Alexander Tanielew, like several other distinguished Russian composers, was for many years in the service of the Government; after graduating from the Imperial University, he entered the diplomatic service, and finally became Chancellor of State. His studies in composition were directed by Nicholas Rimsky-Korsakow, and his ideals and musical style were also influenced by Mily Balakirew. At one time he was Director of the Imperial Commission on Russian folksongs. His works include two operas, three symphonies, two orchestral suites, three string quartets and many piano pieces, of which the "Bluette" presented here is one of the most attractive. While he did not carry his nationalistic tendencies to extremes, Tanielew may be classed among the group of great Russians called "moderns".







