

"Everybody who had luck to listen to the violinist Galina Vsevolodovna Barinova, at least once would remember for ever the charming lyrical expressiveness of her sound. Her performance wins our heart, as it is full of sincerity and feeling, taste and romanticism. She can perfectly convey both philosophical depth of the Beethoven's Concerto and tremendous energy of the Concerto by Sibelius, magical virtuosity of Wieniawski and impressionistic fineness of Ravel and Ysaye" (Yu. V. Grigoriev, Soviet musician. 1985, No. 19)

The artistic carrier of Galina Barinova started in St. Petersburg. She was born on 7/20 of October 1910. Her mother, Maria Barinova, a professor of St. Petersburg's conservatory, pianist and composer, student of J. Hoffman, F. Busoni and N. Rimsky-Korsakov, was a daughter of a sculptor, who was ennobled for his creative achievements. Galina's father, Vsevolod Gamaleyev, belonged to the ancient family, founded by Duke Gedimin. According to the family legend, one of Gamaleyevs accompanied Paganini in his trips, being "a kind of secretary". Vsevolod Barinov finished a law college and was an amateur-musician and a student of Maria Nicolaevna. No wonder that their daughter cast in her lot with music. Galina began playing at the age of four and was a student of many famous violinists, such as P. Kochanski, I. Ahron, V. Zavetnovsky. She played her first solo concert, when she was only ten years old.

"Professionalism is the first criterion of creative activity - thought Galina's parents. When it became clear that the girl needed some serious training, they turned to Flesch, who was the main authority in violin art of that time. But, as Flesch was then living in America, Galina's parents could not let their 14-year old daughter to travel behind the ocean alone. Instead they decided to send her to Paris to Thibaud (in 1924, so called transition period, it was still possible to study where you wanted ...) I was lucky to know languages already at that time, so I felt very comfortable there. For a year she studied in Ecole Normal and was a favorite student of her teacher («Ma petite Jeanne» - actually my name is not Galina, but Ganna)" - remembered Barinova. After post-graduate term at Thibaud Galina came back to Leningrad and continued her education in the sphere of music theory and composition, in 1927 she took an external degree in the conservatory.

Her brilliant performance at the final exam made a great impact on the listeners. "The young violinist Galina Barinova has all potentialities to make a good artistic career: remarkable technique, light strokes, melodious roundish tone, and deep interpretation. Her playing is warmed with youth but sincere artistic temperament. (...) In the final concert Galina Barinova masterly played many virtuous compositions ("Devil's Trill" by Tartini, "Spanish Symphony" by Lalo,

"Rondeau" by Saint-Saens as well as various small pieces), striking the audience with novelty of her interpretation" {"The life of Art", 1927, March 8th). Her "good artistic career", however, took some time to get really shaped. Being a soloist of the Leningrad Philharmonic society, she had to play in the factory clubs and cinemas. Since 1934 Barinova became a member of Moscow Philharmonic society and AH-Union radio.

In 1937 she got the third premium in the All-Union competition of music performers. During the Second World War Galina Barinova gave concerts in the front-line army, blockaded Leningrad, participated in the concerts of Teheran and Potsdam conferences.

But it was the post-war years, when Barinova could fully realize her artistic nature: numerous tours both in Russia and European and Asian countries with the best orchestras and world-known conductors, in ensemble with outstanding musicians. Her incredibly rich and various repertoire included more than 300 compositions. These concerts were a great success, and Galina was heartily welcomed both by Russian and foreign listeners. According the memoirs of I. Bezrodny, "the concerts of Galina Barinova have always been an exciting event. I visited all of them and still remember the feeling of something significant, which was happening then in the Great Hall of Conservatory. Of many compositions played by Galina Barinova, I would first of all single out the Concertos by Glazunov and Sibelius, which were played not often in those years. (...) Even now I vividly remember the emotions I experienced, listening to the very complicated solo Sonata in C major by Bach. In fact it was a great achievement".

G. Barinova is an author of transcriptions and an editor of violin compositions, a member of several international competitions, including the P.Tchaikovsky's competitions in Moscow, J. Bach's competition in Leipzig, N.Paganini's competition in Genoa. She is a laureate of Stalin's award (1949), Cavalier of the big silver medal of the Fund of E. Ysaye (Belgium, 1965)

As she herself says: "I had a purpose - to play good music on a good instrument, with a good orchestra in a good hall for a good public... If you have such a purpose, you should first of all play well, so you must try with all your might. I cannot play indifferently!"

*Ye. Bogomolov*