

Igor Stravinsky

1. Le sacre du printemps - The Rite of Spring 1929 (Mp4)

147 MB



Radio Filharmonisch Orkest o.l.v. Jaap van Zweden - conductor 14 november 2010,
Zondagochtend Concert in het Concertgebouw in Amsterdam.

The Rite of Spring was a ballet, created in 1913, with a choreography by Vaslav Nijinsky, set and costume designs by Nicholas Roerich, and Stravinsky as composer. The premiere performance in Paris caused a total scandal and riot, as audiences at that time, being used to the classical ballet were shocked by the primitive, chaotic nature of the performance and composition.

Stravinsky clarified the subject when he wrote in 1910 : *"... there arose a picture of a sacred pagan ritual: the wise elders are seated in a circle and are observing the dance before death of the girl whom they are offering as a sacrifice to the god of Spring in order to gain his benevolence."*

Leonard Bernstein once said about a passage :

"The at page is sixty years old, but it's never been topped for sophisticated handling of primitive rhythms..."

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2. Stravinsky Conducts Stravinsky Firebird (Mp4)

100 MB



New Philharmonia Orchestra Igor Stravinsky – conductor From The Royal Festival Hall, London, 1965. One of those rare videos where the great Stravinsky conducts his own Firebird at the age of 82.

The Firebird is a 1910 ballet created by the composer Igor Stravinsky and choreographer Michel Fokine. The ballet is based on Russian folk tales of the magical glowing bird of the same name that is both a blessing and a curse to its captor. The ballet has historic significance not only as Stravinsky's 'breakthrough piece' (*"Mark him well"*, said Diaghilev to Tamara Karsavina, who was dancing the title role:

"He is a man on the eve of celebrity..."

), but also as the beginning of the collaboration between Diaghilev and Stravinsky.

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3. Tribute to Nijinsky (Flv)

290 MB



Stravinsky - Petrouchka Performer: *Rudolf Nureyev, Denise Jackson, Christian Holder, Gary Chryst*
Karl Weber - Le spectre de la rose Performer:

Rudolf Nureyev, Denise Jackson

Claude Debussy - L'apres-midi d'un Faune Performer:

Rudolf Nureyev, Charlene Gehm

Mihail Fokin – choreography

This video is not only a tribute to Nijinsky but also to Nureyev. I have seen this ballet in the 80's as I was young and I never forgot the exotic music and dance such as L' Apres-midi d' un Faune and the Stravinsky's masterpiece Petrouchka since then. There is also the most classical e known piece: The Spectre of Rose. That is a pity the VHS version has not been remastered and transferred to DVD. Probably the new viewers will find the set production and the quality of the sound rather poor but those who appreciate a good dancer and variety of performances this is the video.

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