

PYOTR ILICH TCHAIKOVSKY



□ Pyotr Ilich Tchaikovsky is one of the most celebrated composers of all time. He wrote music ultimately deeply Russian. Stravinsky said that his “music is quite as Russian as Pushkin’s verse or Glinka’s song.”

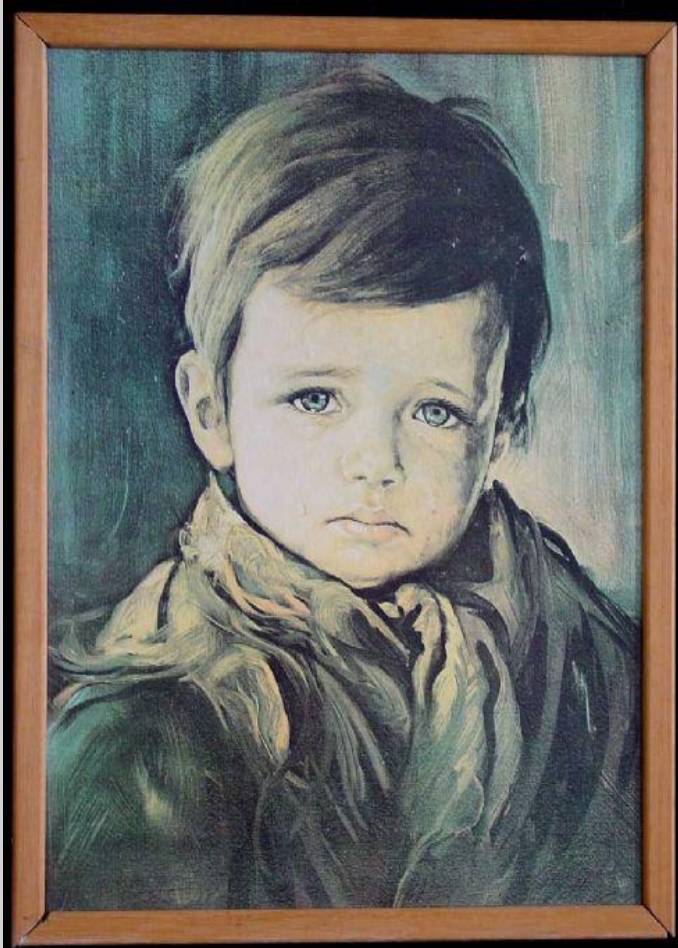


Peter wrote his music during a time known as the Romantic period. He used his great imagination create beautiful music that was sometimes very happy and sometimes very sad.



Peter Tchaikovsky first became interested in music when he was four or five years old. One day Peter's father brought home a large machine that played music called an orchestrion. One piece of music it played was a tune from Mozart. Peter loved Mozart's music.

VOTKINSK



While Peter was growing up, he was very sensitive. Things that wouldn't bother most children seemed like the worst things in the world to Peter.

Peter had feelings about things that most people didn't even think. He was able to put those feelings into his music.



P.I. Tchaikovsky was born on May, 7 1840 in Votkinsk, Vyatka. He was the second of six children. His father was a successful engineer. Pyotr began playing the piano at the age of 5, he also enjoyed his mother's playing and singing. As a boy he loved music, but he didn't think of giving his life to it.



A lawyer



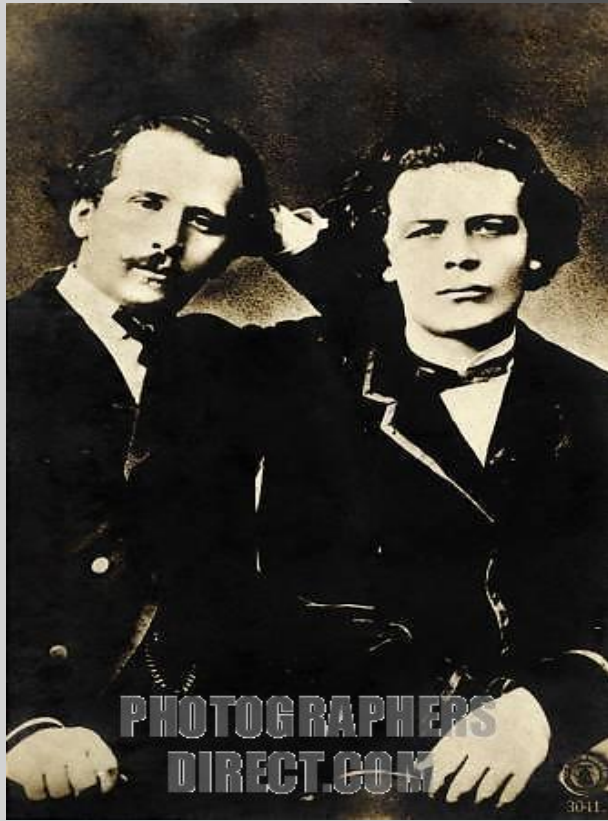
Peter played the piano and flute pretty well. Music was really a hobby than a career. Peter's parents had planned on him to become a lawyer. When he was 10 years old he began his education in law. When Peter was 21 he graduated from law school and took a job in a government office.

CAREER



But at the age of 21 Pyotr decided, that music was much more interesting and he entered the Conservatory in St. Petersburg. Five years later Tchaikovsky was made a professor in Moscow Conservatory.

Brothers Rubenstein



At the time Peter was growing up in Russia hardly anyone made a living by writing music. Fortunately things began to change. Anton and Nikolai Rubinstein opened a music school in St. Petersburg so Peter quit his job and studied music at the new school.

The fallen head



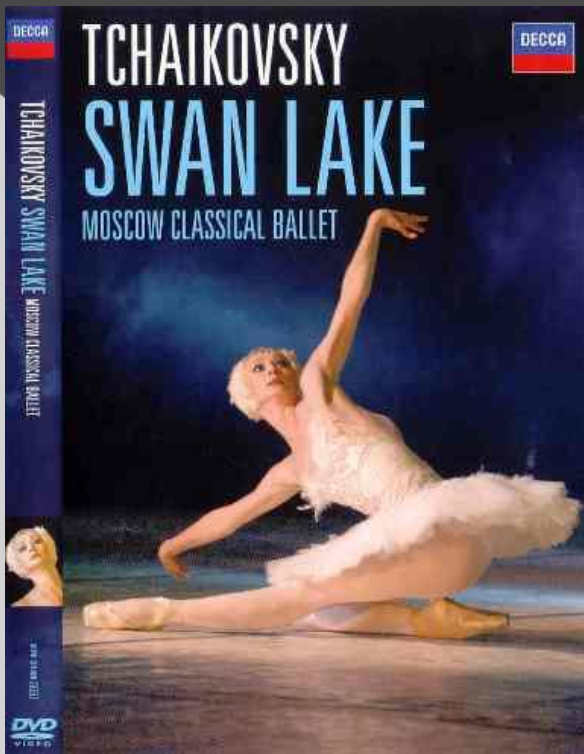
It wasn't long before Tchaikovsky did very well with his music. Once he was asked to conduct one of his pieces for an audience. Peter was so nervous, he imagined his head might fall off and held tightly to his beard through the entire performance.

By the time Peter was thirty-seven years old, he had written several operas and symphonies, a ballet and many of other musical pieces. Some of his music was well liked, some was not.

Private Life



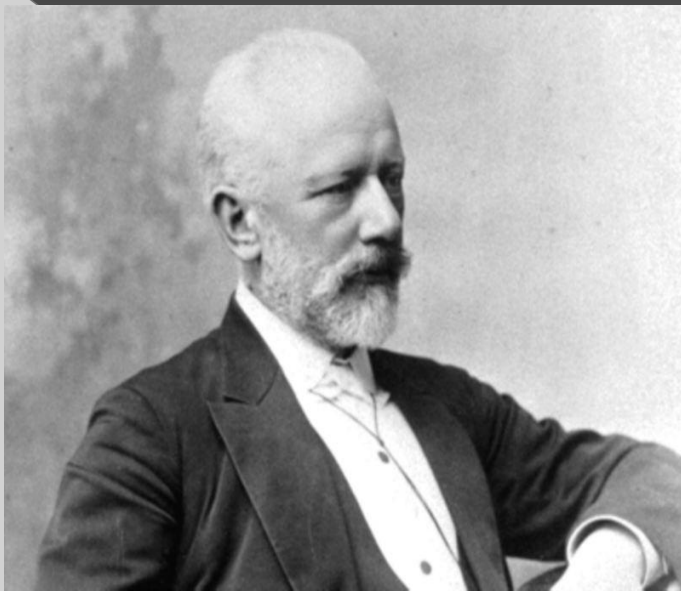
Peter was not making much money, but an amazing thing happened. A rich widow, Madam Nadezhda von Meck, loved Tchaikovsky's music and offered to financially support Peter on condition that they never meet face to face. Peter accepted the help and the two became friends through their hand written letters.



MUSIC

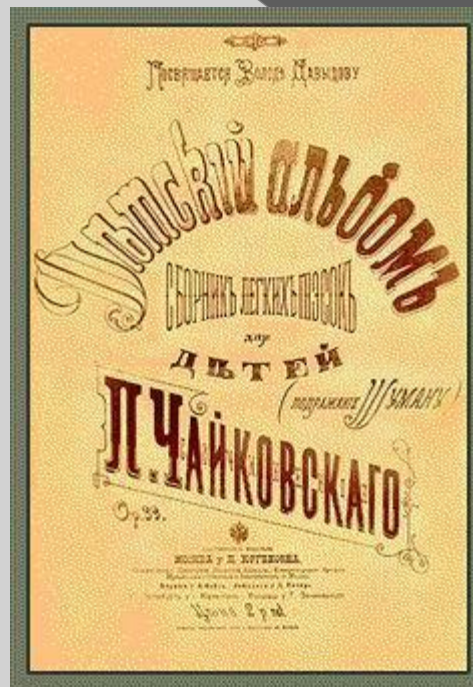
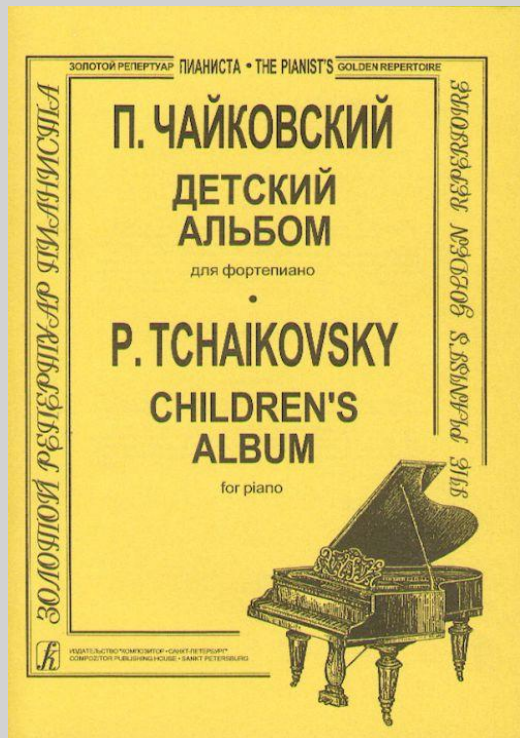
- At that time Tchaikovsky wrote his first ballet “The Swan Lake” and opera “Eugene Onegin”.





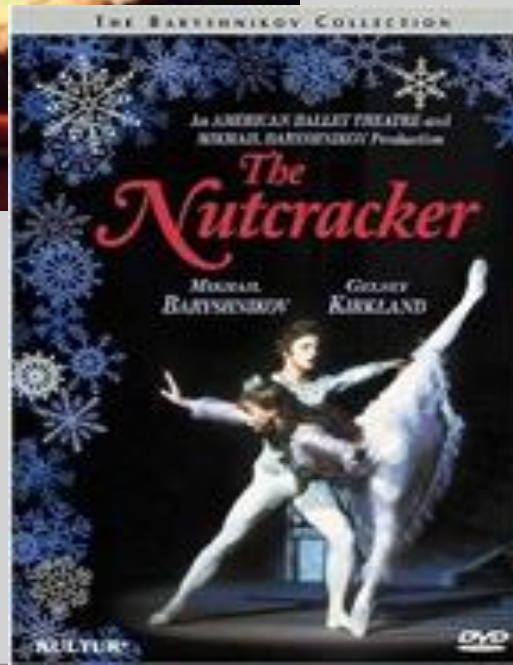
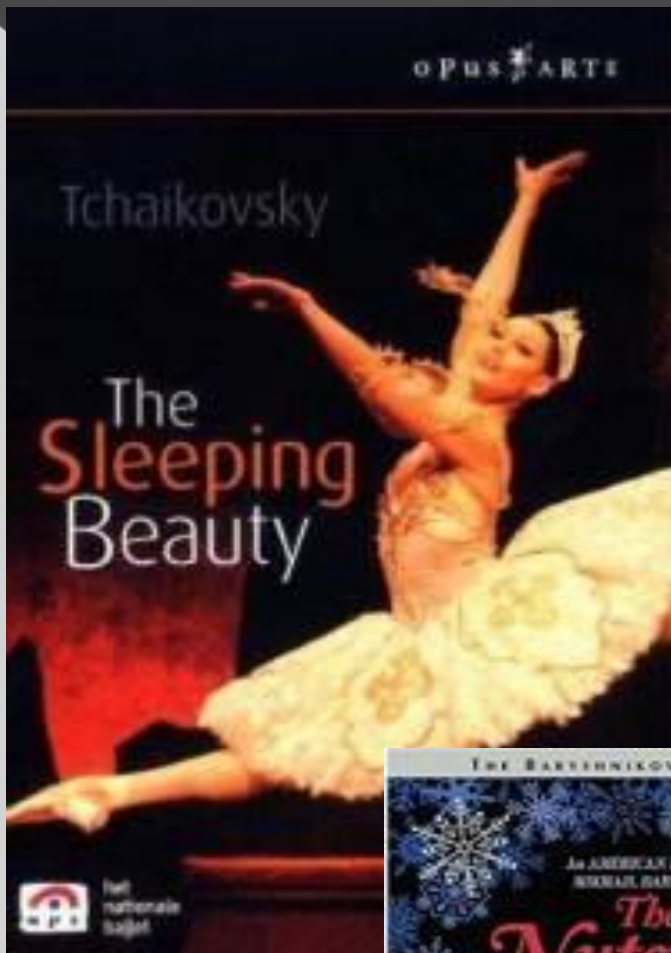
CHILDREN'S ALBUM

- ❑ P.I. Tchaikovsky wrote a lot of plays for children.



Music

- In 1883-1893 Pyotr Ilich wrote his best symphonies №5 and №6, ballets “The Sleeping Beauty” and “The Nutcracker”.





Now Tchaikovsky was able to travel giving concerts and gathering ideas for new music. On a trip to Paris, France, Peter heard a newly invented instrument call a celesta. It looked like a small piano and made a bell-like sound. Peter thought it would be a perfect instrument to add to his new *Nutcracker Suite*. Peter had a celesta secretly smuggled out of Paris.

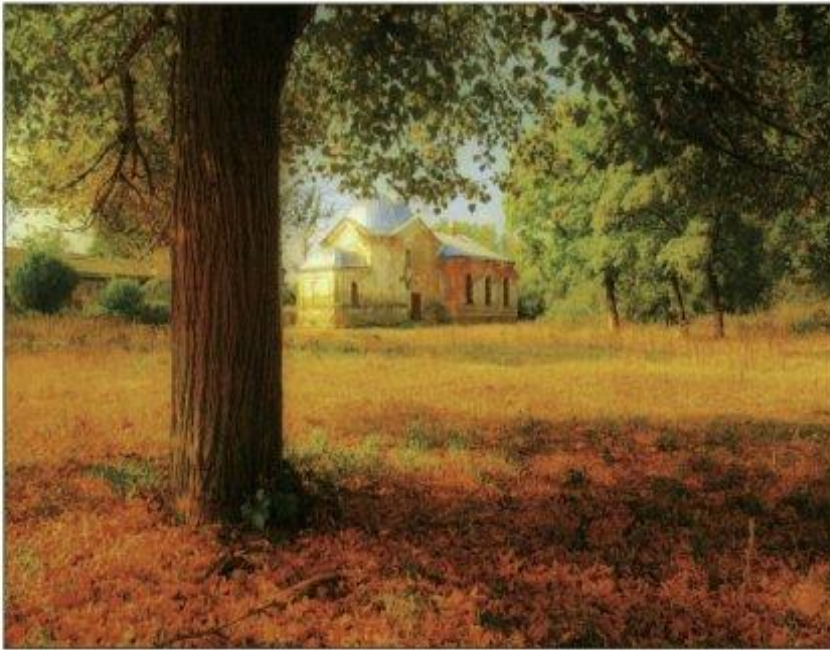
NAXOS

TCHAIKOVSKY

The Seasons

Piano Sonata in C sharp minor

Ilya Rachkovsky, Piano

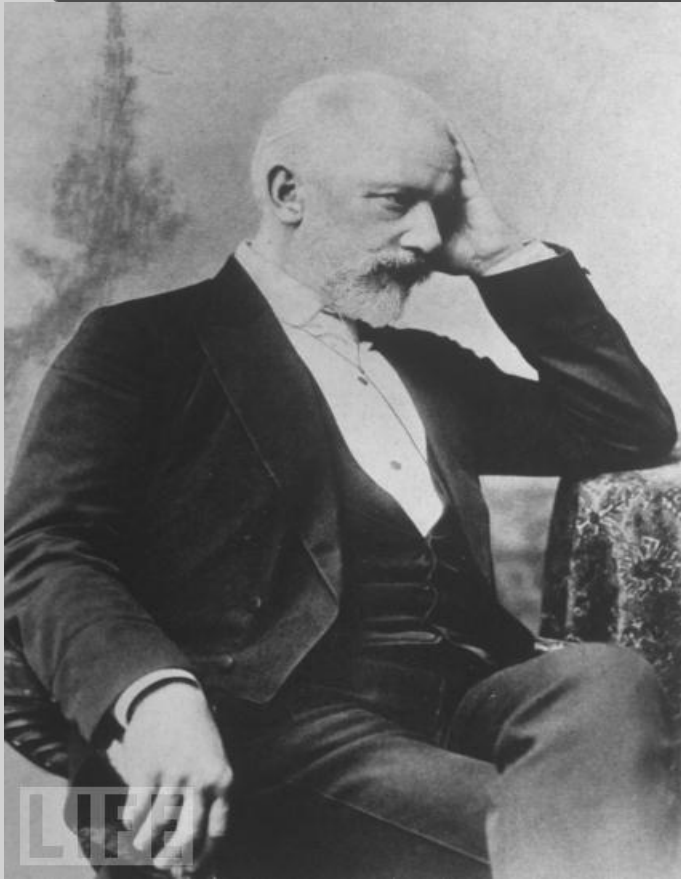


THE SEASONS

- ❑ The seasons is a set of twelve short character pieces for solo piano composed by P.I. Tchaikovsky in 1875. Each piece is the characteristic of a different month of the year.

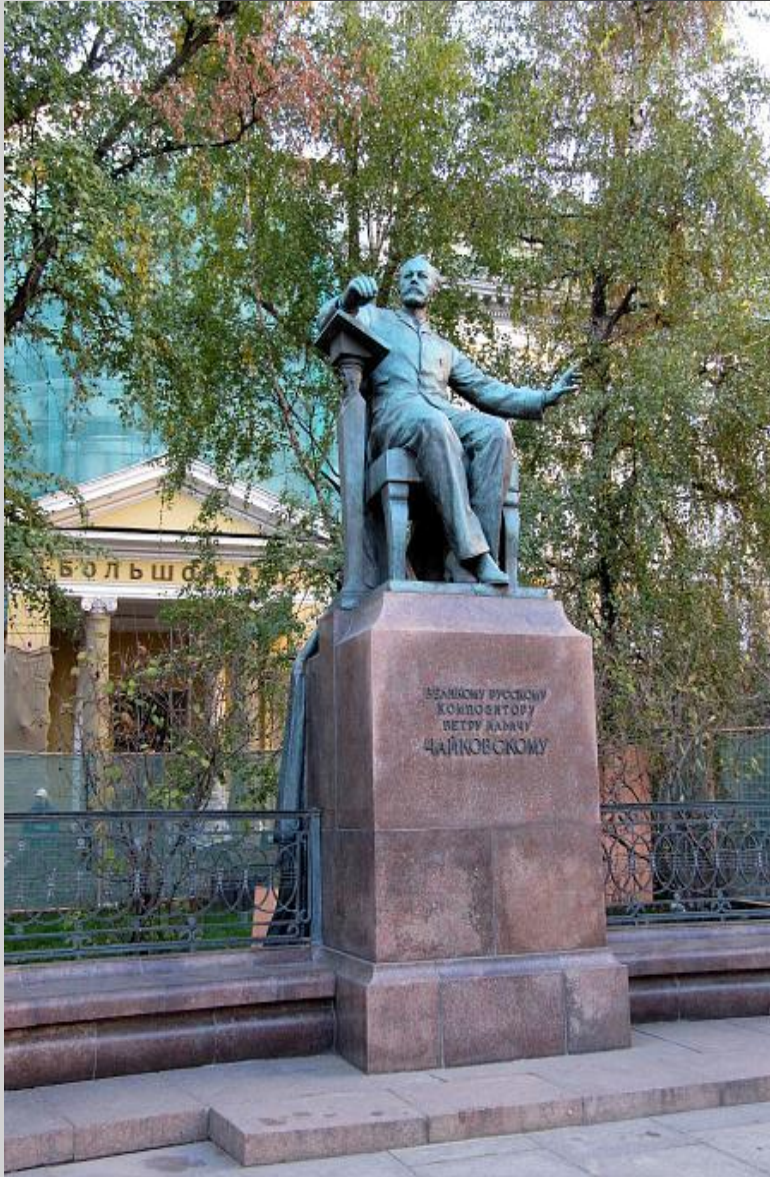


One of Peter's talents was discovering new instruments and using unusual new combinations of instruments to get beautiful and exciting sounds into his music. In one of his most famous pieces, «The 1812» Overture, Peter even used church bells and real cannons to get just the right sound.



Peter Tchaikovsky became famous all over the world for his beautiful music. Though he never found a person to fall in love with, he did find happiness composing music about love.

GREAT COMPOSER



His compositions are so popular now that it is hard to believe that at first they were not popular at all.

Tchaikovsky was only 53 when he died. But he lived long enough to know that his music was being played far and wide over the world.