

ALEXANDR ILYINSKY

David C F Wright DMus

Alexandr Aleksandrovich Ilyinsky was born on 24 June 1859 in Tsarkoye Solo, Russia. His father was a physician and Alexandr was educated with the First Cadet Corps at St Petersburg and served with the Artillery between 1877 and 1879.

He studied at the St Petersburg Conservatory and graduated in 1885 after studying in Berlin with Kullak and Bargiel.

Ilyinsky had a teaching post at the Music Drama School of Moscow Philharmonic Society and then at the Moscow Conservatory from 1905.

Among his pupils were Medtner, Kalinnikov, Roslavets and Alexandrov.

Ilyinsky's was primarily engaged in writing books such as;

- Handbook on harmony 1889
- A history of composers from the Fourth Century 1904
- Dargomyzhsky 1908
- Glinka 1908
- Beethoven 1909
- Wagner 1913
- Orchestration 1918

He also edited all the piano works of Beethoven in 1909.

He wrote piano music including works for four hands such as the Croatian Dances Op 3 and the Suite, Op 4. His work for two pianos, Nour et Anitra Op 17, contains the Berceuse, his only remembered work. He has fallen into obscurity. His music is not outstanding but should not be ignored.

He died in Moscow on 23 February 1920. He was 61.

[*PDF of La journée d'une petite fille Op 19*](#)



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