

## **Monastic Pianist of Valaam Monastery plays music by Tchaikovsky**



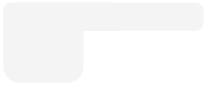
At the end of last year, Valaam Monastery posted a video with Monk Abel performing a part of Tchaikovsky's *Waltz of the Flowers*.

The video gathered over 7600 likes on Valaam Monastery's Instagram account and was viewed more than 140,000 times on YouTube.

The "*Waltz of the Flowers*" (1892) is a piece of orchestral music from the second act of *The Nutcracker*, a ballet composed by Tchaikovsky.

Valaam Monastery, or Valamo Monastery is a stavropepic Orthodox monastery in Russian Karelia, located on Valaam, the largest island in Lake Ladoga, the largest lake in Europe.

The monastery of Valaam has a unique tradition of singing, called the Valaam chant, that combines some features of Byzantine and Znamenny chants.



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