



## Story of a Friendship The Letters of Dmitry Shostakovich to Isaak Glikman, 1941-1975

By Dmitry Shostakovich

Cornell University Press. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 416 pages. Dimensions: 9.3in. x 6.2in. x 1.0in. After considerable hesitation and soul-searching I have decided to publish the letters Dmitry Dmitriyevich Shostakovich wrote to me. This choice by the composers close friend Isaak Glikman brought the tormented feelings of the musical genius into public view. Now those feelings resound in the first substantial collection of Shostakovichs letters to appear in English. From the early 1930s until his death in 1975 Shostakovich wrote regularly to Glikman, a Leningrad theater critic and historian. The 288 letters included in this volume began in 1941, at the time of Operation Barbarossa and the composition of the controversial (Leningrad) Symphony no. 7, and continue until 1974, by which time Shostakovich was too frail to write. Glikmans extensive introduction explains that the earlier letters were lostpresumably left behind when both men were evacuated from besieged Leningrad. In his account of those years, Glikman relates personal details of the composers life during the height of the Stalinist Terror, including Shostakovichs response to the public humiliation inflicted by the regime after the premiere of his opera Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk. Taken together, the letters and Glikmans fascinating commentary form a...



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