

Kovcheg, Orthodox vocal group (RUS)

Evgenii Krylov – tenor

Evgenii Smirnov – tenor

Valeri Perov – baritone

Oleg Blokhin – bass

Igor Proskurin – bass

Pavel Myakotin – bass

The group was started in 1991 by the graduates of the Glinka State Musical Academy in Nizhny Novgorod. The base for the concerts of these musicians is and always has been the city of St. Petersburg. They are integral to the artistic endeavours in the Petropavlov Stronghold and the Iusupov Palace, performing regularly at celebrations in the cathedral and in the museum of the Russian kings' tomb. The professionalism and dedication of the group has become an inseparable part of the artistic life in the city, almost turning into its symbol. They perform all over Russia as well as abroad (Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Italy). Their repertoire gravitates towards Orthodox sacred music and classical music, but also Russian folk songs. The artists have performed to a total number of over 3.5 million listeners over a career spanning 25 years. The recording output is also significant, comprising of no less than 15 CDs. One is of special interest – the unique CD MANDYLION, recorded in the Spasopreobrazhensky Temple in the “kreml” of the town of Uglich. The singing of the Kovcheg is special due to the usage of deep bassi profondi including extremely low pitches in full sound. The name, “Kovcheg” (the Ark), symbolizes the place of protection and repository of sacred items.

„The Ark is the ship on which Noah rescued all creatures alive before the deluge. The Ark is a ship of safety in our times of turmoil.“

Kovcheg