

A Letter by academician Victor V. Vanslov addressed to the son of composer

Dear Alexander Alexandrovich!

You know that I do highly appreciate your father, Alexander Lazarevich Lokshin, because of the knowledge I received from him when studying at the Conservatory; I have written about it in my book "The Comprehension of Art" in detail. My acknowledgment to him is immutable.

But after having read the article by V.Prokhorova in "The Musical Revue", I was shocked. I hastily believed to this article and referred to it in the chapter about the tragic character of Shostakovich's music in my new book and made suppositions which I clearly should not make, since, except Prokhorova's article, I had no reasons for these suppositions.

I do understand that I had non-substantiatedly blackened your father, I do deeply regret and repent of my deed. I feel bitterness when understanding that I caused you a pain by doubting of your father's dignity.

Now, when I remind him, he stays in my mind as an outstanding creative person entirely absorbed in music and his own spiritual life and incapable of any mean deed.

Excuse me for my failure. In future I 'll try to find a way to improve my fault.

Sincerely yours,

V.Vanslov

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