

orchestra other leaders of the orchestra would include Vitaly Gnutov, Nikolai Kalinen, Viktor Smirnov and Alexander Gauk.

In 1996 it was once again renamed to become The Osipov National Academic Folk Instruments Orchestra of Russia. Under the baton of Viktor Dubrovsky the orchestra would once more widen its horizons and be heard performing works by the great composers such as Rossini, Glinka, Mussorgsky and Stravinsky.

In 2005 Vladimir Pontin took over the leadership of the 80 current musicians as the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor and he continues to expand the orchestra's repertoire as well as retain the traditional folk music which it became famous for championing.

BALALAIKA FAVORITES

OSIPOV STATE RUSSIAN FOLK ORCHESTRA



This orchestra is also known as the Osipov Balalaika Orchestra and the Osipov National Academics Folk Instruments Orchestra of Russia. In 1919 the domrist Pyotr Alexeyev and the balalaika player Boris Troyanovsky founded it and after its first concert it became known as the First Moscow Great-Russian Orchestra of Folk Instruments.

Within a very short period of time they were touring all the regions in the USSR and over the next 17 years they would undergo two more name changes; The All-Russian Radio Committee Folk Instruments Orchestra in 1928 and The State Folk Instruments Orchestra of USSR in 1936.

In 1940 Nikolai Osipov was given the post of Chief Conductor and Music Director, and under his leadership the orchestra changed considerably. He introduced many traditional instruments into the orchestra

and commissioned many new pieces that would give the audience a whole new range of folk and classical music to experience.

The orchestra disbanded in 1941 but the government decided that it would be good to bring them back together and Nikolai Osipov and Boris Romanov had the job of finding musicians and taking them to Moscow to be part of the re-formed ensemble under the name The State Russian Folk Orchestra.

They would perform many concerts for the forces on the battlefield and their final concert of WWII was in the Kremlin as a victory dedication. Such was the recognition that Nikolai Osipov received, that in 1946 the orchestra was named after him.

After Nikolai's death, Dmitri Osipov would take over the conductor's baton and over the next few years the

Balalaika Favorites

Osipov State Russian Folk Orchestra

- 1 On The Moonlight 3:03
- 2 Midnight In Moscow 2:27
- 3 Under The Apple Tree 2:11
- 4 Dance Of The Comedians 4:29
- 5 The Living Room 1:23
- 6 Evening Bells 4:10
- 7 My Dear Old Friend, Please Visit Me 2:23
- 8 Waltz Of The Faun 4:18
- 9 Flight Of The Bumble Bee 1:09
- 10 Fantasy On Two Folk Songs 7:04
- 11 At Sunrise 4:23
- 12 The Linden Tree 4:15
- 13 Kamarinskaya 2:40
- 14 Fantasy On Volga Melodies 4:46

Recorded 13 & 16 June 1962 in 35MM Film at the Grand Hall Of The Moscow Conservatoire
Engineer [Chief Engineer], Technician [Technical Supervisor] – C. R. Fine
Engineer [Associate Engineer] – Robert Eberenz
Recording Supervisor [Musical Supervisor] – Harold Lawrence
Recorded By [Recording Session Director] – Wilma Coza

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