



V. Silvestrov

M&ika film





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There is a rumor in the Kyiv musical community: once upon a time, in private conversation, **QUEEN ELIZABETH II** mentioned **VALENTYN SILVESTROV** as one of her favorite composers of the modern age. The Royal Press Office hasn't confirmed it, so no one knows for sure. But the stature of **SILVESTROV** justifies this rumor. Highly respected by the world's best music professionals, he remains a mystery for a wide audience.

The documentary “**SILVESTROV**,” dedicated to this brilliant Ukrainian composer, is far from a traditional biopic about a prominent person. It is an observation, a confession and, most of all, a story of great talent set against the backdrop of uncertain times.

Of course, film authors pay tribute to the composer's creative techniques: avantgarde of the **1960s**, forced into underground at the times of socialist realism, postmodernism (his main obsession during the **1970s**), metaphorical music and contemporary pieces that charm audiences around the world. But it is also a personal story of a genius mind with its oddity, curiosity and emotional depth



Documentary
140 min.
(3 parts x 45 min.)

Production
MAGIKA-FILM

MAGIKA

Financial support:
Ministry of Culture of Ukraine

silvestrov.magikafilm.com.ua



If you ask me to name a contemporary composer, I would say
SILVESTROV first and foremost. He is definitely the most interesting
composer of our time, even if the public will not appreciate him until later



ARVO PÄRT,
Estonian composer



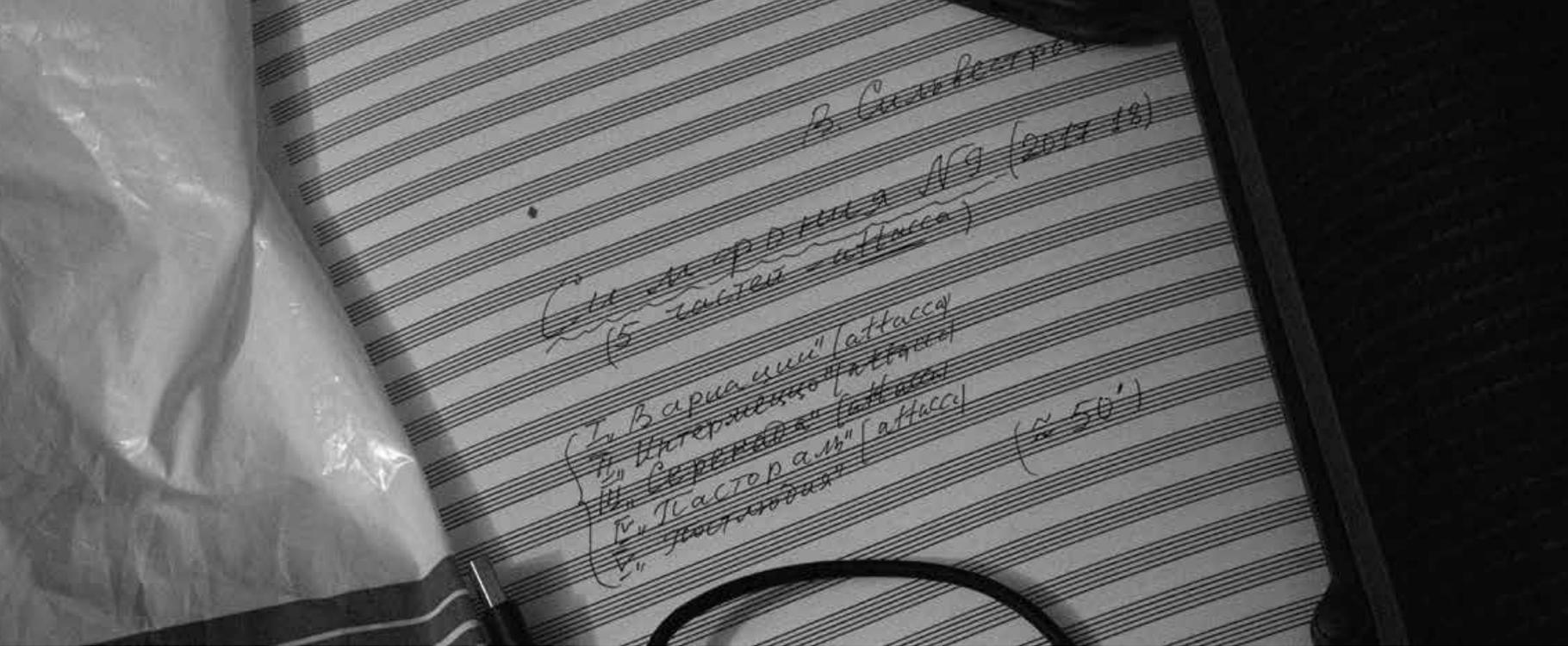


VALENTYN
SYLVESTROV
(1937)

Ukrainian composer, People's Artist of Ukraine, laureate of Taras Shevchenko National Award. Graduated from Kyiv State Conservatory (course of Borys Liatoshynskiy).

In the 1960s, VALENTYN SYLVESTROV was a member of the Kyiv Avantgarde group, which began a new era of Ukrainian music history. He was forced out from the Composer's Union because of "derogation from conventions of socialistic realism," which was the official cultural method in the Soviet Union. The postmodernism of 1970s was SYLVESTROV's true passion. He called his style "the meta music." Now he works in the field of spiritual music: "silent songs", bagatels ("musical poems without words"), postludes, "psalms" with the lyrics of Taras Shevchenko.

In October of 2019, the premiere of VALENTYN SYLVESTROV's the Ninth Symphony took place in Kyiv ●



PART ONE

THE VIRUS OF EXPRESSION

Maestro participates in the studio recording of his choral pieces written to the lyrics of **TARAS SHEVCHENKO** and performed by the National Choir "Dumka" (conductor Eugene Savchuk) and Municipal Chamber Choir "Kyiv" (conductor Mykola Hobdych). **SILVESTROV** also performs his interpretation of the Ukrainian national anthem, inspired by the Maidan events in 2014





Conversation between **SERHIY BUKOVSKY** and **VALENTYN SILVESTROV** in the office of Dukh I Litera publishing house. Composer talks not only about everyday, routine events but also about eternal topics.



PART TWO
**MEMORY
CORNER**



PART THREE
ALLELUIA

The set is St. Catherine Lutheran Church in Kyiv during the rehearsal of a well-known Ukrainian children's choir "Shchedryk" (conductor Marianna Sablina). Children sing Alleluia by VALENTYN SILVESTROV.

Composer guides the performers to achieve the perfect tempo and dynamics. The final scene takes place in SILVESTROV's apartment.

As he bids farewell to the film crew, he turns on the record of a lullaby waltz. "It seems, - says SILVESTROV, - that the Earth keeps spinning to the rhythm of this waltz.





producer

GENNADY KOFMAN

sound

IHOR BARBA
BORYS PETER

authors

SERHIY BUKOVSKIY
VICTORIA BONDAR

sound
recording

ANATOLIY ZHYHALOV
SERHIY SAVCHENKO

director

SERHIY BUKOVSKIY

director
assistants

YULIYA HALETA
MARIA STOYANOVA

DOP

SERHIY MIKHALYCHUK

backstage

EVA ZELENSKA
MARIA TEREBUS
VIKTOR BYSTROV

cinematography

ROMAN YELENSKIY
SERHIY TAKHMAZOV
ROMAN YELENSKIY JR.
YULIADANYLCHUK
MARIA STOYANOVA

line producer

OLGA BESKHMELNYITSINA

editor

OLEKSANDR SUKHOV

consulting

KOSTIANTYN SIHOV

design

MARYNA NIKOLCHEVA



SERHIY BUKOVSKY

DIRECTOR

Serhiy Bukovsky graduated from the Film Department of the Karpenko-Karyi Kyiv State Institute of Theatrical Arts. After serving in the Soviet Army, he worked at the Ukrainian documentary film studio for more than a decade.

During his 35-year film career, Bukovsky made approximately 40 films. Some of them received awards at prestigious international film festivals: LeipzigDOK (Germany), Oberhgauzen IFF (Germany), Krakow IFF (Poland), Vision du Real (Nion, Swiss), IDFA (Netherlands), Margaret Maid IFF (New York, USA), Molodist IFF (Ukraine), Odesa IFF (Ukraine). His films were also received Ukrainian TV Prize “Teletriumph” and Ukrainian Film Academy prize “Zolota Dzyga.”

Now he works as an independent director. Five years ago, he founded the Serhiy Bukovsky Film Program for aspiring Ukrainian directors.

More info at www.sergey-bukovsky.com



GENNADY KOFMAN

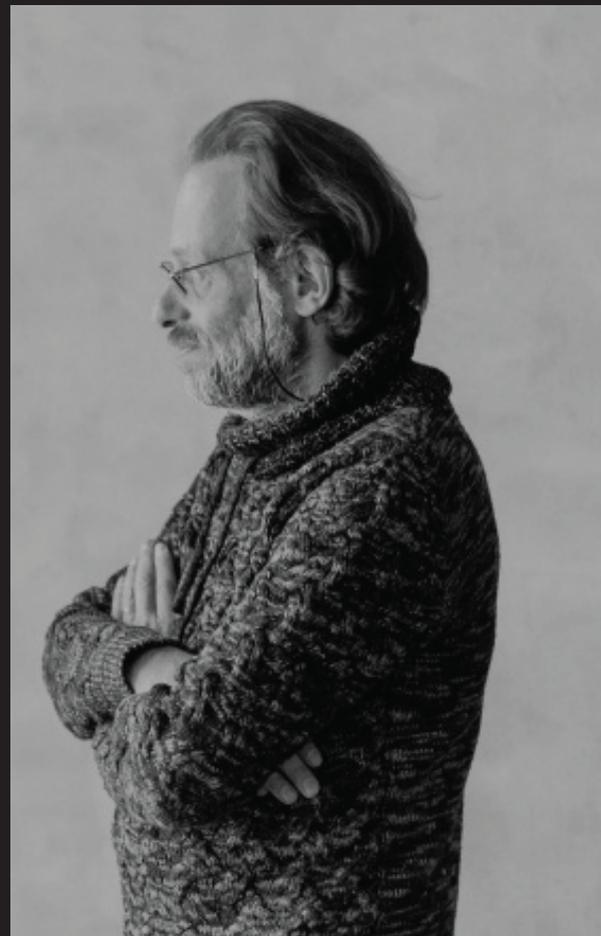
PRODUCER

Producer, member of the European Documentary Network (EDN). Expert of the State Film Agency of Ukraine, Lecturer the Department of Media Communications Kharkiv National University.

He has worked as a freelance journalist, scriptwriter and filmmaker. In the 90s he founded the MaGiKa Film Company – one of the first independent production companies in Ukraine, based in Kharkiv and Kyiv, Ukraine (www.magikafilm.com.ua).

Since 2003 he is one of the founders Docudays UA, Human Rights International Documentary Film Festival in Kyiv (www.docudays.org.ua).

Produced several shorts and animation films. Directed more than 20 documentaries, and produced more than 50 documentaries





SERHIY MYKHALCHUK

DOP

Serhiy Mykhalchuk is a Ukrainian cinematographer and photographer. He graduated in 1994 from the Film Department of the Karpenko-Karyi Kyiv State Institute of Theatrical Arts. In 2019 he received the Ukrainian Film Academy Award “Golden Dzyga” as the best cinematographer. Among of his numerous awards are the Best Photography Award at San Sebastian International Film Festival (2002) and Silver Bear at Berlin International Film Festival (2016)



IHOR BARBA

SOUND

Ihor Barba worked as a sound director at the Kyiv Science Film Studio, where he worked on more than 400 fiction and documentary films. His work includes numerous award-winning movies. Among them are "Spell Your Name," "The Living," "Ukraine. The Starting Point" (directed by Serhiy Bukovsky), "The Dew Point," "Excessive Person" (directed by Serhiy Losev), "Dangerously Free Person," "Bazyl" (directed by Roman Shyrman), "Loyal Ruslan" (directed by Volodymyr Khmelnytskyi), and "Lesya Plus Roma" TV-series (directed by Oleksandr Daruha).

He also works as a lecturer at the Kyiv National Theatre, Cinema and Television University





BORYS PETER

SOUND

Borys Peter graduated from Kyiv National Theatre, Cinema and Television University. He worked as a sound director for numerous award-winning movies, including "Wayfarers" (directed by Ihor Strembitskiy), "The Living" (directed by Serhiy Bukovsky), "Vagrish and Black Square," "Michail and Daniel" (directed by Andrei Zagdansky), "Dixieland," "Ukrainian Sheriffs," "Volkano" (directed by Roman Bondarchuk), and "My Father Is My Mother's Brother" (directed by Vadym Ilkov)





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