

“At first, silence – pure silence – and then we wait. Miracle: sound of equal purity. Four disembodied voices create notes that seem to emanate from elsewhere, lead us into a space where sound and silence unite...”

- British Theater Producer, Peter Brook

KONEVETS QUARTET

www.konevetsquartet.com

A concert by the Konevets Quartet offers a fascinating program of harmonic brilliance in the rich tradition of Russian choral music and the male chamber choir.



The **KONEVETS QUARTET** was founded in 1992 by graduates of the St. Petersburg Music Conservatoire-Glinka Choral Academy, who all sang in the Konevets Holy Nativity Monastery choir. Their goal was to share the rich Russian vocal traditions with audiences the world over. With their dedication to creating a perfect harmonious sound, their repertoire was created especially for this purpose, and remains such to this day.

The heart of their repertoire is Orthodox sacred music, ranging from chants and hymns by twentieth century composers, to ancient chants and hymns sung in unison or in two or three-part arrangements and, in contemporary four-part arrangements, sometimes re-harmonized by the Quartet.

The quartet's secular repertoire features Russian and Ukrainian folk songs, classical selections and Imperial regimental songs and marches which were forbidden during Communism. The third portion of the repertoire features lyrics by Russian poets set to music by Tchaikovsky, Borodin and other famous composers.

KONEVETS QUARTET's impressive accomplishments merit world wide recognition. These professional musicians have sung in all the great cathedrals of Russia, and participated in prestigious international festivals in Gt. Britan, France, Italy, Scandinavia, the U.S. and Canada most recently, Japan. They continue to receive high acclaim from critics and the music press. Their recordings are on sale throughout the world. In 2010, the Quartet received *Laureate* status at the eminent International Choir Competition in St. Petersburg. They have toured extensively, throughout Europe & North America where they also performed with baritone soloist Dmitri Hvorostovsky and basso profundo, Vladimir Miller.

Igor Dmitriev – Bass, Director. Graduate of the Glinka Choral Academy of St. Petersburg and the St. Petersburg Conservatory as choir director and composer. Founder of the Konevets Quartet. Author of many harmonizations of Valaam chant and folksong arrangements.

Yulian Danshin - Baritone. Completed special studies at the Music School of the St. Petersburg Conservatory. Conductor multiple church choirs. Leader of St. Petersburg ensemble, "New Voices".

Alexander Karpov- 2nd Tenor. Graduate St. Petersburg Conservatory. Composer, choral conductor and soloist, St. Petersburg Music Conservatory



Maksim Mostovoi – First Tenor. A graduate of the Glinka Choral Academy and the St. Petersburg Conservatory, his refined voice and exceptional range – tenor and counter-tenor have made him a popular soloist of the ensemble

As musical ambassadors of the Konevets Monastery, part of the Quartet's revenue aids the continuous restoration of the Monastery, which suffered catastrophic damage during the Soviet era.

THE KONEVETS QUARTET and MONASTERY OF THE HOLY NATIVITY



The **KONEVETS QUARTET** takes its name from the Konevets Island and Monastery, some 160 kilometers northeast of St. Petersburg, on Lake Ladoga. It was there, over 600 years ago, that St. Arseny Konevsky founded a cloister in honor of the birth of St. Mary, the Mother of God. During Soviet years the island was occupied by the USSR military and was removed from all maps. The fabric of the Monastery was almost completely destroyed but now, it is being reborn. During the early years of the Konevets Quartet's association with the Monastery, they began singing for the restoration workers as well as for pilgrims, tourists and the homeless who sought shelter in the restored buildings. The Quartet frequently sings for Monastery liturgies and Feast Days.



"Konevets Quartet was one of the finest ensembles at our inaugural 2011 Serenade! Washington DC Choral Festival! Their four voices filled the halls as if there was a full choir and left audiences astounded. In their sacred works, the quartet encompassed utmost control over their voices creating a pure blend of harmonic tones and timbres. Performances of the traditional Russian folk songs emulated true authenticity and enticed audiences with every song. Bravo!" –Yarina Conners, Classical Movements Producers, 2011 Serenade! Washington DC Choral Festival.

www.classicalmovements.com

"Extremely well trained and thoroughly professional with a blending of perfect harmonious sound"
–V. Rev. Rastko Truhovich, Church Musician, Rector St. Stephen's Serbian Orthodox Church, Lackawanna, NY

"We could not have been more pleased. Our audiences were spiritually fulfilled and musically enlightened." – Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit

"Your humanitarian performance for aiding the Serbian flood victims was received with great & sincere appreciation. I highly recommend you as outstanding artists & good and faithful men. You have an open invitation to my diocese."
– Rt. Rev. LONGIN, Serbian Orthodox Bishop of New Gracanica & Midwestern America

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