

Dmitri Shostakovich
Antiformalist Rayok

Text: Dmitri Shostakovich

Nu kak, tovarishi, nachniom, shto li?
Narodu u nas, pravda, sevodnia malovato.
U nas, pravda, yesho prevaliruyet
Nedootsenka kulturnovo maksimuma
Lektsionnoi propagandy.
No poskolku po planu nashevo dvortsa
kultury
U nas sevodnia sostoitsa riad vystuplenii
na temu:
"Realizm I formalizm v muzyke,"
My yevo, etu temu, to yest eti samye
vystupleniya proverniom.
Pravilno? Priniato.
Vstupitelnoye slovo na etu tematiku

Skazhet musyloved nomer odin,
Nash glavnyi konsultant I muzykalnyi kritik
Tovarish Yedinityn.
Poprivetstvuyem, tovarishi, nashevo dorogovo
I liubimovo, velikovo tovarisha
Yedinityna!

Slava! Slava velikomu Yedinitynu! Slava!

Tovarishi! Realisticheskuyu muzyku pishut
Narodnye kompozitory,
A formalisticheskuyu muzyku
Pishut antinarodnye kompozitory.
Sprashivayetsa, pochemu realisticheskuyu
Muzyku pishut narodnye kompozitory,

A formalisticheskuyu muzyku pishut
Antinarodnye kompozitory?
Narodnye kompozitory pishut realisticheskuyu
Muzyku potomu, tovarishi, shto yavliayas
po prirode
Realistami, oni ne mogut, ne mogut ne pisat
Muzyku realisticheskuyu.
A antinarodnye kompozitory, yavlyayas po
prirode formalistami,
Ne mogut, ne mogut ne pisat' muzyku
formalisticheskuyu.

Translation: L. Hapkopian

Chairman:
*So, comrades, let's begin.
True, there are few people today.
True, among us, the underestimation of
The cultural maximum of
The lecture propaganda still prevails.
Yet, since according to the schedule of our
palace of culture
We have today some discourse concerning
the theme
"Realism and formalism in music,"
We'll carry this theme, that is, these
discourses, through.
That's right, isn't it? The proposal is accepted.
The introductory speech on this subject will
be pronounced
By the musicologist number one,
Our principal advisor and music critic,
Comrade Numberone.
Now, comrades, let's greet our dear
And beloved great comrade Numberone!*

Chairman, Musical Activists:
Glory! Glory to great Numberone! Glory!

Numberone:
*Comrades! The realistic music is composed by
People's composers,
And the formalistic music is composed by
Anti-people composers.
Now, I put the following question:
Why is the realistic music composed by
people's composers,
And the formalistic music composed by
anti-people composers?
People's composers compose realistic music,
Comrades, because, being realists by their
nature,
They can compose only
Realistic music.
And anti-people composers, being by their
nature formalists,
Can compose only formalistic music.*

Zadacha, sledovatel'no, zakliuchayetsa
v tom,
Shtoby narodnye kompozitory razvivalib
muzyku realisticheskuyu,
A antinarodnye kompozitory prekratilib svoyo
Bolee chem somnitel'noye eksperimen-
tirovaniye
V oblasti muzyki formalisticheskoi.

Pravil'no! Verno! Tovarishi!
Poblagodarim zhe nashevo rodnovo
I liubimovo, velikovo Yedinityna
Za istoricheskuyu rech', za yevo
vystupleniye,
Obogasheniye I osvesheniye vazhnykh
voprosov
Muzykal'noye dela.

Spasibo, spasibo za istoricheskuyu rech',
Za otecheskuyu zabotu!

Posleduyem zatem planu,
Predostavim slovo muzykovedu
nomer dva,
Imeyushemu k tomu zhe golos
I vozmozhnost' vokalizirovat'.
Predostavliayu slovo tovarishu Dvoikinu.

Tovarishi! Svoim vystupleniyem ya ne imeyu
vvidu
Vnosit' dissonansy.

Xa, xa, xa, xa, xa....

Ili atonal'nost'.

Xa, xa, xa, xa, xa....

So, our task consists in the following:

*People's composers must develop the
realistic music,
While the anti-people composers must stop
Their more than doubtful experimentations*

In the field of formalistic music.

Chairman:
*That's right! That's exact! Comrades,
Let us give thanks to our cherished
And beloved great Numberone
For his historical speech, for his discourse,*

*Which has enriched and illumined the
important problems concerning
Our musical matters.*

Chairman, Musical Activists:
*Thanks, thanks for the historical speech!
Thanks, thanks for the fatherly care!*

Chairman:
*According to the schedule,
Let's give the floor to the musicologist
number two,
Who, moreover, has a voice
And hence can vocalize.
So, I give the floor to comrade Numbertwo.*

Numbertwo:
*Comrades! I don't intend to introduce with
my speech
Any dissonance...*

Chairman, Musical Activists:
Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha!

Numbertwo:
...Or atonality...

Chairman, Musical Activists:
Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha!

V te myski, kotorye my zdes' slykhali.
 My, tovarishi, trebuyem ot muzyki krasoty
 I iziashestva. Vam eto stranno? Da?
 Nu konechno, vam stranno eto.
 Strannym vam eto kazhetsa,
 Strannym vam eto kazhetsa...
 Da nu, konechno, vam stranno eto,
 Strannym vam eto kazhetsa,
 Budto zdes' chto-to ne tak.
 A mezhdue tem, eto tak.
 Yas ne ogovorilsia.
 My stoim za krasivuyu, iziashnyuyu muzyku.
 Muzyka nemelodichnaya, muzyka
 neestetichnaya,
 Muzyka negarmonichnaya, muzyka
 neiziashnaya
 Eto, eto...bormashina!
 Ili, ili...muzykal'naya dushegubka.

Xa, xa, xa, xa, xa....

Vozliubim zhe prekrasnoye, krasivoye,
 iziashnoye,
 Vozliubim estetichnoye, garmonichnoye,
 melodichnoye
 Zakonnoye, polifonnoye, narodnoye,
 Blagorodnoye, klassicheskoye!
 Krome tovo, tovarishi, ya dolzhen vam
 soobshir',
 Chto v kavkasskikh operakh
 Dolzhna byt' nastoyashaya lezghinka.
 V kavkasskikh operakh lezghinka
 Prostoi dolzhna byt' i izvestnoi,
 Likhoi, obychnoi, populiarnoi
 I obiazatel'no kavkazskoi.
 Ona dolzhna byt' nastoyashei,
 Vsegda dolzhna byt' nastoyashei
 I tol'ko, tol'ko nastoyashei,
 Da, da, da, nastoyashei.

V kavkasskikh operakh lezghinka
 Prostoi dolzhna byt' i izvestnoi,
 Likhoi, obychnoi, populiarnoi
 I obiazatel'no kavkazskoi.

Numbertwo:

*...In those ideas which we've heard here.
 We, comrades, demand from music to be nice
 And graceful. You find it strange? Really?
 Surely, you find it strange.
 You find it strange,
 You find it strange...
 Surely, you find it strange.
 You find it strange, you find it strange,
 As if something were wrong with it.
 Yet nothing is wrong.
 This wasn't a slip of tongue.
 We do stand for a nice, graceful music.
 If music is non-melodic, non-aesthetic,*

Non-harmonic, non-graceful,

*It is a...dentist's drill!
 Or else a...musical torture machine.*

Chairman, Musical Activists:
Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha!

Numbertwo:

*Now, let's love the beautiful, the nice,
 the graceful,
 Let's love the aesthetic, the harmonic,
 the melodic,
 The poetic, the legal, the polyphonic,
 The popular, the noble, the classical!
 And, moreover, comrades, I have to
 inform you
 That in Caucasian operas,
 There must be an authentic lezghinka.
 In Caucasian operas, the lezghinka
 Must be simple and well-known,
 Dashing, familiar, popular
 And, certainly, Caucasian.
 It must be authentic,
 It always must be authentic,
 It must be only, only authentic,
 Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, authentic.*

Musical Activists:

*In Caucasian operas, the lezghinka
 Must be simple and well-known,
 Dashing, familiar, popular
 And, certainly, Caucasian.*

Vot podlinno nauchnoye vystupleniye!
 Kakoi analiz, kakya glubina!
 Slovo imeet tovarish Troikin.

Tovarishi!

My dolzhny byt', kak klasiki.
 U nas vsio dolzhno byt', kak u klasikov. Da!
 Glinka, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov,
 Vy muzykal'ny, iziashny, stroiny.
 Glinka, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov,
 Vy melodichny, krasivy, zvuchny.
 Glinka, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov
 Vy zadevayete neskol'ko strun.
 Kak eto pravil'no, kak eto verno!
 Nash chelovek ochen' slozhnyy organizm!
 Poetomu tovarishi, nam nuzhny simfonii,
 Poemy, kvartety, sonaty, suity, kvintety...
 Suity, suitki, sonatki moi,
 Razvesiolye kvartetiki, kantatki moi.
 Ekh, Glinka, kalinka, malinka moya,
 Raz simfoniya, poemka, suitka moya.
 Ekh Glinka, Dzerzhinka, Tishinka moya,
 Raskhrenovaya poemka, suitka moya...
 No nuzhno pomnit' vsegda:
 Bditel'nost vsegda, vezde, vo vsiom.
 Postoyanno vsiudu bdi! Nikomu ne govori!

Bditel'nost vsegda, vezde, vo vsiom.
 Postoyanno vsiudu bdi! Nikomu ne govori!

Velikii vozhd' nas vsekh uchil
 I besprestanno govoril:
 Smotrite zdes', smotrite tam,
 Pust' budet strashno vsem vragam
 Smotri tuda, smotri siuda
 I vykorchovyvai vraga.

Smotrite zdes', smotrite tam,
 Pust' budet strashno vsem vragam
 Smotri tuda, smotri siuda
 I vykorchovyvai vraga.

Chairman:

*Here's a really scientific discourse!
 What an analysis! What a deepness!
 Comrade Numberthree takes the floor.*

Numberthree:

*Comrades!
 We must be like the classics.
 We must not differ from the classics.
 Glinka, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov,
 You're musical, graceful, harmonious.
 Glinka, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov,
 You're melodious, nice, sonorous.
 Glinka, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov,
 You do touch several strings.
 This is so right, so exact!
 Our man is a very complex organism.
 Therefore, comrades, we need symphonies,
 Poems, quartets, sonatas, suites, quintets...
 O suites, O my little suites and sonatas,
 O my merry little quartets and cantatas.
 Hey, my Glinka, kalinka, malinka,
 My merry symphony, my little poem and suite,
 Hey, my Glinka, Dzerzhinka, Tishinka,
 Hey, my Khrenish little poem, my little suite...
 But we must keep it in our memory:
 Vigilance, vigilance always and everywhere.
 Be vigilant everywhere, and say nothing!*

Musical Activists:

*Vigilance, vigilance always and everywhere.
 Be vigilant everywhere, and say nothing!*

Numberthree:

*Our great leader taught us all
 And said incessantly:
 Look here, look there,
 Let all the enemies feel fear.
 Look here, look there
 And do away with the enemy.*

Musical Activists:

*Look here, look there,
 Let the enemies tremble in their homes.
 Look here, look there
 And do away with the enemy.*

Bditel'nost vseгда, vezde, vo vsiom.

Ne davat' liuboi popytke
Proniknoveniya burzhuaznoi ideologii
V nashu molodiozh.
Etim ty nashi idei zberezhosh
Nu, a yesli burzhuaznye idei
Kto-nibud' vosprimet,
Nadolgo tekh budem my sazhat'.
I v lageria usilenovo rezhima pomeshat'.
Sazht', sazhat'!

Velikii vozhd' nas vsekh uchil
I besprestanno govoril:
Smotrite zdes', smotrite tam,
Pust' budet strashno vsem vragam.

Smotrite zdes', smotrite tam,
Pust' budet strashno vsem vragam
Smotri tuda, smotri siuda
I vykorchovyvai vraga.

Numberthree:

*Vigilance, vigilance always and everywhere.
Vigilance, vigilance always and in every
circumstance.
Don't let the bourgeois ideology
Infect our youth.
Thus, you'll protect our ideas.
And if there is someone
Who appreciates the bourgeois ideas,
We'll put him into jail for a long time.
We'll put him into a camp under a doubled watch.
Jail! Jail!*

Numberthree:

*Our great leader taught us all
And said incessantly:
Look here, look there,
Let all the enemies feel fear.*

Musical Activists:

*Look here, look there,
Let the enemies tremble every night.
Look here, look there,
And do away with the enemy.*