and exciting than any of the other versions available. Gergiev emphasizes the piece's eccentricity and inspires the orchestra to play with bold colors and high energy, so the performance is a brilliant revelation of Mussorgsky's idiosyncratic yet effective orchestration. --- Blair Sanderson, Rovi

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