

THE UNFADING VOICE OF BULBUL

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Abstract

Bulbul is a great personality, with a gigantic range of activities, a whole era in the history of the development of professional musical art. He went through a long creative path from a folk singer to an opera singer, teacher and scholar of vocal art, which is a phenomenon that has no analogues in world vocal practice. The first vocalist who switched from specific oriental singing to the European school of singing and, having synthesized the best techniques of Azerbaijani national mugham song performing with the Russian and European vocal schools, created a new school of singing in Azerbaijan, which subsequently had a beneficial effect on the development of singing art in the countries of the South Caucasus, Central Asia, Near and Middle East.

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Bulbul is great and immortal in the true sense of these words. The people carefully keep his inextinguishable image, like a granite monument, in their hearts! Mirza Ibrahimov. People's writer of Azerbaijan.

The great singer was born on June 22, 1897 in Shusha, Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan - the homeland of many great Azerbaijani poets and musicians, the homeland of famous khanende - mugam singers with a specific oriental voice and original manner of performance. In Shusha, in the national conservatory, the story of the formation of a young khanende began. He was endowed with an extraordinary gift, his talent consisted of a natural voice of rare beauty and strength, a masterly imitation of a nightingale, the performance of trills and roulades, and the ability to stretch out a note (fermata) indefinitely without taking a breath. Over the years, the youthful nickname Bul-Bul (nightingale) turned into an artistic pseudonym, emphasizing the exclusivity of his high talent. Having studied Azerbaijani modal music, mugams, communicating with famous Shusha singers and musicians, he became popular in Transcaucasia and Central Asia. In 1920, the young singer was invited to Baku at the Azerbaijan Opera House to perform the role of Kerem in the mugham opera "Asli and Kerem" by U. Hajibeyov. Here he, having heard classical opera music performed by a Russian opera troupe for the first time, firmly decides to comprehend and master all the secrets of the new musical world that has opened up to him. In 1921 he entered the Azerbaijan State Conservatory in vocal class with teacher F. Polyayev, and in subsequent years continued his studies in the class of Professor N.I.Speransky. In 1927, the artist was among the first Soviet singers to study in Italy at the famous Milan Theater for four years. These were years full of searches and discoveries. Hard work, lessons from world-famous Italian teachers, in-depth study of world vocal literature and the singing methodology of various schools, meetings with outstanding singers, performances at plays and concerts have yielded positive results. In

1931, in the Italian magazine "Arte Nostra" in the article "Bul-Bul from Azerbaijan," the world-famous maestro Raffaele Grani noted: "Bul-Bul is the first vocalist from the Muslim world who came to Italy to study and switched from specific oriental song performing to the European school singing. 4 years of study are behind us. The goal has been achieved. Bul-Bul has perfectly mastered the Italian school of singing and the methods of Italian teaching."

In 1933, he took part in the First All-Union Vocal Competition and became a laureate. His performances in the Great Hall of the Conservatory, in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions, the House of Scientists and many concert halls in Moscow won deep recognition from the audience and high appreciation from the capital's musical community. The immortal mentor of many generations of Russian actors, the great K.S. Stanislavsky, highly appreciated the work of the talented singer: "When brilliant and bright talent is combined with mature skill, what could be better, more attractive and stronger. You sing like a nightingale, and singing is a vital need for you "You can't help but sing."

Returning from Italy to Baku, Bul-Bul scientifically proves that musical education, the development of musical intelligence, and the study of Western European and Russian classical music contribute to the growth and development of national vocal and performing culture. Returning from Italy to Baku, Bul-Bul scientifically proves that musical education, the development of musical intelligence, and the study of Western European and Russian classical music contribute to the growth and development of national vocal and performing culture. "Shah-Senem" by R.Glier, "Nargiz" by M.Magomayev. The artist's professional abilities were revealed to the utmost fullness in the heroic-epic opera "Koroglu" based on the plot of the Azerbaijani epic, which the great Uzeyir Hajibeyov created specifically for the voice of the great master of Azerbaijani opera art. In 1938, a performance of the immortal opera Uz took place on the stage of the State Academic Bolshoi Theater in Moscow. Hajibeyov "Koroglu". With inimitable skill and his captivating beauty and power of voice, he superbly performed the heroic and lyrical arias of the legendary folk hero. People's Artist of the USSR Irma Yaunzem wrote: "Bul-Bul's voice amazed me. This voice is unique in its range and beauty. It has almost coloratura mobility in the upper register, the voice is distinguished by a wealth of dynamic shades. An emotional actor, hot and sincere, Bul-Bul created a completely an unforgettable image of the people's hero - Koroglu." Under the beneficial creative influence, communication and playing music with the great luminaries of Soviet musical art - N.Kozlovsky, S.Lemeshev, S.Prokofiev, D.Shostakovich, K.Stanislavsky, A.Nezhdanova, Uz.Gadzhibeyov, R.Glier, M.Magomayev and many others, Bul-Bul's professional skills as a singer, artist, teacher are being improved and he is being put on a par with the great performers of world opera. Here is what the great Russian singer Sergei Lemeshev wrote about this: "Great talent and hard work have made you an outstanding artist, whom all our people know and love...". Throughout his creative life, Bul-Bul was a performer and co-author of many songs and romances by Azerbaijani composers. His skill was unmatched in the performance of Uz.Hajibeyov's romances "Sensiz" and "Sevgili Janan", A.Zeynalli "Olkem", Niyazi "Arzu", F.Amirov "Ulduz", folk songs "Khumar Oldum", "Kyaklik", "Innaby", "Mehribanim" and many others.

Singer and artist, teacher and scientist - musicologist, ascetic and innovator, he was a passionate propagandist and initiator of everything progressive and new in our musical art. Bul-Bul is the first Azerbaijani professor in the field of vocals, who has raised the musical educational and research process in Azerbaijan to a high level. Thanks to the creative heritage of the singer, Azerbaijani vocal art entered the big world of realism, developing and improving with the achievements of Russian and European vocal art, enriching it with new content corresponding to the spirit and time of the century. The great singer and teacher generously gave his knowledge, experience and skill to the training of young singers, took an active part in recruiting vocalists, carefully developed the theory of vocal art, and compiled manuals and special singing exercises for them. For the first time in Azerbaijan, he organized a research office for the collection and study of folklore, involving in this work the most experienced experts in folk art, young and talented composers and musicians for the constant generalization and study of the classical heritage of folk melodies. Many Azerbaijani mugams have

found their vivid embodiment in opera, ballet, symphony, chamber, instrumental and vocal works, in songs and romances of the luminaries of Azerbaijani and world musical art - K. Karaev, F. Amirova, Niyazi, R. Hajiyev, S. Hajibekov, S. Rustamova, J. Dzhangirova, J. Gadzhiev, T. Kuliev and many others. He has authored major scientific works on the study of Azerbaijani folklore; he was the editor and compiler of the first collections of folk songs and vocal compositions, both world classics and Azerbaijani composers. His multifaceted creative activity is a vivid illustration of the main stages in the development of Azerbaijani professional musical and performing arts. For more than 50 years of his creative life, the great artist did not leave the stage, along the way thunderous applause from grateful spectators thundered, the admiration of millions shocked by the mighty power of the genuine skill of the brilliant singer.

The words of the great Russian singer Ivan Semenovich Kozlovsky turned out to be prophetic: “The name of Bul-Bul, his knowledge, his taste will live in future generations...” Maestro Bul-Bul is one of those great artists who are born to create bright, fiery examples of national art, deserve an eternal reward - the ardent love and memory of the people!

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