



LINN

**EMANUIL IVANOV**

*Frederic Rzewski*

*The People United Will Never Be Defeated!*

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC BICENTENARY SERIES

***The People United Will Never Be Defeated!***

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Frederic Rzewski (1938–2021)

**EMANUIL IVANOV** piano

## **Frederic Rzewski (1938–2021)**

### **The People United Will Never Be Defeated!**

*36 Variations on ¡El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!*

|     |              |   |      |
|-----|--------------|---|------|
| 1.  | Theme        | <i>With determination</i>   | 1:27 |
| 2.  | Variation 1  | <i>Weaving: delicate but firm</i>                                   | 0:59 |
| 3.  | Variation 2  | <i>With firmness</i>  | 0:58 |
| 4.  | Variation 3  | <i>Slightly slower, with expressive nuances</i>                     | 1:18 |
| 5.  | Variation 4  | <i>Marcato, with determination</i>                                  | 1:08 |
| 6.  | Variation 5  | <i>Dreamlike, frozen</i>  | 1:25 |
| 7.  | Variation 6  | <i>Same tempo as beginning</i>                                      | 1:13 |
| 8.  | Variation 7  | <i>Tempo (Lightly, impatiently)</i>                                 | 0:57 |
| 9.  | Variation 8  | <i>With agility; not too much pedal; crisp</i>                      | 1:17 |
| 10. | Variation 9  | <i>Evenly</i>   | 0:58 |
| 11. | Variation 10 | <i>Comodo, recklessly</i>   | 1:07 |
| 12. | Variation 11 | <i>Tempo I. Like fragments of an absent melody – in strict time</i> | 0:56 |
| 13. | Variation 12 |   | 1:14 |
| 14. | Variation 13 |   | 2:04 |
| 15. | Variation 14 | <i>A bit faster, optimistically</i>                                 | 1:19 |
| 16. | Variation 15 | <i>Flexible, like an improvisation</i>                              | 1:32 |
| 17. | Variation 16 | <i>Same tempo as preceding, with fluctuations; much pedal</i>       | 2:00 |
| 18. | Variation 17 | <i>Left hand strictly. Right hand freely, roughly as in space</i>   | 1:29 |
| 19. | Variation 18 |   | 1:44 |
| 20. | Variation 19 | <i>With energy</i>  | 0:41 |

|     |              |  |      |
|-----|--------------|--|------|
| 21. | Variation 20 | <i>Crisp, precise</i>                          | 0:37 |
| 22. | Variation 21 | <i>Relentless, uncompromising</i>              | 0:52 |
| 23. | Variation 22 |  | 0:46 |
| 24. | Variation 23 | <i>As fast as possible, with some rubato</i>   | 0:26 |
| 25. | Variation 24 |  | 2:44 |
| 26. | Variation 25 | <i>With fluctuations</i>                       | 2:11 |
| 27. | Variation 26 | <i>In a militant manner</i>                    | 1:13 |
| 28. | Variation 27 | <i>Tenderly, and with a hopeful expression</i> | 5:38 |
| 29. | Variation 28 |  | 1:29 |
| 30. | Variation 29 |  | 0:34 |
| 31. | Variation 30 |  | 2:49 |
| 32. | Variation 31 |  | 0:59 |
| 33. | Variation 32 |  | 0:59 |
| 34. | Variation 33 |  | 1:20 |
| 35. | Variation 34 |  | 1:09 |
| 36. | Variation 35 |  | 1:07 |
| 37. | Variation 36 |  | 1:50 |
| 38. | Cadenza      | <i>With improvisation</i>                      | 6:53 |
| 39. | Thema        | <i>Tempo I</i>                                 | 2:53 |

Timing total 62:23

## Royal Academy of Music Bicentenary Series

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The Royal Academy of Music moves music forward by inspiring successive generations of musicians to connect, collaborate and create. It is the meeting point between the traditions of the past and the talent of the future.

The Academy has had an inestimable impact on British and international musical life by training outstandingly talented musicians for fulfilling careers for over 200 years. From its outset, Britain's oldest conservatoire has been associated with some of the greatest names in music including Mendelssohn, Liszt and Sir Henry Wood. More recent alumni include Sir Elton John, Dame Evelyn Glennie, Sir Simon Rattle, Sir Harrison Birtwistle, Edward Gardner, Max Richter, Lucy Crowe, Sheku Kanneh-Mason and Jacob Collier.

Today 800 students from over 50 countries are enrolled on undergraduate, postgraduate and research programmes.

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## A note on the music

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Frederic Rzewski was one of the great mavericks amongst composers of the recent past, creating a unique artistic identity with an intensely personal creative voice. His sprawling 1975 masterpiece, *The People United Will Never Be Defeated!*, is presented in this new recording by Bulgarian pianist Emanuel Ivanov.

This work is an enormous cycle of variations on the Chilean song *¡El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!* and represents a strong reaction to the violent 1973 coup d'état in Chile. Characterized by a purposeful stylistic eclecticism and powerful, raw emotional content, the piece also presents a specific structural approach, implementing on a technical level the concept of unification. The work also contains an improvisation slot for the performer, right before the final restatement of the Theme.

Recorded at the Angela Burgess Recital Hall, Royal Academy of Music, UK,  
on 7 & 8 April 2025

*Recording Producer & Engineer*  
Philip Hobbs

*Post-production*  
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*Design*  
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