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VISIBLE MUSIC
The Seasons, Op. 37a by
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
An Artistic Project by Armen-Levon Manaseryan

The *Visible Music* project is not the first project by Armen-Levon Manaseryan to bring together piano music and illustration. The idea of illustrating piano music came to the pianist many years ago. Having inherited 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 first unique project combining piano music and illustration was *Color of Sound*. Inspired by Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, Manaseryan created ten original illustrations in parallel with the music.

Visible Music continues this artistic exploration. This time, inspired by the music of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Manaseryan created twelve original illustrations based on The Seasons, Op. 37a.

While *Color of Sound* was created using unique handmade papers and mixed techniques, all the illustrations for *Visible Music* were created digitally on an *iPad* using *Procreate*, a professional illustration application. Every brushstroke, line, and detail was drawn by hand using an *Apple Pencil*.

Digital illustration presents its own challenges. Unlike drawing on paper, the digital canvas can be extremely large and allows for numerous details and layers.

All of Manaseryan's illustrations are set in motion, reminiscent of still frames from a film. Familiar places and recurring elements appear throughout the illustrations, suggesting that all twelve months unfold within the same landscape and universe.

For example, in *March*, a lark sits on a tree, with a lantern visible in the background. In October, the same tree and lantern appear again, but the lark is gone, having left a nest behind.

Another example can be seen in *September*, where the harvest, the mill and the Russian Church appear in the background — elements that had already played an important role in the illustrations for *April* and *August*.

Visible Music has already been presented in Germany, France, Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Spain, and other countries, receiving an enthusiastic response from audiences and establishing the project as a distinctive concert format combining music, visual art and live performance.

His next project, *Peer Gynt*, inspired by Edvard Grieg's music, will continue this exploration through a new series of original illustrations.





January

At the Fireside

A little corner of peaceful bliss,
the night dressed in twilight;
The little fire is dying in the fireplace,
and the candle has burned out.

Alexander Pushkin



February

Carnival

At the lively Mardi Gras
soon a large feast will overflow.

Pyotr Vyazemsky



March

Song of the Lark

The field shimmering with flowers,
the stars swirling in the heavens,
the song of the lark
fills the blue abyss.

Apollon Maykov



April

Snowdrop

The blue, pure snowdrop — flower,
and near it the last snowdrops.
The last tears over past griefs,
and first dreams of another happiness.

Apollon Maykov



May

Starlit Nights

What a night! What bliss is all about!
I thank my native north country!
From the kingdom of ice,
from the kingdom of snowstorms and snow,
How fresh and clean Mayflies in!

Afanasy Fet



June
Barcarolle

Let us go to the shore;
There the waves will kiss our feet.
With mysterious sadness
the stars will shine down on us.

Aleksey Pleshcheyev



July

Song of the Reaper

Move the shoulders,
Shake the arms!
And the noon wind
breathes in the face!

Aleksey Koltsov



August

Harvest

The harvest has grown,
People in families cutting the
tall rye down to the root!
Put together the haystacks, music
screeching all night from the hauling carts.

Aleksey Koltsov



September

Hunting

It is time! The horns are sounding!
The hunters in their hunting dress
are mounted on their horses;
in the early dawn, the borzois are jumping.

Alexander Pushkin, Graf Nulin



October

Autumn Song

Autumn, our poor garden is all falling down,
The yellowed leaves are flying in the wind.

Aleksey Konstantinovich Tolstoy



November

Troika

In your loneliness do not look at the road,
and do not rush out after the troika.
Suppress at once and forever
the fear of longing in your heart.

Nikolay Nekrasov



December

Christmas

Once upon a Christmas night
The girls were telling fortunes:
taking their slippers off their feet
and throwing them out of the gate.

Vasily Zhukovsky

Released by **KNS Classical**

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

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