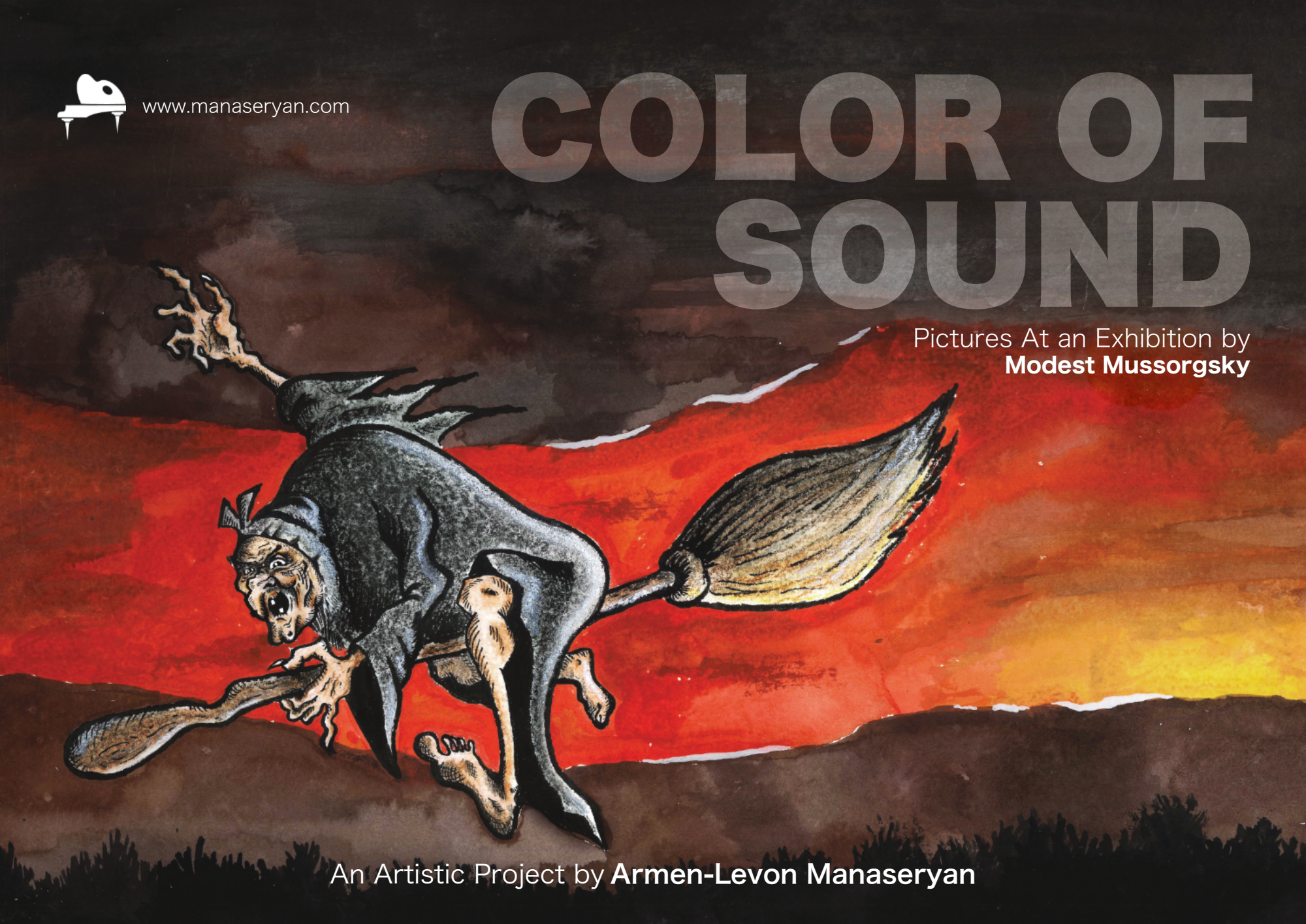
www.manaseryan.com

COLOR OF SOUND

Pictures At an Exhibition by
Modest Mussorgsky



An Artistic Project by **Armen-Levon Manaseryan**

The idea for *Color of Sound* had been developing in Armen-Levon Manaseryan's mind for many years. Having inherited his artistic talent from his grandmother, the renowned Armenian artist and member of the Union of Artists of Armenia, Aida Boyadjian, he developed painting as a professional artistic pursuit alongside his musical career.

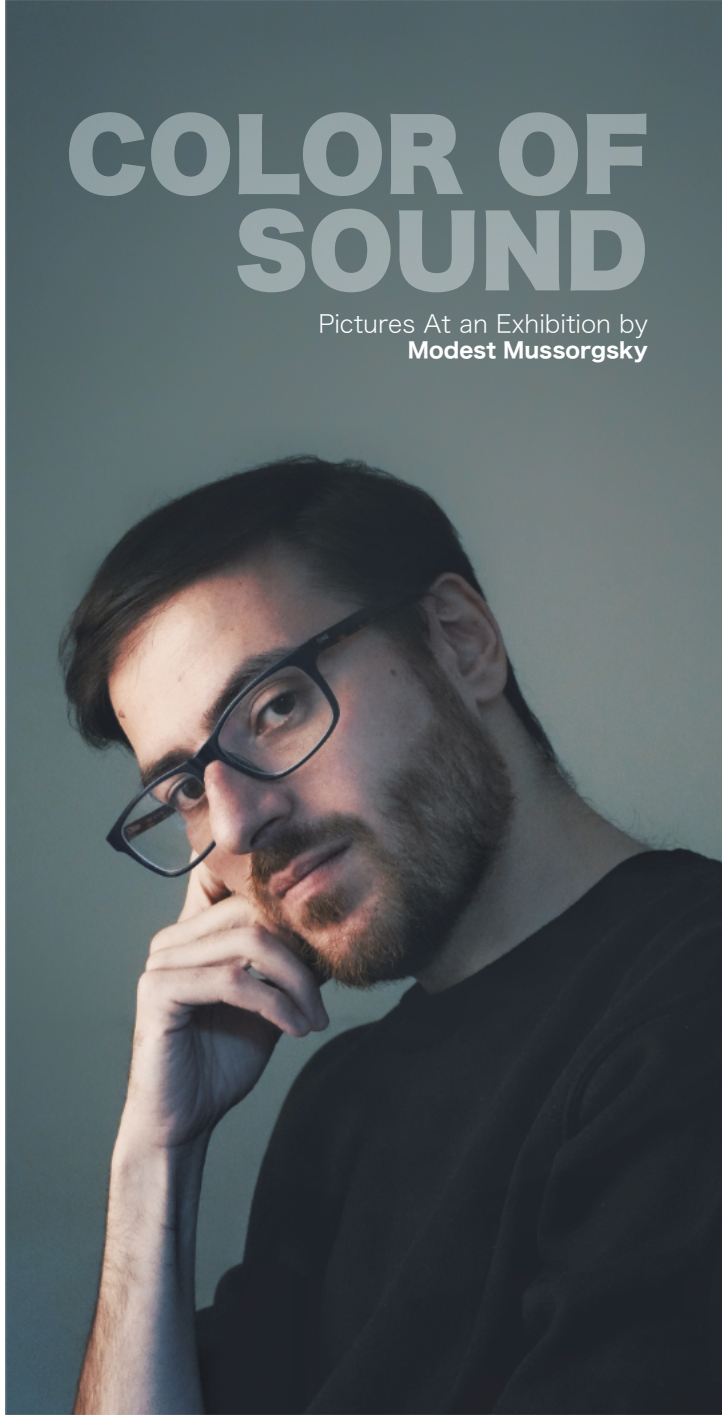
The project emerged from Manaseryan's longstanding interest in the relationship between music and visual art. In 1874, Modest Mussorgsky visited an exhibition of works by the architect and artist Victor Hartmann, an encounter that inspired his celebrated piano cycle *Pictures At an Exhibition. Color of Sound* approaches this relationship from the opposite direction: rather than translating Hartmann's images into music, Manaseryan responds directly to Mussorgsky's music, creating ten original illustrations based on his personal impressions of the cycle and independent of Hartmann's paintings.

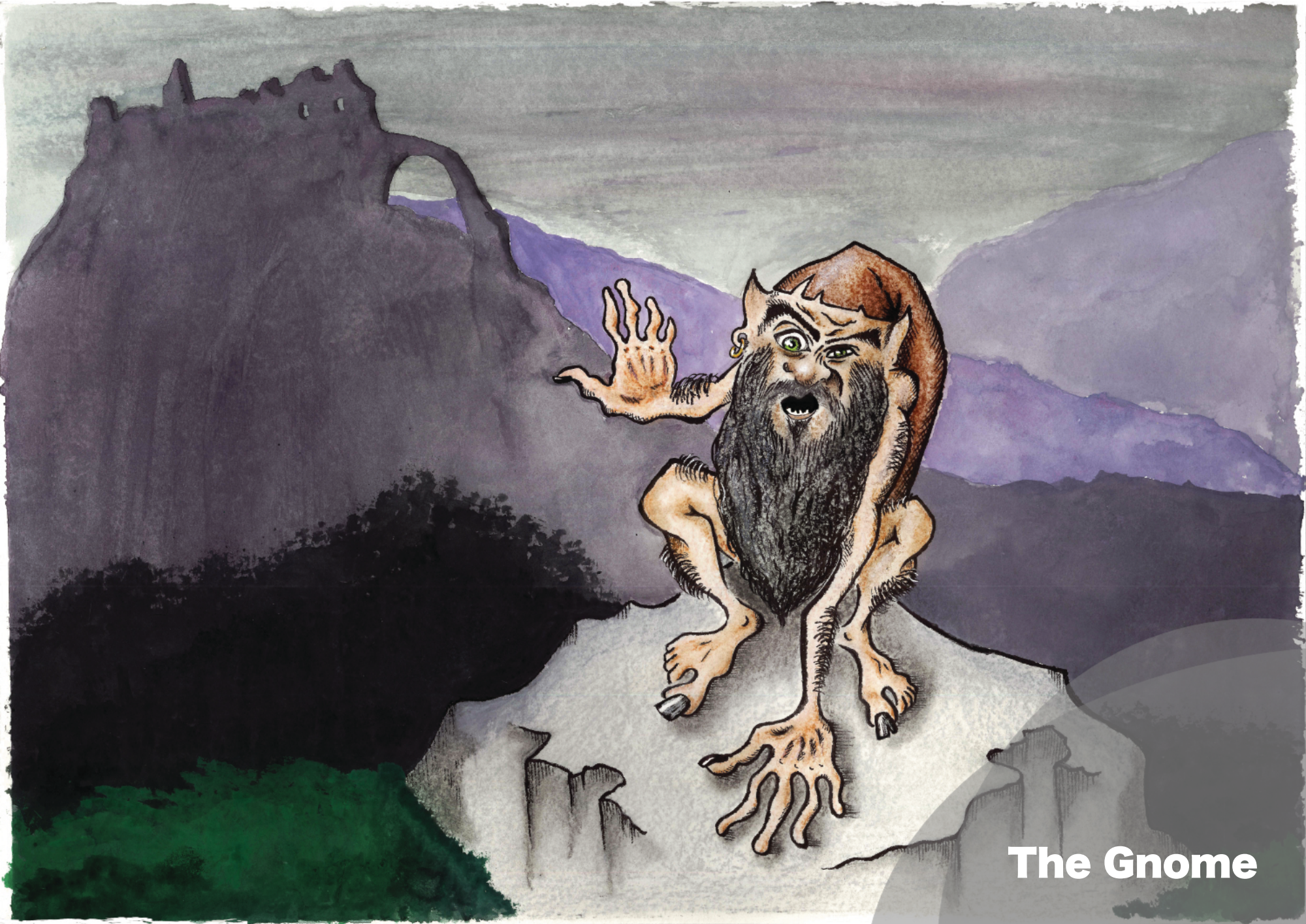
Each illustration forms part of a visual narrative. Manaseryan's paintings appear almost like still frames from a film, inviting the viewer to look beyond the image itself and imagine the stories, encounters and atmosphere that exist within it.

The works were created on special handmade paper measuring 50 × 38 cm, with irregularly cut edges reminiscent of papyrus. The distinctive character of the paper becomes particularly apparent when the works are presented as an exhibition alongside the live performance. The illustrations were created using mixed techniques.

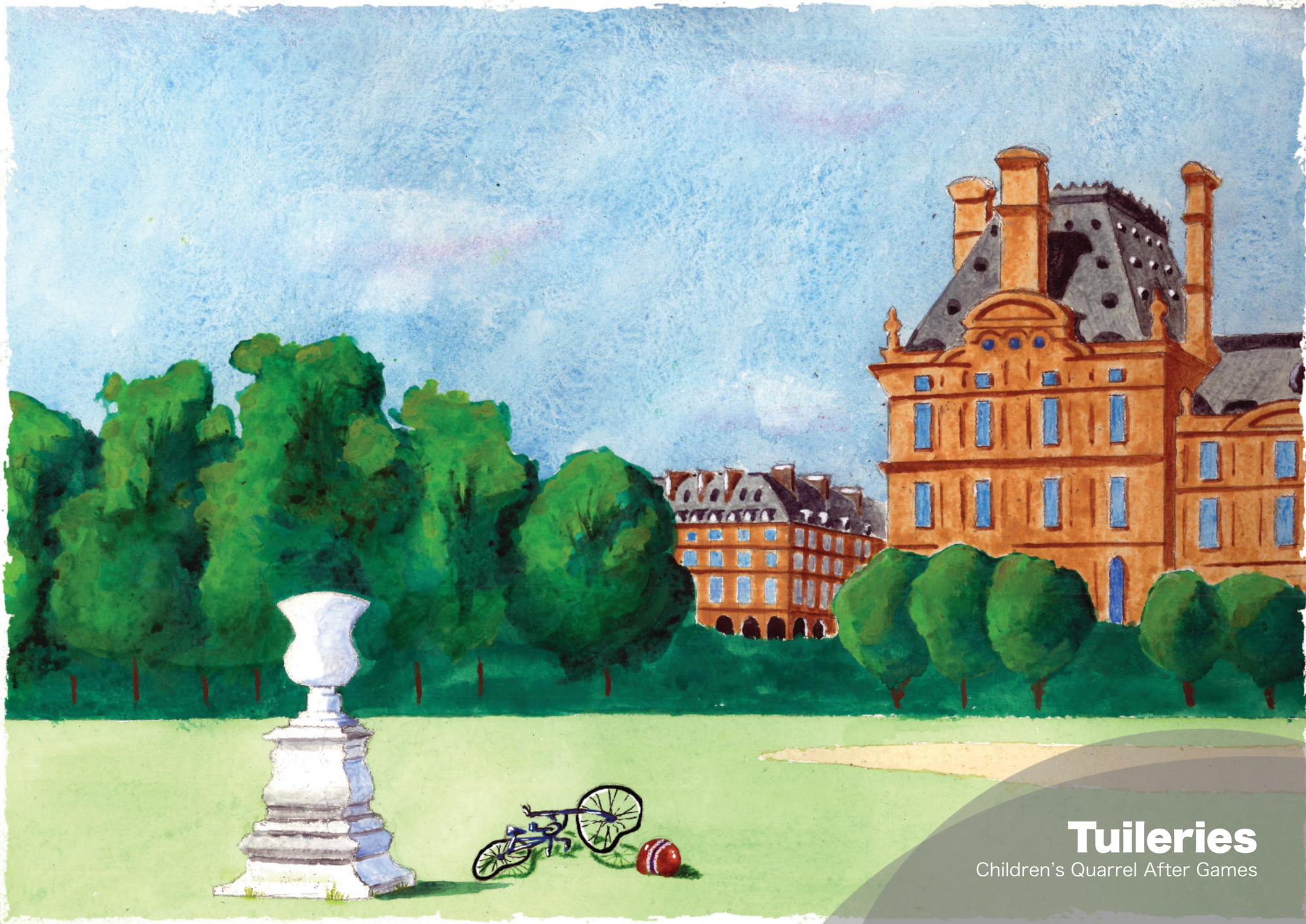
The world premiere of *Color of Sound* took place in Germany during the Heribert Koch master classes, alongside a piano recital by Armen-Levon Manaseryan. Following its premiere, the project was presented in Germany, Portugal, France, Armenia, Malta, Belgium, Spain and other countries. At each presentation, the project brought together solo piano performance and an exhibition of original illustrations, creating a concert experience in which music and visual art exist as two interconnected forms of expression.

Color of Sound became the beginning of a continuing artistic exploration. It was followed by *Visible Music*, in which Manaseryan created twelve original illustrations inspired by Tchaikovsky's *The Seasons, Op. 37a*. The next project, *Peer Gynt*, continues this dialogue between music and visual art through a new series of illustrations inspired by Edvard Grieg's music.




The Gnome


The Old Castle



Tuileries

Children's Quarrel After Games

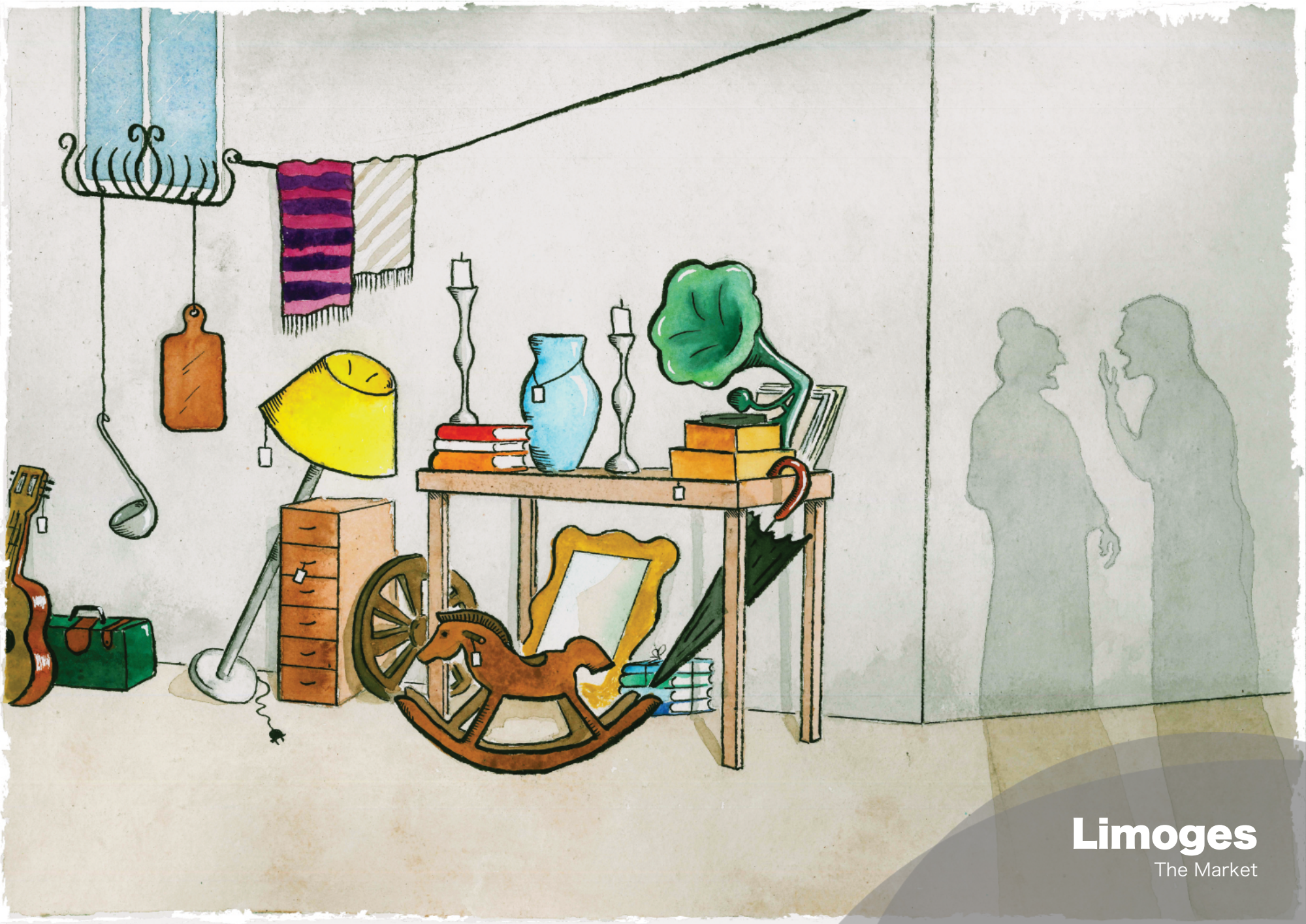

Bydlo


Ballet of
Unhatched Chicks



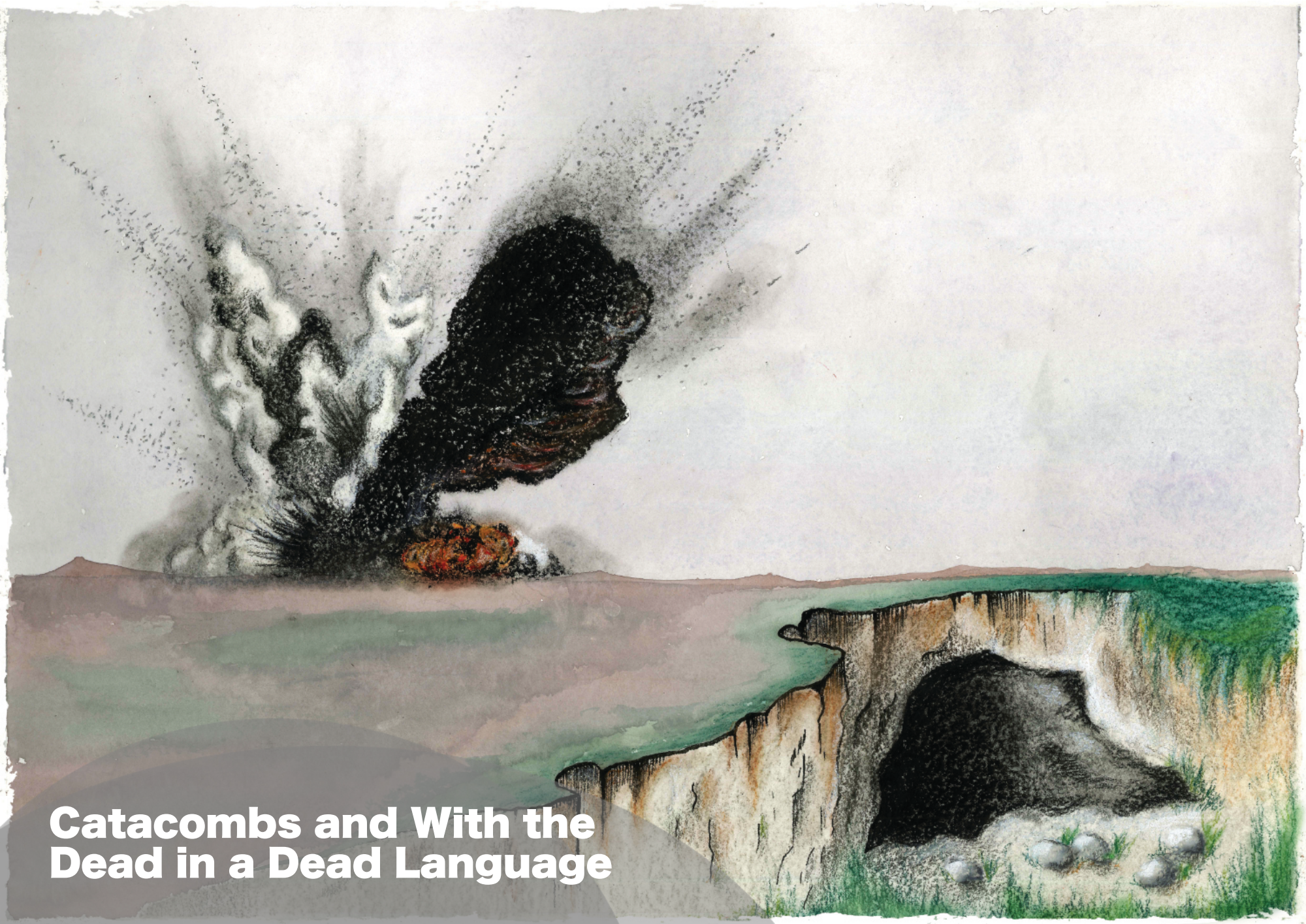
Two Jews: Rich and Poor

Samuel Goldenberg and Schmuÿle



Limoges

The Market

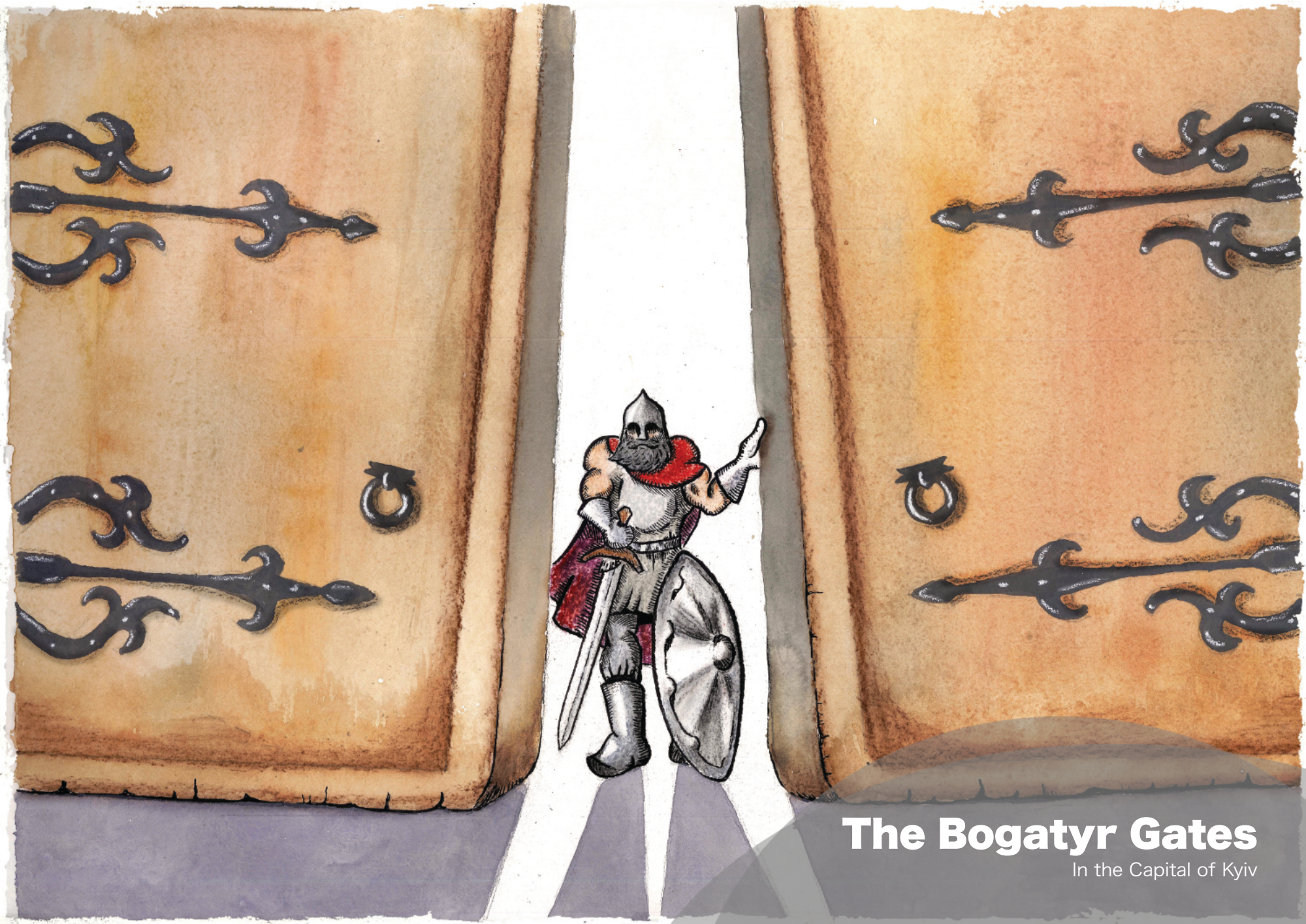


Catacombs and With the Dead in a Dead Language



Baba Yaga

The Hut on Hen's Legs



The Bogatyr Gates

In the Capital of Kyiv

Released by **KNS Classical**

The complete recording is available on CD and on major streaming platforms.

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