



Newsletter

On April 25, a press conference was held at the Imperial Foyer of the Bolshoi Theatre, where the Bolshoi management: General Director General Vladimir Urin, Chief Conductor and Music Director Tugan Sokhiev and Ballet Director Makhar Vaziev announced plans for a new 244th season.

Priorities remain unchanged: the main focus in the opera is Russian music. Two masterpieces by Rimsky-Korsakov – Sadko (director – Dmitri Tcherniakov, Historic Stage) and The Tale of Tsar Saltan (director Alexei Frandetti, New Stage) will appear on the schedule. The cantata Ivan the Terrible by Prokofiev, Mazeppa by Tchaikovsky and Anna Bolena by Donizetti will be performed in concert versions.

A full-scale narrative production appears every year in the ballet repertoire of the theatre. In the new season, a première is planned Giselle in choreography by Alexei Ratmansky on the Historic Stage and Master and Margarita based on Bulgakov's novel in choreography by Edward Clug on the New Stage. Three one-act ballets to the music by Russian composers will be presented to the public by Vyacheslav Samodurov, Anton Pimonov and the Bolshoi Theatre soloist Artemy Belyakov, who is starting to also work as a choreographer. All these works are created specifically for the Bolshoi Ballet.

The Pokrovsky Chamber Stage will be given to young directors – Gleb Cherepanov, Vladislav Nastavshev and Oleg Dolin.

One of the main events of the season will undoubtedly be the Dance Inversion contemporary dance festival. At the invitation of the Bolshoi Theatre, companies from France, the USA and Spain will visit Moscow, The Norwegian National Ballet will return after a long break and, of course, the ballet company from Lebanon will be a discovery for the Russians.

The Youth Opera Program turns 10 this season. To honour this event, a gala concert will be held on the Historic Stage of the Bolshoi Theatre.

The broadcast programme Bolshoi In Cinema will present Raymonda, a new production of Giselle, Swan Lake and Jewels ballets to audiences worldwide.



The Bolshoi Theatre Museum will prepare an exhibition for the 75th anniversary of the Victory; among the expositions in the foyer of the Historic Stage the exhibition The Legend of Great Opera, dedicated to the works of Elena Obraztsova, and the exhibition dedicated to the anniversary of Vladimir Vasiliev are especially worth mentioning. Memorable dates associated with the names of famous singers and dancers will be commemorated by photo exhibitions in the foyer of the New Stage.

The touring programme will be diverse: the opera company and the Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra will visit Oman, Taiwan and France, and the ballet company will travel to the USA.

On April 16, the 25th official ceremony of the Golden Mask, the most prestigious national theatre award of the Russian Theatre Professionals Union, was held at the Historic Stage.

The Bolshoi was awarded:

Ballet:

Best Production – [Nureyev](#)

Best Choreographer – [Yuri Possokhov](#) (Nureyev)

Best Male Role – [Vyacheslav Lopatin](#) (Pupil, Nureyev)

Best Female Role – [Ekaterina Krysanova](#) (Juliet, Romeo and Juliet)

Best Conductor – [Pavel Klinichev](#) (Romeo and Juliet)

Opera:

Best Director/Opera – [Katie Mitchell](#) (Alcina)

All in all the theatre was represented in 12 nomination categories (22 nominees).

The Bolshoi Theatre Director General Vladimir Urin, one of the founders of the Russian National Prize, when receiving an award for the English director Katie Mitchell, noted that in 25 years the Golden Mask had developed from a very warm, modest and friendly ceremony into a stunning theatrical festival.

“We are all grateful to the [Bolshoi] Theatre, where it is possible to make such a huge performance,” said director Kirill Serebrennikov about the Nureyev ballet, which received numerous awards. “We had an amazing team - they are all geniuses. Rudy himself has helped us tremendously. I think he is pleased with what was happening around the performance. He wanted everything not to be boring, but fun, – we had a fun life around the show, and it still continues”.



Yuri Possokhov and Kirill Serebrennikov, Ekaterina Krysanova, Pavel Klinichev, Vyacheslav Lopatin, Vladimir Urin. Photos by Vyacheslav Prokofiev / TASS, Sergei Kuksin / WG, Dmitry Dubinsky

On April 16, the [Rossia-K TV Channel](#) aired the Golden Mask-2019 Russian National Theatre Award ceremony.

Events

April 12, 13 (12:00 and 19:00), 14 at the Historic Stage – Ballet by John Neumeier [Anna Karenina](#) to mu-

sic by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, Alfred Shnitke, Cat Stevens / Yusuf Islam – a co-production with the Hamburg Ballet.

The choreographer, stage designer, costume designer (besides the heroine’s costumes created by a Swiss company A-K-R-I-S) and the author of the lighting concept – John Neumeier. The Bolshoi premiere was on March 23, 2018. The world premiere at the Hamburg Ballet was on July 2, 2017.

Main parts by: Svetlana Zakharova, Yulia Stepanova, Kristina Kretova as Anna. Denis Rodkin, Artemy Belyakov, Artem Ovcharenko as Vronsky. Semyon Chudin, Alexander Volchkov, Andrei Merkuriev as Karenin. Conductor – Anton Grishanin. [Cast details](#)



Svetlana Zakharova as Anna Karenina.
Photo by Mikhail Logvinov

On April 12 an exhibition of the SABB Museum collection of theatre costumes and shoes restored with support of Christian Louboutin company opened. Russian versions of [Vogue](#) publications cover the exposition and the designer’s visit to the Bolshoi and [Buro 24/7](#).



April 18, 19, 20, 21 at the Historic Stage — [La Traviata](#) by Giuseppe Verdi. Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave based on the novel *La Dame Aux Camélias* by Alexandre Dumas-fils.

The staging by the renowned director, artistic director of Washington State Opera [Francesca Zambello](#) (the premiere took place on October 7, 2012) — it is the 11th *La Traviata* at the Bolshoi.

Music Director: Laurent Campellone, Set Designer: Peter John Davison, Costume Designer: [Tanya McCallin](#) (one of permanent co-authors of renowned opera director David McVicar).

Conductor — the Golden Mask winner Pavel Klinitchev.

[Casts](#)



The YOP member of 2012–15 Kristina Mkhitarian debuts as Violetta at the Bolshoi. Photo/Instagram

La Traviata [performance of April 20](#) was dedicated to National Artist of the USSR [Valdimir Atlantov](#), who had his 80th anniversary on February 19. The prominent heroic tenor sang Alfredo in the year of his debut at the Bolshoi Opera — 1964. The singer worked at the theatre in 1967–1988 performing main parts in 18 operas.

“Vladimir Atlantov has a unique voice and a great artistic talent. I have never met a heroic tenor so beautiful, powerful and expressive,” composer Georgy Sviridov said about Atlantov.

Atlantov’s family including his grandson Mikhail attended the performance.



La Traviata performance of April 20 was dedicated to National Artist of the USSR Valdimir Atlantov

On April 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 at the Bolshoi New Stage the second premiere series of Rossini’s [Il Barbiere di Siviglia](#) took place.

The premiere of Evgeny Pisarev’s production was on November 3, 2018.

Music Director — [Pier Giorgio Morandi](#)

Main roles:

Figaro — Konstantin Shushakov, Vasily Ladyuk (debut); Rosina — Anna Aglatova (debut of April 10, 12 and 14), Hulkar Sabirova; Count Almaviva — Ruzil Gatin (debut of April 10, 11, 13 and 14), Boris Stepanov (debut on April 12).

Conductors — Pier Giorgio Morandi (April 10, 12, 13 and 14), Alexander Soloviev (April 11).

[Cast details](#)



Curtain calls after the performance of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* on April 10. Photo [FB](#)

April 16, 17 and 18 at the New Stage — Sergei Prokofiev’s [Romeo and Juliet](#) in choreographic version by Alexei Ratmansky.

Conductor — Pavel Klinitchev. The Bolshoi premiere was on November 22, 2017.

Main roles performed by: Ekaterina Krysanova, Kristina Kretova, Maria Vinogradova as Juliet, David Motta Soares, Jacopo Tissi, Artemy Belyakov as Romeo.

[Cast details](#)



Alexei Ratmansky was in Moscow for the rehearsals with the artists of the Bolshoi. Photo by Katerina Novikova

April 20 (12:00 and 19:00) and 21 at the New Stage – Boris Asafiev’s ballet [The Flames of Paris](#) in choreographic version by Alexei Ratmansky with use of the original choreography by Vasily Vainonen.

Music Director – Pavel Sorokin. Conductor – Pavel Sorokin. Music dramaturgy concept – [Yuri Burlaka](#). Scenographers – Ilya Utkin, Evgeny Monakhov. Costume Designer – [Elena Markovskaya](#). [Casts](#)



Igor Tsvirko as Philippe, Kristina Kretova as Jeanne, Vyacheslav Lopatin as Jerome – The Flames of Paris in choreographic version by Alexei Ratmansky at the New Stage.

The first Saturday day performance of the Flames of Paris ballet (April 20; 12:00) was held as part of the Bolshoi for Youth programme, designed to give an additional impetus to the formation of the theatre youth audience, ensuring accessibility and favourable conditions for attending the performance.

The tickets were sold for special price. [Details](#)

April 23, 24 and 25 at the New Stage – [La Sylphide](#) by Herman Severin Levenskiold.

Renowned Danish dancer and choreographer Johan Kobborg staged this romantic ballet by August Bournonville at the Bolshoi.



April 23, 24 and 25 at the New Stage – La Sylphide. Anna Nikulina in the main part. Photo by Damir Yusupov

Conductors – Pavel Klinichev (April 23 and 25), Alexei Bogorad (April 24)

[Casts](#)

[Production details](#)

February 11 at Beethoven Hall there was a concert of the [Bolshoi Chamber Orchestra Our Contemporary](#).

The programme included works by Weinberg, Krivitsky, Finko and Sukhikh. The concept of the concert – by the Chamber Orchestra conductor Mikhail Tsinman

April 13 – Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra artists concert [French Composers Music](#).

The programme included works by Franck, Ravel, Debussy, Françaix.

April 12 and 14 – Bolshoi Theatre Young Artists Opera Program concert [Evening of French Vocal Music](#).

The programme included works by Duparc, Ravel, De Séverac, Satie, Caplet, Ibert, Poulenc, Fauré, Messiaen to the poems of great French poets.

[The concert details](#)

April 20 at Beethoven Hall – Concert of the opera soloist [Vladimir Matorin](#).

The National Artist of Russia's programme consisted of romances and songs by Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninov. Piano – Margarita Apukhtina.

“Of the more than 40 years of service in the musical theatre, over 25 have been dedicated to the Bolshoi. He was firmly tied with this theatre by fate even before the beginning of his career: The Tsar's Bride became one of his unforgettable childhood impressions, seen and heard at the Bolshoi Theatre”.



Vladimir Matorin

April 12 and 13 – the premiere of two single operas by Gian Carlo Menotti [The Telephone](#). [The Medium](#).

For staging of the operas the Bolshoi invited a young director [Alexander Molochnikov](#) the GITIS Academy graduate. In May 2018 Molochnikov staged a mini-performance within the programme Cantata. Lab at Beethoven Hall. Music Director and Conductor – [Alexei Vereschagin](#).



Premiere performances of the one act operas by Gian Carlo Menotti [The Telephone](#). [The Medium](#) will continue at Pokrovsky Chamber Stage.

The video about the premiere on [YouTube](#)

Cast

April 17 at Pokrovsky Chamber Stage – Giacomo Puccini one-act opera night – [Il Tabarro](#) (Stage Directors Boris Pokrovsky and Igor Merkulov) and [Gianni Schicchi](#) (Stage Directors Boris Pokrovsky and [Valery Fedorenko](#)).

April 20, 21 at Pokrovsky Chamber Stage – premiere performances of the opera [One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich](#) by Alexander Tchaikovsky in honour of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, 100th anniversary (December 11, 2018) continue. First performances took place on December 7, 8, 9.

Libretto by Alexander Tchaikovsky and Georgy Isaakyan based on the writer's novella of the same name. Music Director: Ignat Solzhenitsyn. Stage Director – Georgy Isaakyan. Designer – [Alexey Votyakov](#).

The main role of Ivan Denisovich on April 20 and 21 performed (respectively): [Zakhar Kovalyov](#), [Igor Vyalyh](#).

[Cast details](#)

[Synopsis](#)

On April 11, the Bolshoi Theatre hosted a press conference for the [XXVII Benois de la Dansé International Ballet Prize](#), where the organisers spoke in detail about the gala concert programme and announced the nominees. The permanent chairman of the jury is Yuri Grigorievich.



April 11, the Bolshoi Theatre press centre

The concerts will be held on May 21 and 22 at the Bolshoi Historic Stage with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation.

The audience will see the brightest dance works, created in the past year from different countries. The stars from 18 leading ballet and contemporary dance companies around the world will perform.

[See more on the Benois de la Dansé official website](#)

Among the nominees are the Bolshoi Theatre prima ballerina Anastasia Stashkevich for the role of Dolly

in John Neumeier's Anna Karenina ballet and Bolshoi principal dancer Vyacheslav Lopatin for Faun's part (directed by Sidi Larbi Sherkwawi) in A Play For Him project.

[Benois de la Dansé-2019 NOMINEES](#)

Artist of the Youth Opera Program of the Bolshoi Theatre mezzo-soprano singer [Maria Barakova](#) and guest soloist of the Bolshoi Theatre YOP artist in 2015-17 baritone signer [Konstantin Suchkov](#) are the laureates of the first prize in the nomination category Female Vocalist and Male Vocalist (respectively) of the 26th Glinka International Vocal Competition, the third round of which ended on April 18 in Kazan.

Maria Barakova will also be awarded with a special Irina Arkhipova Prize.

Press analysis: Russian mass media

More than one hundred and seventy Russian media marked the award of the Golden Mask to the ballet Nureyev by the Bolshoi Theatre and the awarding of Kirill Serebrennikov, Yuri Possokhov, Vyacheslav Lopatin, as well as Ekaterina Krysanova, Pavel Klinichev (for Romeo and Juliet) and Katie Mitchell (for Alcina).

[First Channel](#)

[Rossia-K](#)

[Moskva 24](#)

[Pyaty Channel](#)

[NTV](#)

[NTV](#)

[Channel 360](#)

[Dozhd](#)

[TASS](#)

[RIA Novosti](#)

[Interfax](#)

[IA Regnum](#)

[RBK](#)

[Kommersant](#)

[Vedomosti](#) and other media.

The premiere of The Winter's Tale on the Bolshoi Theatre's Historic Stage (April 4-7) remains in the spotlight of the Russian media. [Kultura](#) Elena Fedorenko: "Artists are reckless and inspiring in conveying feelings — fears, doubts, languor. It seems that they not only easily mastered the choreography, but also improved its merits. Classic passages, unusual supports, juxtaposition of angles, graceful trembling of hands, the menacing step of the courtiers comes easily and freely. //

Hermione by the wonderful ballerina Olga Smirnova lives in the atmosphere of an endless nightmare. The exemplary discouraging beauty of her plastique clearly shows the image, although the suffering is hidden behind women's pride and royal majesty. Kristina Kretova as Paulina, the court lady of Hermione, acts as a great dramatic actress. She tries to resist the hatred that inevitably generates a response of hatred, and even knows how to restore family peace, but cannot do it as they cannot hear her."

The review highly appreciates the result of the efforts by a team of English artists led by Bob Crowley, who presented "the work of creative accuracy /.../ and a marked theatrical illusion //.. The video projections are impressive — both ships with waving sails and the bear that kills one of the characters."



Olga Smirnova as Hermione, The Winter's Tale directed by Christopher Wheeldon on the Historic Stage. Photo by Damir Yusupov

Christopher Wheeldon, Joby Talbot and Denis Savin spoke about the premiere of The Winter's Tale ballet in the Olga Rusanova's show [Music in Events](#), April 13

[Moskovsky Komsomolets](#): "In the ballet, Wheeldon presents almost all the important actors of the play, but it's the abundance (10 main parts!) as a result of a clear and logical line built by the directors that does not allow getting lost in the intricacies of the plot. At the same time, the director even manages to play correctly Shakespeare's remarks, which are important for understanding of all these intricacies." "The choreographer is especially good at pseudo-national dances, which are a real decoration in the second act of the performance. Unlike the first one, which moves the action with psychological monologues and scenes, the second act of the ballet is purely divertissement. Joby Talbot's music also helps the choreographer in this regard, since the composer combines the sound of ethnic instruments and traditional symphony orchestra."

[Mir24 TV](#) channel reported the premiere.

Contact the theatre press service for references to all the publications about The Winter's Tale premiere.

The Ticket to the Bolshoi show was aired on April 12 at 18:45 on the [Rossia-Kultura channel](#). The main theme of the show was Rusalka, first staged at the Bolshoi Theatre.

The performer of the main role of Rusalka the Bolshoi opera soloist Dinara Alieva – guest of the Main Role show on the [Kultura channel](#) (April 11, 19:45). The singer talks about the premiere of the production by Timofei Kulyabin at the Bolshoi Theatre, her teachers, creative plans and the OperaArt International Music Festival.



Dinara Alieva in the Main Role with show host Yulian Makarov. Photo by Vadim Shultz

The soloist of the Bolshoi Theatre Dinara Alieva speaks about the borders in experiments, public satiety and broken glass in a dressing room in an interview to the Izvestia newspaper, published under the headline The Composer Must Love My Voice. The [interview](#) by Sergei Uvarov.

“Regarding the direction of Rusalka, there are opinions that the second half of the performance is not completely organic for Dvořák’s style and for this melodious music in general.

It was Kulyabin’s point to break all the stereotypes. I needed to create such an image, which, probably, I have never created in my previous works. The management of the theatre and the audience were surprised, someone did not recognise me at all. Timofei is a young director, he has a lot ahead. I was pleased to work with him.”

The nominees for the Benois de la Danse award were announced at the Bolshoi Theatre press conference. The news is covered by:

[Kultura channel](#)

[Moscow 24](#)

[Radio Kultura](#)

[Orfei Radio](#)

[TASS](#)

[IA InterMedia](#)

[Kommersant](#)

[Rossiiskaya Gazeta](#)

and others.

“It’s always a ballet festival for me. I see wonderful dancers who cannot always be seen in Russia. In two big gala concerts. These are always very interesting choreographic names which we are getting familiar with and which we do not know, too. In fact, Benois de la Danse pays tribute to those who have reached the top in ballet art. It has another function - it discovers something new. And this is the most remarkable thing”, says Vladimir Urin, Director General of the Bolshoi Theatre, in a report of the Kultura channel.



The Bolshoi Theatre Director General Vladimir Urin in the story by [Kultura](#)

The [Kultura](#) newspaper announces the opening of the Russia-Turkey Cross Year of Culture on April 8 at the Bolshoi Theatre. The first action was the Troy opera staged by the Opera and Ballet Theatre from Ankara. Alexander Matusevich in the article The Knight’s Move says: “This is a very fresh work (the world premiere took place in Ankara last November), its author is Romanian composer Bujor Hoinic, who has been living and working in Turkey for a long time”. The printed and version of the newspaper is available upon request at the press department.

The Van Cleef & Arpels company and the Bolshoi Theatre announced the beginning of cooperation — the

jewellery house becomes a partner of the theatre, — this news was reported by:

[Kommersant FM](#) (Anna Minakova)

[Forbes](#)

[AD magazine](#)

The legendary dance teacher of pas de deux and dance tutor, Merited Artist of the RF Yuri Vasyuchenko is the person of the month of [La Personne](#) magazine. Yuri Vasyuchenko spoke about how the Bolshoi invited him on tour, and afterwards to the theatre company, in an interview with Veronica Varnovskaya.

“Yuri Valentinovich, you are now performing on the stage of the Bolshoi Theatre. In Romeo and Juliet ballet by Alexei Ratmansky you play the role of Friar Laurence. What are your emotions from the show?”

“Joy! After all, I have not been on stage for 20 years. By the way, Alexei Ratmansky played me chicken, he said: ‘You will not play, you cannot!’ And I said: ‘I will!’ We, of course, did not make a bet, but it really spurred me on, and I am extremely grateful to him for this! I learned the part, it is not physically difficult, but it was incredibly interesting! And, of course, when I first came out on the stage, it was so exciting! I immediately remembered Twenty Years Later by A. Dumas (laughs). I enjoyed it a lot, especially as I danced with my students who graduated from my class many years ago and whom I love very much. Many have become stars, there are merited and national artists among them”.



Yuri Vasyuchenko — the hero of the publication in [La Personne](#). Photo by Sofia Nasyrova

A big article in [La Personne](#) is dedicated to Tatiana Galtseva — a leading teacher at the Moscow State Academy of Choreography, who brought up several generations of dancers, including Ekaterina Krysanova, Anastasia Stashkevich and Anastasia Goryacheva. “We had the great honour to talk with Tatiana Alexandrovna personally and take a picture of her together with

the students in the legendary halls of the Moscow State Academy of Choreography. On the eve of the final exams at the academy, we talked with Tatiana Galtseva about her teaching methods, how the exam lessons are compiled, how she works with her students, and her sadness about parting from them soon”.



Tatiana Galtseva and her students — Anastasia Dedikina, Elizaveta Kokoreva, Margarita Pochivalova, Polina Afanasyeva, Moscow State Academy of Choreography. Photo by Alisa Aslanova

Stars of the Bolshoi Theatre Artem Ovcharenko and Anna Tikhomirova appeared in the comic television show aired by the [TNT television channel](#) on Friday night (Comedy Club, season 15, release 8 of April 12, 2019, 02'14 “- 05'53”). The principal dancer of the Bolshoi Theatre intelligently answered the questions of the host and showed off at least 18 fouettes.



Artem Ovcharenko and Anna Tikhomirova on a [comic show](#)

Press analysis:

international mass media

The UK local newspaper [Frome Times](#) discovers some details of The Winters Tale premiere at the Bolshoi: “Frome instrument maker, Tim Manning, has been busy making two performance-specific instruments commissioned by the world famous Bolshoi Ballet for The Winters Tale ballet.” “Due to be performed for a first run of a week this April, The Bolshoi contacted the performer Greg Knowles, percussionist, with a view to purchasing instruments similar to those he used for several runs of the ballet in England and Australia. Greg Knowles introduced them to Frome instrument maker Tim Manning.”

The March/April English language edition of [Ballet2000](#) (No.278) specialised dance magazine publishes a number of interesting articles related to Russian Ballet.

Ballet2000 (page 9-10) publishes a photo of Svetlana Zakharova and an article about her upcoming performances in Italy. “Apart from her engagements at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, Svetlana Zakharova (40 years old) is expected in May at the Teatro Massimo Palermo (Italy in Carmen Suite by Alberto Alonso.” “Extremely popular in Italy where she appears frequently, Zakharova is a permanent guest étoile at La Scala, Milan where she will be presently starring in The Sleeping Beauty (July) and Giselle (September). She is also expected at the Teatro Comunale Luciano Pavarotti, Modena in October.” “Later on in other Italian theatres in her new show where she will be dancing works by Yuri Possokhov and Mauro Bigonzetti, accompanied by soloists from the Bolshoi Theatre.”

Ballet2000 announces briefly: (Page 7) the magazine publishes a brief article announcing, “The handing out of the prestigious Prix Benois de la Danse is to take place on stage of the Bolshoi Theatre on 22 May.” “This year’s jury members include (among others): Svetlana Zakharova, Vladimir Malakhov, Ana Laguna, Agnes Letestu.”

Ballet2000 announces the Dance Open month in St-Petersburg which is being held at the Alexandrinsky Theatre and hosting the Zurich Ballet, Dortmund Ballet, Vienna State Ballet, The Inntrodans company (Netherlands) the Perm Opera Ballet and a closing gala with international guest dancers.

Ballet2000 (page 44-45) publishes a large photo of the Bolshoi’s Anna Nikulina and Semyon Chudin and the Rome Opera Ballet in Benjamin Pech’s version of Swan Lake. Leonetta Bentivoglio reviews the show. “The

salient characteristic of this Swan Lake is the merging of the characters Rothbart, the wizard who turns the Princess into a swan, and Prince Siegfried’s friend Benno.” “The set and costume designer Aldo Buti dresses the fairytale up as a grandiloquent, lavish and gothic dream, a la Zeffirelli. The dramaturgy and narration of Pech’s choreographic rendering strive to be tight and crisp.” “There were various casts and performances, with the lead roles taken at the premiere by two stars from the Bolshoi Ballet Anna Nikulina and Semyon Chudin. He is a technically-precise danseur noble, although not particularly expressive. She, on the other hand, is startlingly original, always warm in her interpretation.”

Ballet2000 (page 65) publishes a large full-page photo of the Bolshoi soloists Anastasia Stashkevich and Erick Swolkin in The Café staged by Jerome Robbins.

Local media and online publications announce upcoming screenings of Bolshoi productions in local cinemas.

[Danza Ballet](#) (Italy) announces the screening of the Bolshoi’s Carmen Suite and Petrushka in local cinemas on May 19. The article includes full information about the production and the Bolshoi in Cinemas official poster.

The Moscow based online daily English language newspaper [The Moscow Times](#) publishes an article titled “On This Day: Spartacus by Yury Grigorovich at The Bolshoi On April 9, 1968 Spartacus premiered at the Bolshoi.” The article recounts the history of the production Spartacus which has gone on to become one of the theatre’s most iconic productions. “Till today, Spartacus remains one of the Bolshoi’s most prominent, and one of Khachaturian’s best known works.”

[The Times](#) (UK) newspaper also publishes a photo from Troy at the Bolshoi captioned “A performance of the opera Troy at the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, launches a year of artistic exchanges to boost tourism between Turkey and Russia.” Yuri Kochetkov/AP” The photo was distributed via the newswire AP (Associated Press).

One of Turkey’s largest daily newspapers the Hürriyet [Daily News](#) publishes a photo of the Troy performance and a brief story. “As part of the opening of 2019 Turkey-Russia Cross Cultural Year, the Troy opera was staged at Moscow Bolshoi Theatre on April 8. Turkish Culture and Tourism Minister Mehmet Nuri Ersoy said that the opera received a standing ovation from the audience.”

A new production of Sergei Prokofiev’s opera [The Betrothal in a Monastery](#) by Dmitri Tcherniakov and

Daniel Barenboim premiered on April 13 at the Unter den Linden Staatsoper in Berlin. There were premiere performances on April 17 and 22, too. Main roles were performed by Aida Garifullina and the Bolshoi opera soloist Andrei Jiliovski. Set design by Dmitry Tcherniakov himself, costumes by Elena Zaitseva, Lights by Gleb Filshinsky.

Heads of many theatres – Vladimir Urin of the Bolshoi Theatre of Russia, Stephane Lissner of l'Opéra de Paris, Klaus Bachler of Bayerische Staatsoper, Munich, Serge Dorny of l'Opera National de Lyon, Sophie de Lint of Opernhaus Zürich, Anton Getman of Stanislavsky Musical Theatre and others – attended the premiere.

The live screening of the performance will be on April 22 on [Mezzo channel](#)

Next season performances: December 21, 28, 30, 2019; January 2, 4, 2020.

The German daily newspaper [Der Tagesspiegel](#) publishes an article by Sybill Mahlke: “In Sergey Prokofiev’s lyrical-comic opera there is joy in satire as well as wit in sparkling dialogues. Dmitri Tcherniakov, Daniel Barenboim’s favourite director, does not play the comedy at the Staatsoper.”

A review on the opera also published by [Berliner Morgenpost](#)

[Berliner Morgenpost](#) also publishes an article by Matthias Nöther about the new opera star Aida Garifullina.



The premiere of The Betrothal in a Monastery at the Staatsoper in Berlin, April 13.

Photo by Katerina Novikova

[Ekran I Stzena](#) publishes a review by Ekaterina Belyaeva titled A Manifest of Independence (No.7, 2019) on a new programme of London Royal Ballet star Natalia Osipova Light Breath. “Natalia has next premieres already

planned,” the critic notes. “In the nearest future she is to enhance and widen her gallery of female guises. The artist’s plans include staging of Arthur Pita’s Mom based on A Story of a Mother by Hans Christian Andersen (already done) and a solo Two Feet by Meryl Tankard where Natalia Osipova will once again transform into Olga Spesivtseva.”

Briefly

[Kommersant](#) offers the readers an article by Tatiana Kuznetsova about what to watch at the 18th Dance Open International Festival. “In addition to educational courses for juniors around the world, eager to join the higher ballet knowledge based on the “Vaganova system”, and the traditional gala concert of world stars which wraps the festival up, five serious European companies will come to St Petersburg with a repertoire of varying degrees of classicality and extravagance.”



[GTRK Tatarstan](#)

Central and regional media report the completion of the International Vocal Competition held in Kazan from April 11 to April 19:

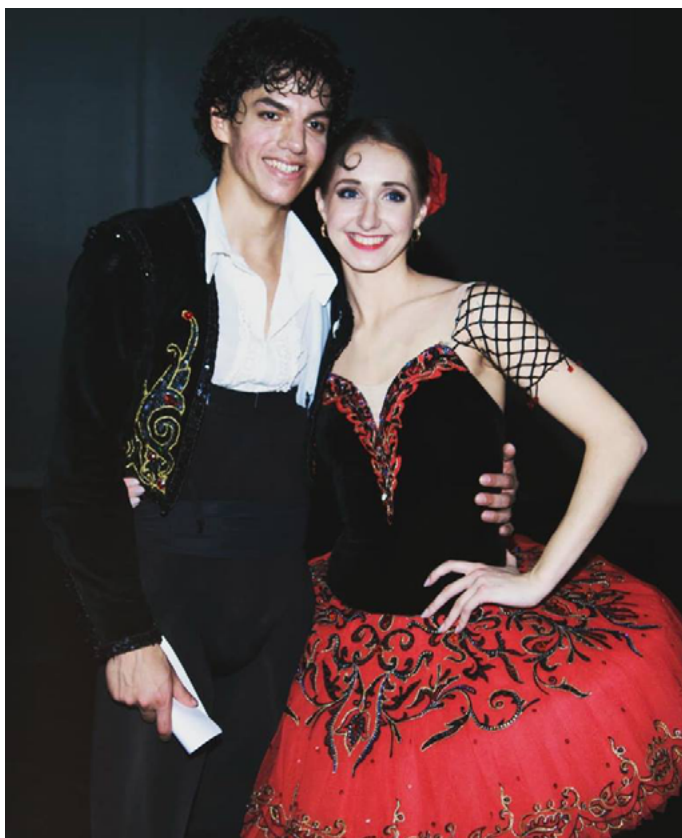
[Orpheus Radio](#): “Chaliapin’s motherland discovers talents: The Glinka Vocal Competition has ended. The names of the winners as reported by Nikolai Rybinsky.”

[Zvezda](#) (Perm) and other media.

On April 20-22, Stanislavsky Musical Theatre presents a new programme of one-act ballets Inger/Brown/Preljocaj. The [Izvestia](#) photo gallery shows the rehearsal process of the Madman’s Walk, O Sensitive and Un Trait d’Union.

Choreographer Patrick de Bana will present new projects in Moscow, [Kultura channel](#) reports. At Natalia Sats Theatre, he stages Stravinsky’s Les Noces “without any regard to the textbook production by Bronislava

Nijinska, staged in 1921 for the Diaghilev company.” On April 18 he made his dedication to Vaslav Nijinski at a gala concert in the Kremlin Palace.



Margarita Shrayner and Isaac Hernandez
at the Colon Theatre, April 9

The first soloist of the Bolshoi Ballet Margarita Shrayner performed the main role of Kitri in Don Quixote ballet at the Argentina National Opera Theatre. Isaac Hernandez was her partner. [Hernandez is the winner of the Benois de la Danse Prize for Basilio in Don Quixote edited by Laurent Hilaire and Mikhail Baryshnikov (Roman Opera Ballet) and James in La Sylphide, choreography by Bournonville (English National Ballet)].

On April 26, Igor Tsvirko and Kristina Kretova will perform at the Cadogan Hall in the programme of the evening [La Bayadere Meets La Fille Mal Gardée](#), which will be held by the London Russian Ballet School.

[RFI](#) calls Krzysztof Warlikowski’s new production of the Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk on the stage of the Paris Opera in the French capital the success of the year; the role of Boris Timofeevich Izmailov performed by Dmitry Ulyanov, the lead singer of the Stanislavsky Musical Theatre, the guest soloist of the Bolshoi Theatre. He described how great art was born on the stage

from blood, sex and prison horror. For twenty years, this is the fourth Lady Macbeth in his career, although the opera is not performed so often. From the performance in which he took part, Warlikowski’s solution differs, in his words, by its cinematography and psychological acuity.

From April 17 to April 29 April the [XVIII Dance Open Ballet Festival](#) will be held in St Petersburg on the stage of the Alexandrinsky Theatre.

[Rossia-K](#)

[TASS](#)

[Forbes](#)

[Kommersant-Weekend](#)

An [exhibition](#) of costumes, paintings, as well as photographs by Francette Levieux, dedicated to the life and work of Rudolf Nureyev, was held in Almaty, in the Kazakh Abai State Academic Theatre. The exposition was timed to coincide with the [3rd International Ballet Globe Dance Festival](#) (April 3-5, 2019), dedicated this year to the legendary dancer of the 20th century. Charles Jude, an outstanding dancer and choreographer, now art director of the Bordeaux National Opera Ballet, representing the Rudolf Nureyev Foundation, took part in the festival – he presented the exhibition and held ballet workshops with the students of the Seleznyov Almaty Choreographic School.

Rudolf Nureyev’s Costumes “Tell” Us About Him – the story by the [Vlast](#) online magazine.

“So different is Rudolf Nureyev: unique costumes and rare photos” – [Tengrinews.kz](#).

Ballet stars from around the world took part in the gala evening, which wrapped up the festival – pictures of the dress rehearsal in the Kazakhstan magazine [Buro 24/7](#).

“[Rudolf Nureyev continues to emit a powerful light](#)”, a report about the festival and photo exhibition.

Boris Eifman was a central character of Pozner talk show on the [First Channel](#) – the art director of the St Petersburg State Academic Ballet Theatre, founder of the Dance Academy, National Artist of Russia, Russian State Prizes laureate answered the host’s questions on Monday evening (April 15, 23:55).

The Moscow publishing house U Nikitskikh Vorot publishes the book *Docunt Volentum Fata*, or Fate Favours The Willing, dedicated to the memory of Svyatoslav Belza (April 26, 1942, Chelyabinsk, USSR – June 3, 2014, Munich, Germany) publicist, TV host. An essay from this book by his friend and fellow indologist, poet, translator Alexander Senkevich is offered by [Nezavisimaya Gazeta](#).



«Sometimes he came straight from the concert ...»
Photo from Igor Belza archive / [NG](#)

Social networks



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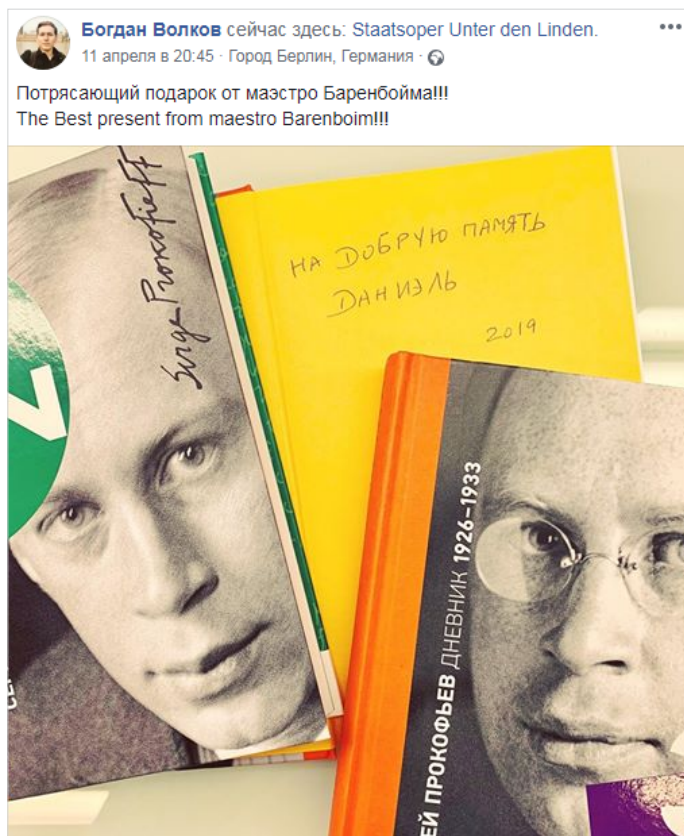
[Makvala Kasrashvili fan](#)

Natalia Pakhomenko on [Facebook](#). “Federal law forbade any new arrangement of the anthem, since the anthem is a national treasure. Powerful friends stood up for the composer and he was released on the same day. A masterpiece photo has been left to us.”



Olga Smirnova near YAGP poster with her picture.
Photo from the [FB](#)

Follow the [link](#) to listen to the work (1'40 ') performed by the National Symphony Orchestra (USA) (recording made in the Kennedy Center on January 22, 2017; conductor — Gianandrea Nosedà).



Bogdan Volkov on [Facebook](#)

Pas de deux From the Life of Vacationers is published on the [Instagram](#) by Maria Alexandrova, who is undergoing rehabilitation after a professional injury, as Vladislav Lantratov is, too. The humour of this “comic dumb” scene is still sad, though life-giving. All the visitors to their pages on social media wish the favourite artists the quickest recovery.



From the Life of Vacationers on the [Instagram](#) by Maria Alexandrova

The Bolshoi choir and the opera company soloist mezzo soprano Agunda Kulaeva took part in the [recording of Ave Maria by Frantz Schubert](#) to support Notre Dame de Paris which has suffered severely after the blaze on April 15-16. Conductor — Valery Borisov, chorus master — Alexander Kritsky.



The video published by the news agency [Russia Today](#)

Debuts

[Il Barbiere di Siviglia](#)

April 10. [Ruzil Gatin](#) for the first time at the Bolshoi appeared as Count Almaviva (he made his debut with this part on the stage of La Scala in a performance by the Academy of Young Singers in November 2017). He made his debut in the Bolshoi Theatre in 2018, performing the part of Count Libenskoef at the premiere of *Il Viaggio A Reims* by Gioachino Rossini (Stage Director — Damiano Michieletto, Conductor — Tugan Sokhiev). Also on April 11, 13, 14.

The soloist of the Bolshoi opera company Anna Aglatova appeared as Rosina for the first time. Also on April 12 and 14.

April 11. [Vasily Ladyuk](#) made his debut in the main part. The soloist of the Dresden Opera [Alexandros Stavrakakis](#) (in 2016-18 he was an artist of the Youth Program of the Semper Opera) will perform for the first time at the Bolshoi as Don Basilio. Nikolai Kazansky as Bartolo. Elena Novak as Berta.

April 12. The Mikhailovsky Theatre soloist [Boris Stepanov](#) appeared as Count Almaviva for the first time at the Bolshoi. Yaroslav Abaimov, whose performances were announced earlier, does not participate in the April series of performances.

[Anna Karenina](#)

April 13 (12:00). Yulia Stepanova made her debut in the main role.

April 14. Nina Biryukova as Kitty.

Romeo and Juliet

April 17. Maria Vinogradova and Jacopo Tissi made their debuts in the main parts (the previously announced performance by Evgenia Obraztsova and Vyacheslav Lopatin was cancelled).

La Traviata

April 18. Denis Makarov as Doctor Grenville.

April 19. [Kristina Mkhitarian](#) appeared as Violetta for the first time in the performance of the Bolshoi Theatre (Bolshoi Theatre YOP artist in 2012–15, laureate and winner of many prestigious international vocal competitions, debuted with this part in 2015 at Oslo Opera, successfully performed it at the Glyndebourne Festival, at Rome Opera, the Opera of Basel, Palm Beach, Sydney, at the Royal Muscat Opera House and on many other stages of the world). [Azer Zada](#) (Rzazade) made his debut on the stage of the Bolshoi Theatre as Alfred (graduated from Uzeyir Hajibeyli Baku Academy of Music, Academy of Opera in Osimo and La Scala Academy, winner of the International Competition Verdi Voices-2017 in Busseto, performs on the best stages of Italy). Alexander Borodin as Doctor Grenville. Ivan Maximyko as Gaston. Stanislav Mostovoy as Giuseppe.

The Flames Of Paris

April 21. Anastasia Denisova as Adeline (debut in Moscow, the first performance took place during the theatre tour in China). Alexander Voytyuk as Louis 16th. Vitaly Getmanov, Grigory Chapaev in Marseillaise dance.

Cast alterations

Anna Karenina

On April 13 at 19.00 — Kristina Kretova performed the main role of the ballet instead of Olga Smirnova.

Romeo and Juliet

On April 17, Maria Vinogradova and Jacopo Tissi made their debut in the main parts. The previously announced performance by Evgenia Obraztsova and Vyacheslav Lopatin was cancelled.

On April 18 Artemy Belyakov replaced Vladislav Lantratov as Romeo.

La Traviata

April 18. Oksana Shilova appeared as Violetta (also on April 20) — the previously announced performance by Irina Lungu was cancelled.

April 19. Vasily Ladyuk replaced Alexey Markov as Georges Germont (also on April 21); the previously announced debuts of Guzel Sharipova and Ilya Selivanov as Violetta and Alfredo (respectively) were postponed.

Schedule alterations

April 20. The performances of the One Day of Ivan Denisovich opera, which were to take place at the Chamber Stage on February 12 and 13, were postponed to April 20 and 21, respectively. Tickets remain valid.

April 24. The performance of Il Viaggio a Reims opera has been added. Tickets are on sale.

Birthdays

April 12 — opera singer soprano Montserrat Caballé (1933-2018)



Montserrat Caballé

April 12 — opera singer (lyric-dramatic tenor), 1959-1970 — the Bolshoi soloist, National Artist of the USSR Zurab Andzhaparidze (April 12, 1928 – April 12, 1997)



Zurab Andzhaparidze as the Duke.
Rigoletto, the Bolshoi Theatre

April 17 – Head of the Youth Opera Program, Merited Artist of Russia Dmitry Vdovin



Dmitry Vdovin

April 17 – cultural expert, musicologist, writer Solomon Volkov – 75th birthday. Author of the book *The Bolshoi Theatre. Culture and Politics. New History*

April 18 – world ballet star, “God of Dance”, National Artist of the USSR Vladimir Vasiliev



Vladimir Vasiliev

April 18 – an outstanding ballet dancer of the 20th century, Marcia Haydée, the muse of John Cranko, who created the roles of Juliet (*Romeo and Juliet*), Tatiana (*Onegin*), Katherina (*The Taming of the Shrew*) for her.

April 20 – National Artist of the USSR Georgy Nello (1904-1957)

April 22 – an outstanding ballerina of the 20th century, Yvette Chauviré (1917-2016). Dancer of the Paris Opera in 1934-1945, 1947-1949 and 1954-1963, theatre étoile, since 1941

April 23 – William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616), – 455th anniversary

April 23 – composer, conductor, pianist Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)

April 25 – mezzo-soprano Concordia Antanova (1886-1959)