

## Shostakovich Sy 5

Notes from Editor of edition State Publishers, Moscow 1980

Sy 5 Op. 47, written 1937 3 months to compose

DS "The process of work on the symphony was comparatively short (for example, I wrote the third movement in three days)."

His message for the premiere:

"My new work may be defined as a lyro-heroic symphony. Its main idea is man's emotional experiences and all-conquering optimism. I wanted to show how, overcoming a series of tragic conflicts arising in the intense struggle which rages in ones's soul, optimism is born as a world-outlook." ... "some comrades defined it as an autobiographical work. I think that, to a certain extent, this is correct.

[then goes on to say it is not a history of events in his life.]

"Its birth took place after a long inner preparation. My works that preceded it were not of equal value....I did my best to make the Soviet audience sense in my music a turn for a greater accessibility.

[he liked the third movement best]

"The symphony's Finale provides a joyous and optimistic resolution to the intensely tragic moments of the preceding movements."

[most of these quotes are from interviews with Vechernaya Moskva in 1938 and 1940, so for public/government consumption.]

Perfs:

First perf: Academic Leningrad Philharmonic Orch in Leningrad, Nov 21, 1937

Moscow premiere by State Sy Orch at the Conservatoire, Jan 29, 1938

Foreign premiere (orchestra not mentioned) at Salle Pleyel in Paris, June 14, 1938

Editions:

Score Pub 1939 by the MUZGIZ in Moscow

Autograph is not available. Sketches for iii and iv are in the Central State Archives of Lit and Art of the USSR

This Ed based on first ed by Muzgiz

Last edition pub during DS's life (Soviet Composer, 1961) had all mistakes corrected, including "unification of dynamic markings and bowings."