

Lebedev Alexei Konstantinovich

According to the materials of the Internet resource “Famous people of the Lipetsk region” The Lipetsk Regional Universal Scientific Library (LRUNL).

I knew a lot about Lebedev, both from the stories of his students and from various literature. I loved his Concert Allegro, which I played with great pleasure at the Gnesin School and then at the Institute. I liked this man, so famous, popular and not at all distinguished from his entourage, who attracted attention with his modesty and trustworthy smile.

Later, during communication with Alexei Konstantinovich's widow, I understood from her stories about him that Lebedev was really very hospitable in communication with all kinds of people. Vera Vladimirovna Kuhn, Alexei Konstantinovich's widow, told me a lot of interesting information about Lebedev and showed me a letter from Canada for Alexei Konstantinovich. I asked her if she could give this letter to me, and she graciously agreed and gave me the letter, giving me permission to use it as I saw fit.

The legendary Russian tuba player, composer and teacher Alexei Konstantinovich Lebedev (1924 - 1993) has been honored with T.U.B.A.'s most prestigious award, the Lifetime Achievement Award. The award was announced during the ITEC General Membership Meeting at the University of Minnesota in June 1998. This posthumous award was presented by the T.U.B.A. Executive Committee in recognition of Lebedev's important contributions to tuba during his lifetime. A significant contribution to the development of the performing arts on the tuba, recognition of his teaching talent and achievements in technique, for creating the "School," for his compositional achievements, and for his tremendous public contribution to the development and popularization of the tuba (TUBA Journal N1 (26)).

I wrote about Alexei Konstantinovich Lebedev many times, but each time there was a feeling of understatement. His personality has a very large format, all the time I wanted to find new information and choose completely different words to describe him. And now, quite recently, a new window to the distant past has opened for me, and completely new sources of information have emerged. I often type in a search engine his surname, first name and patronymic, and suddenly I find - Famous People of the Lipetsk Region - Lebedev Alexei Konstantinovich site - <http://person.lib48.ru/lebedev-aleksej-konstantinovich-2> , and then a lot of information.



Lebedev Alexei Konstantinovich in his youth.



(1924–1993)

Musician, composer, teacher - A. K. Lebedev was born December 9, 1924 in the city of Dankov Ryazan Province (now Lipetsk region).

The Lebedev family has been priests since the beginning of the 17th century. His grandfather, Fr. Alexander (Lebedev) (died in 1893), was a priest in the church in the village of Mosty, Ryazan County, Ryazan Province. His father, Konstantin Aleksandrovich Lebedev (1892-1966), was a surgeon. His mother, Tatiana Vasilievna (1893-?), née Golubeva, was also the daughter of a priest, graduated from the mathematics department of the physics and mathematics faculty of the Moscow Higher Women's Courses, and worked as a teacher of mathematics.



The Parents – Konstantin Aleksandrovich and Tatiana Vasilyevna Lebedev.



The Lebedevs Alexei, Nina and Vladimir. Moscow – 1949.

There were three children in the family: Alexey had an elder brother Vladimir Konstantinovich Lebedev (1922-2008), who became a scientist in the field of welding technology, and a younger sister Nina Konstantinovna Berdinskikh (1932-2008), later the Doctor of Medicine. While still a student at Dankov Secondary School No. 1, Alexei Lebedev became interested in the brass band, learned to play the baritone, and in high school he played in the amateur brass band of the Dankov House of Culture.



Alexei Konstantinovich Lebedev in the amateur brass band of the Dankov House of Culture before he was, drafted into the army. (second from the left in the top row in the photo, baritone, in a suit, with a white shirt and tie).

After finishing school in 1942 he was drafted into the army and sent to the Saransk Military Infantry School. In 1943 machine gunner of the 1st Proletarian Division private Alexei Lebedev was sent to the front, and in the first battle he was seriously wounded, in the eye and arm, after treatment he was declared fit for non-combat service. Since May, 1943, A. K. Lebedev served as a musician of the 2nd Moscow infantry college, in 1944-1945 he was a musician of the brass band of the Military Institute of Foreign Languages. At the same time he studied at the Moscow Musical School. M. M. Ippolitov-Ivanov in the class of tuba and music theory. In June 1945 as a tuba player in the combined brass band Lebedev participated in the Victory Parade on the Red Square.



Alexei Konstantinovich Lebedev after his wound and surgery with his father, Konstantin Alexandrovich, and older brother Vladimir.

After finishing the music college in 1945 he had entered the orchestra department of the Moscow Conservatory named after P. I. Tchaikovsky, as there was no separate tuba class in the Conservatory, he studied in the trombone class of Professor V. A. Shcherbinin. While studying at the Conservatory, Lebedev also worked at the Stalin Car Plant as a tuba player and as a teacher in a brass band of the Palace of Culture, managed by V. A. Shcherbinin. In 1949 he graduated from the Conservatory a year ahead of schedule with honors, his name was put on the marble plaque of outstanding graduates of the Moscow Conservatory (for 1949). In 1950 A. Lebedev had entered the Composition Department of the Moscow Conservatory theoretical faculty in the class of associate professor E. O. Messner, where he had studied for 3 years.



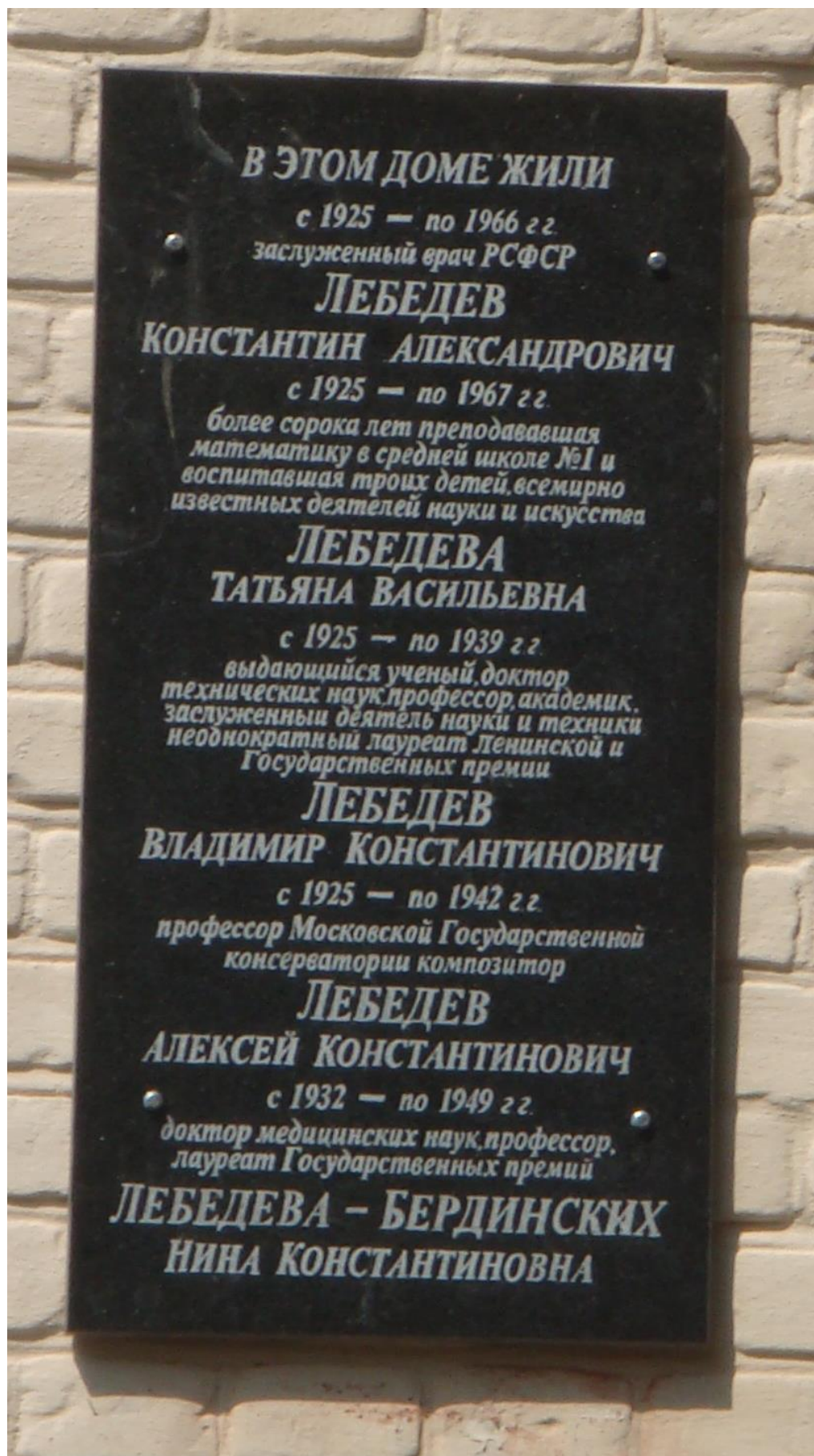
Alexei Konstantinovich Lebedev during his work in the USSR State Academic Bolshoi Theater.

From 1950 to 1967 Alexey Konstantinovich was a soloist-tubist at the State Academic Bolshoi Theater (GABT) of the USSR; he participated in performances and recordings of the GABT brass quintet consisting of Timofey Dokshitser, Yakov Gandel, Valery Polekh, Mamed Zeinalov and Alexey Lebedev. As a member of the Moscow Youth Symphony Orchestra (conducted by Kirill Kondrashin) he participated in the 1949 Festival of Youth and Students in Budapest (Hungary) and in 1955 in Warsaw (Poland). Mamed Zeinalov, a prominent bass trombonist and Professor of the Moscow Conservatory, who had worked with Lebedev in the Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra for many years, characterized Lebedev as a virtuoso musician with a rich, powerful timbre, who mastered perfectly both "fine" technique and the art of performing cantilena. Mamed Zeinalov also noted that Alexei Konstantinovich was one of the best performers of the tuba orchestral parts from works by Sergei Prokofiev. These parts are still among the most difficult in the repertoire of the orchestral tuba player.

At the same time, A. K. Lebedev taught at the Moscow Conservatory (1950-1993): Associate Professor (1970-1986), Professor (1986-1993) at the Department of Wind Instruments. He was the first teacher of a special tuba class. In addition to the tuba class, he was also the instructor of the chamber ensembles of brass instruments for about twenty years. Alexey Konstantinovich was not only the founder of the first independent tuba class at the Moscow Conservatory but the founder of the "performing school" of the art of tuba playing. In addition to the tuba class, he taught the class of chamber ensembles of brass instruments for almost twenty years. His student Honoured Artist of Russia, tuba player Vasily Gorbenko recalled his teacher Lebedev as an intelligent and very gentle man. In classes with his students, he was not very verbose and very precise and specific in his remarks.

In 1947, while still a student, Lebedev composed Concerto No. 1 [in A minor] for tuba and piano, which he played at his final examinations, and the Concert Allegro for tuba and piano (1949). They were published in 1950 and 1956; and later reissued several times. In 1986 he composed Concerto No. 2 for tuba and piano, which was published posthumously in Germany in 1997. Expanding his repertoire for tuba and ensembles, Lebedev composed pieces, etudes for tuba and piano, did arrangements and arrangements of works by ancient and contemporary authors. Besides, he created works and made arrangements for ensembles of brass instruments. Lebedev's compositions are included in programs of all-union and international competitions, and are performed in solo programs.

He is the author of the two-volume textbook "The School of Tuba Playing" (Moscow, 1974, 1984), "Etudes for Tuba" (Moscow, 1998), "Classical Pieces" (arrangements for tuba and piano of the works of ancient authors: J. Haydn, Bach, Veracini, Senaye, Boccherini, Handel) (Moscow, 1988), etc.



Memorial plaque on the house - Uritsky Street, 26 in Dankov, dedicated to the famous Lebedev family, among them - the surgeon K.A. Lebedev and his son, composer A.K. Lebedev.

A special place in the creative work of Lebedev A.K. occupies the composition of music for songs (period of 1950-1970-ies). He wrote more than sixty songs - marching, children's and lyrical, including the suite of five songs to the verses of S. Esenin. Most of them have been published. Many of A. K. Lebedev's songs were performed on All-Union radio, in concerts.

Lebedev died on June 11, 1993 in Moscow. According to his will he was buried in Dankov.

In 1998 the World Brotherhood Tuba Association (T.U.B.A.) posthumously awarded him the "Lifetime Achievement Award" in recognition of his great contribution to the creation of the tuba playing school. On December 9, 1995, a memorial plaque, was placed on the house where the composer lived in Dankov. Since December 17, 1999 Dankov Children's Musical School named after A. K. Lebedev.