

Irina Riazanova received her Master of Music Degree in Choral Conducting with honors from the St. Petersburg State Conservatory, Russia and, upon immigrating to the United States, completed the Doctor of Music Degree in Choral Conducting from Northwestern University. Her doctoral dissertation, *An inquiry into text and music relationships in Sergei Rachmaninoff's "Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom," Opus 31*, can be found at Northwestern University D. M. Publication Number: 3030539, 153 p., 1999. Her professional experience is multi-faceted, having served as an assistant conductor to Vladimir Minin in New York City and James Conlon at the May Music Festival in Cincinnati; as a professional vocalist in the Rockefeller Chapel Choir, St. Romanos Cappella, and PaTRAM Institute Singers; as a vocal coach at Lyric Opera of Chicago and Houston Opera; as a producer of a CD recording *Holy Radiant Light* with Gloriam Dei Cantores; and as a presenter and conductor at numerous Orthodox festivals and conferences across North America. Riazanova served as choir director and chanter in Moscow Patriarchate, OCA, and ROCOR parishes for over 25 years. She is currently employed as a full-time music teacher at Lincolnwood School District No. 74 and as an organist at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago. She is passionately devoted to bringing young people closer to their Orthodox faith through singing in worship.