



# Newsletter

On June 13 14, 15 and 16 the Bolshoi Theatre presented the premiere of the one act-ballets programme of *Symphony in C* and *Gaîté Parisienne*.

*Symphony in C* by George Balanchine to music by Georges Bizet was first performed at Paris State Opera on July 28, 1947. The Bolshoi premiere was on April 21, 1999. Now after a nine year break Balanchine's masterpiece returns to the Bolshoi Stage. The revival was prepared in cooperation with George Balanchine Foundation and conforms to Balanchine standards of style and technique set and provided by the Foundation.

Staged by [Elyse Borne](#)

Music Director [Timur Zangiev](#)

Costume Designer: [Tatiana Noginova](#)

Lighting Designer: [Sergey Shevchenko](#)

[Casts](#)

Conductor: [Timur Zangiev](#)

For the first time the Bolshoi turns to works by Maurice Bejart, a legend of contemporary ballet, and presents one of his most cheerful productions – the autobiographical ballet *Gaîté Parisienne* to music by Jacques Offenbach and Manuel Rosenthal.

The world premiere took place on January 27, 1978, at La Monnaie Royal Theatre in Brussels.

*“The project evokes reminiscences of youth in me, of my first coming to Paris.”* – Maurice Bejart said about his ballet.

One of the ballet's authors, the famous set and costume designer Thierry Bosquet worked on the [Russian premiere of \*Gaîté Parisienne\*](#); One of the choreographer's associates, former soloist of the Ballet of the 20th Century and Bejart Ballet Lausanne [Pyotr Nardelli](#) and ballet mistress, the artistic director assistant [Nasuno Keisuke](#) revived the choreography. Lighting Designer: [Anton Stikhin](#).

Music Director: [Timur Zangiev](#)

[Casts](#)

The ballets were shown on June 14, 15, 16, 2019, as well.



*Symphony in C*. A scene from the performance.

Photo by Damir Yusupov



*Gaîté Parisienne*. A scene from the performance.

Ruslan Skvortsov as Father.

Photo by Damir Yusupov

## Events

On May 5 Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping attended the gala event held at the Bolshoi Theatre marking the 70th anniversary of the establishing of Russian-Chinese diplomatic relations. At the Historic Stage there were Pyatnitsky State Academic Russian Folk Orchestra and Chinese Central Traditional Orchestra. Before the concert, the heads of the two states visited a photo exhibition arranged by Russian and Chinese news agencies TASS and Xinhua at the Bolshoi foyer. The photos featured the key events of last 70 years.



The RF President Vladimir Putin and the Chairman of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping during their visit to the Bolshoi.  
Photo by <http://kremlin.ru/>

“It was very pleasant to be together with Vladimir Putin at the Bolshoi, one of the oldest and the most famous theatres in the world. 70 years ago, Chairman Mao Zedong visited the USSR and the famous Bolshoi Theatre for the first time and witnessed the opening of a new page in the history of Chinese-Soviet friendship. And today we gathered here again to celebrate the 70th anniversary of establishing Russian-Chinese diplomatic relations and witnessed another landmark moment in the chronicles of the Russian-Chinese relationship,” Xi Jinping said.

June 3 and 6, the Historic Stage — a concert of graduates of the Moscow State Ballet Academy in honour of the professional anniversary of the Academy rector, National Artist of Russia, professor Marina Leonova. She created unforgettable classical images on the Bolshoi stage in ballets by Marius Petipa, Yuri Grigorovich and other choreographers.



Russian Soul In Dance:  
Future Ballet Stars Performed At The Bolshoi / Vesti.ru

Performers — students of MSBA, Elizaveta Kokoreva (the winner of the first 3 prizes and a special prize),

Dmitry Smilevsky (the winner of the Grand prix and 1st prizes and a special prize), Igor Gorelkin (the winner of the 2nd prize), Anna Denisova (the winner of the 1st prize), Edward Cooper (the winner of the 1st prize), diploma winners Anastasia Dedikina, Luca Calcante.

May 31, June 1 (12:00 и 19:00) and 2, the Historic Stage — Giselle to the music by [Adolphe Adam](#), choreography by Jean Coralli, Jules Perrot and Marius Petipa, choreographic version by Yuri Grigorovich.

#### Casts

Conductors: Pavel Klinichev (May 31 and 2), Alexei Bogorad (May 1).

[Curtain calls video of May 31 on Instagram](#)

[Curtain calls video of June 2 on Instagram](#)

Video fragments of Vyacheslav Lopatin's debut as Albert in the matinee performance on June 1 (Instagram): [First act](#); [2 act](#).

June 7, 8 (12:00 and 19:00) and 9, the Historic Stage — opera [Carmen](#) by Georges Bizet. Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy after the novel of the same name by Prosper Mérimée.



Agunda Kulaeva preparing for Carmen with Ricardo and Rosario Castro. Photo of the singer / FB

Stage Director: Alexei Borodin

Set Designer: Stanislav Benediktov

Costume Designer: Valentina Komolova

Lighting Designer: Damir Ismagilov

Choreograph by famous flamenco dancers Ricardo Castro and Rosario Castro, Spain.

Music Director: Tugan Sokhiev

[See more](#)

Conductor — Anton Grishanin (all days).

[Casts](#)

June 12 – 16, the Historic Stage — opera [Don Carlo](#) by Giuseppe Verdi, production by [Adrian Noble](#). The production was created for the 200th anniversary of the composer's 200th birth. The premiere was on December 17, 2013.

[See more about the opera history at the Bolshoi Casts](#)

Conductor (all days) — Anton Grishanin.

[Casts](#)



The main role in Don Carlo — Oleg Dolglov.  
Photo by Damir Yusupov

Conductor (all days) — Anton Grishanin

[Casts](#)

June 4, the New Stage — Opera Encore, a [gala concert of the Radio Rossia prize winners](#).



Curtain calls after the concert Opera Encore.  
Photo by Katerina Novikova

Guzel Sharipova (Bolshoi Theatre), Sergei Kuzmin (Mikhailovsky Theatre), Vladimir Dmitruk (Stanislavsky Music Theatre) and Artur Kaipkulov (Bashkir Opera and Ballet Theatre) performed arias and fragments from operas by Rimski-Korsakov, Bizet, Gounod, Verdi, Donizetti, under the baton of Anton Grishanin.

After the concert the Bolshoi soloist Guzel Sharipova was solemnly awarded the diploma of Artist of Radio Russia. The Radio Rossia music commentator Olga Rusanova was the host of the evening.

The prize was established in 2016, its main purpose is informational support and project monitoring of young talented artists for 3 years. Dilyara Idrisova was the first winner of the prize. In 2017 the prize was given to Sergei Kuzmin, in 2018 — to Vasilisa Berzhanskaya, Vladimir Dmitruk and Artur Kaipkulov.

World ballet star [Julio Bocca](#) (Argentina) gave morning classes at the Bolshoi from May 28 to June 9. In 1985 he won the 1st prize and the Golden Medal of the Moscow International Ballet Contest. His victory immediately attracted the attention of the world ballet community, and Mikhail Baryshnikov, the artistic director of the American Ballet Theatre of that time, accepted the 18-year-old artist into the company as a soloist right away. The prominent tutor [Azari Plisetsky](#) also gave classes from May 30 to June 14.

June 2, Beethoven Hall — a concert of the Bolshoi Theatre Chamber Orchestra — [Works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart](#).

The works representing the three most important spheres of the great composer's creative legacy - opera, symphonic and instrumental concert — were performed.

Conductor — Mikhail Tsinman

See more about the concert in an article by Natalia Abryutina on the theatre's [website](#).

June 4, Beethoven Hall — [Chamber Music Concert](#).

Works by Mozart, Vivaldi, Boccherini were performed.  
[See more](#)

June 9 — the [Bolshoi Theatre Violin Ensemble Concert](#). Works by Rossini, Bach, Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Bizet, Smetana, Fauré, Debussy, Sibelius, Sarasate, Musorgsky, Rachmaninov, Rimsky-Korsakov, Lyadov, Babajanian, Stravinsky, Schnittke, Artemiev, were performed.

[Presentation of the Bolshoi Theatre Violin Ensemble on YouTube](#)

The Chamber Stage is preparing to present a new production — a three-act opera-buffo [La Périchole](#) by Jacques Offenbach, Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Lu-

dovic Halévy based on a comedy by Prosper Mérimée Le Théâtre de Clara Gazul.



Music Director — [Philipp Tchizhevsky](#)  
 Director and Set Designer — Philipp Grigoryan  
 Chief consultant of the production — [Ilya Kukharenko](#)

Costume Designer — [Vlada Pomirkovanaya](#)  
 Choreographer — Anna Abalikhina  
 Lightning Designer — Sergei Vasiliev  
 The premiere will be on June 20, 2019. There will be performances on June 21 and 24, 2019, as well.

June 5 and 6, the Chamber Stage — [Don Giovanni](#), [Ossia Il Dissoluto Punito](#) by Mozart, production by Boris Pokrovsky.

Music Director — Lev Ossovsky  
 Revival Director — [Mikhail Kislyarov](#)  
 Conductors — Revival Music Director [Vladimir Agronsky](#) (June 5), [Alexei Vereschagin](#) (June 6).  
[Casts](#)

June 8 and 9 — [The Magic Flute](#) by Mozart staged by Boris Pokrovsky.

[Casts](#)  
 Conductors — Music Director Vladimir Agronsky (June 8), Alexei Vereschagin (June 9).

The audience of the Bolshoi Youtube channel can see an interview from the [Green Salon](#) cycle with renowned bass of the Bolshoi Opera, National Artist of Russia [Vladimir Matorin](#). Interview by The Bolshoi head of press office Katerina Novikova.



The Bolshoi Opera soloist Vladimir Matorin as a guest of the [Green Salon](#) of the Bolshoi

Bolshoi Ballet is preparing for its Australian tour in Brisbane, Queensland, from June 26 to July 3, 2019.



The Queensland Performing Arts Centre during the Bolshoi Ballet tour in 2013. Photo by Katerina Novikova

The Bolshoi is going to present *Spartacus* by [Yuri Grigorovich](#) (8 shows) and George Balanchine's masterpiece *Jewels* (5 shows) at Lyric Theatre in the Queensland Performing Arts Centre.

Queensland Symphonic Orchestra will accompany the performances.

Conductor — Pavel Sorokin

Last time the company performed in Australia six years ago, from May 30 to June 9, 2013.

In 2013, summing up the Bolshoi tour season, the director general of the Centre Mr. John Kotzas said that "it was a true blessing not only for the audience but for the whole Brisbane artistic community and first of all - for Queensland Symphonic Orchestra and Queensland Ballet which have had an amazing opportunity to work with the world famous legendary company that they will retain a good and long memory of."

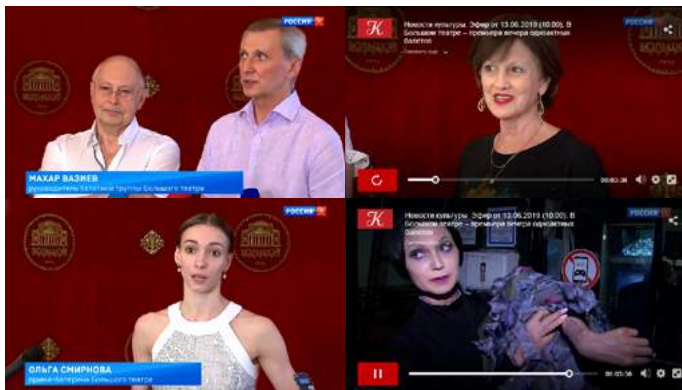
See more about the upcoming Australian tour and casts at the theatre website in the article: [Bolshoi Ballet And Brisbane: Six Years Later](#).

## Press analysis:

### Russian mass media

Central media report the Bolshoi presenting the last premiere of the 243 season on June 13 at the New Stage – the evening of one act ballets with Gaité Parisienne by Maurice Béjart and Symphony in C by George Balanchine.

[Rossia-Kultura channel](#) showed a report by Elena Voroshilova from the press-briefing and dress rehearsal of the ballets.



Pyotr Nardelli, Makhar Vaziev, Elyse Borne, Olga Smirnova and Irina Zibrova in the [Kultura channel](#) report

[Rossia1](#), a report by Marina Bulyga: “The long-awaited premiere at the Bolshoi, the country’s main stage, - an evening of ballets by world choreography masters.”

[RIA Novosti](#)

[REGNUM](#)

[Nezavisimaya Gazeta](#) (according to REGNUM)

[Teatr.](#)

[Rusarminfo.ru](#)

On the eve of finishing the 243 season the Bolshoi director general Vladimir Urin spoke in an interview to [RIA Novosti](#) about the changes in the theatre’s life during his tenure, what was successful, what issues are still to be solved, gave his opinion on the affiliation of Pokrovsky Chamber Theatre which has become the Bolshoi’s third stage and on prospects and problems related to this, told about upcoming tours, about the persistent challenge of fighting ticket scalpers, and about

the tricky competitive landscape today’s musical theatre exists in. The interview by Natalia Kurova.

The head of the Bolshoi was the guest of [Rossia-Kultura channel](#) on June 7.



On Creation Of Cultural Clusters: An Interview With Vladimir Urin / [Rossia-K](#)

He spoke about creation of culture clusters in four Russian cities – Vladivostok, Kemerovo, Sevastopol and Kaliningrad, and about the events of the 243 season final – the premiere of one-act ballets at the New Stage, about the preparation for the two-week tour in Brisbane, Australia, and the three-week one in British capital, London, about the premiere of La Pericole at Pokrovsky Chamber Stage, and gave an outline of some important events of the upcoming 2019/2020 season at the Bolshoi - the premiere of The Tale of Tsar Saltan by Rimsky-Korsakov, Dido and Aeneas by Purcell (co-production with the Festival d’Aix-en-Provence), International Contemporary Dance Festival [DanseInversion](#) and Giselle by Alexei Ratmansky.

Dozens of media covered a gala evening held on June 5 at the Bolshoi to mark the 70th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between China and Russia.

[Firts Channel](#)

[TVC](#)

[Rossia-Kultura](#)

[Mir24](#)

[5Th Channel](#)

[Ren TB](#)

[TASS](#) and all central media.

The annual concert of graduates of Moscow State Ballet Academy was held at the Bolshoi Historic Stage, [Kultura Channel reports](#).

Vladimir Urin, Director General of the Bolshoi Theatre: “Lets look at the list of those who today are not just

the artists of the Bolshoi Ballet but at the leading soloists of the Bolshoi Ballet, and you'll see that they are — for the most part — the MSBA graduates.”

The MSBA graduate concert d by:

[Kultura channel](#)

[NTV](#)

[Rossia 1](#)

[Vesti.ru](#)

[Moscow 24](#)

[Vechniya Moskva](#)

and other media.

The MSBA graduate, the first prize winner of prestigious ballet competitions Elizaveta Kokoreva is the hero of [La Personne online publication](#).



Photo by Alisa Aslanova / La Personne

Elizaveta Kokoreva: “The stage of the Bolshoi is very special, it has become a lucky place for me. I won two big ballet competitions on this stage: The 12th International Ballet Contest in 2017 and the Russian Ballet contest this year. I first appeared on this stage in a gala concert at the opening of the Historic Stage.”

The latest issue of [Kommersant. Weekend](#) announces the one-act ballet premiere evening Symphony in C and Gaité Parisienne “The Bolshoi is the first theatre in Russia to stage the works by Maurice Bejart. To tell the truth, these are not indisputable masterpieces: Makhar Vaziev has chosen Gaité Parisienne which the choreographer created in 1978 to music by Offenbach and Rosenthal. ... Symphony in C had been already shown at the Bolshoi 20 years ago. This genius choreography

showed the company as a cheerful, vigorous and talented team, and opened a new era in the history of the country's chief theatre. Symphony in C is being revived after a long break with different performers and in a different historical context. The premiere will show what its role is this time.”

[Kultura newspaper](#) publishes an interview with ballet-master Pyotr Nardelli who works on Gaité Parisienne with the Bolshoi artists.

Kultura: “You used to dance in Gaité Parisienne yourself, didn't you?”

Nardelli: “One of Bim's friends, dreamed of the role of Offenbach yet it failed to be.”

Kultura: “How do you remember Bejart?”

Nardelli: “Incredibly intelligent. Probably, it was in his genes — he was the son of the renowned philosopher Gaston Breger. Bejart devoted all his time free of dance creation to reading and listening to music. He ‘swallowed’ a book a day, went in for old movies — he knew them by heart. Now choreographers consider themselves creative and successful creating one ballet in a year. Bejart used to issue 5-6 productions in a season, working in several directions at a time. He staged to oriental music in the morning, went to another room in the afternoon and worked with contemporary melodies by Boulez, and in the third — there played Verdi or Puccini. The same day. His efficiency, switchover capability and mental processing were stunning.’ ... A pdf copy of the Kultura newspaper is available on the link, pp.10-11.



The project of the Bolshoi Theatre branch on Oktyabrsky Island in Kaliningrad. Photo / MK

[Moskovsky Komsomolets](#) offers Kaliningrad complex draft.

Professor Dmitry Vdovin told [NEWSmuz.com](http://NEWSmuz.com) online publication about the German part of the Bolshoi Youth Opera Program. The YOP members not only sang their parts in German (May 28 and 30) but created their characters' personalities that belong to that very German Culture. It was a very difficult task and brilliantly performed," the author of the article and interview Lyudmila Krasnova writes. Dmitry Vdovin: "Any singer shall be ready for German opera classics!"

"What is your addressing of German opera classics in the work of the Bolshoi YOP based on?"

"One of the main tasks of our Program is the integrated development of young artists, singers and pianists. Flexible repertoire and and style precision are integral parts of this complex. Regardless the fate of an artist, his joining a company or choosing the path of a freelancer, they shall be ready to work with the main elements of the world opera legacy. And these are (besides our national repertoire that it is only fitting to master) Italian, French and German operas. There are also Czech and English ones yet they are a bit off mainstream. /./"



[Concert participants](#) and tutors.  
Photo by Andrei Sklyarenko

Muzykalnaya Zhizn magazine (May 2019) publishes a vast and richly illustrated interview with the Bolshoi Ballet prima Svetlana Zakharova. The ballerina's photo is also featured on the magazine cover.

Former director of the Bolshoi Anatoly Iksanov gave his first interview since retiring in 2013. He told [Forbes magazine](http://Forbes.com) about how the theatre has changed since the beginning of 2000s and what was the purpose of involving private business in the theatre's funding. Yana Zhi-lyeva speaks: "Iksanov, the Bolshoi Director General in 2000-2013, was the first to introduce the concept of fund-raising in the Russian theatre community. In 1994 he founded the first in post-Soviet Russia board of trus-



Svetlana Zakharova on the cover of Muzykalnaya Zhizn magazine, May 2019

tees and theatre fund at the Bolshoi Drama Theatre in St-Petersburg and then at the Bolshoi in Moscow.



Anatoly Iksanov Photo by Valeria Sharifulina / ITAR-TASS

"How did you engage big business in theatre and return the Bolshoi into the list of the international stage trend-setters? It was during your tenure that the ballets and operas which became world-class artistic breakthroughs were staged. You invited director Dmitri Tcherniakov and choreographer Alexei Ratmansky,

composer Leonid Desyatnikov and librettist Vladimir Sorokin to the Bolshoi.

“A theatre’s development is impossible without repertoire renovation. Thus performances turnover is an objective necessity. Returning the Bolshoi to the international theatre elite was a circumspect development strategy with multi-directional and sometimes offbeat moves. As a director my primary task was to create a sound financial base, to find resources that would allow the theatre to complete a quality repertoire with a proper level of directors and performers. √√”

[Nezavisimaya Gazeta](#) covers the gala of previous-years winners of the Artist of Radio Rossia prize held at the Bolshoi New Stage on June 4. The article tells about the aims of the prize and its history and mentions the original concept of the concert thought-up by Radio Rossia musical reviewer and host Olga Rusanova.

[TASS](#)

[Regnum](#)

[Moscow-24](#)

The State Academic Classic Ballet Theatre of Natalia Kasatkina and Vladimir Vasiliev congratulates its artistic director, National Artist of the RSFSR Natalia Kasatkina on her 85 birthday which was on June 7.

[TASS](#)

[Kultura channel](#)

[Radio Kultura](#)

[Moskovski Komsomolets](#)

and others media.

On September 12 at the Bolshoi New Stage the audience will see one of the Kasatkina and Vasiliev trademark productions — the ballet The Creation of the World to music by Andrei Petrov. The performance will be in honour of Natalia Kasatkina 85th birthday. On January 11 and 12, 2020, at the Bolshoi Historic Stage there will be the premiere of the ballet Crackatuk by Natalia Kasatkina to music by Eduard Artemiev, [Rossiiskaya Gazeta](#) announces.



[ORT report](#)

[Orfei Radio](#)

[IA InterMedia](#)

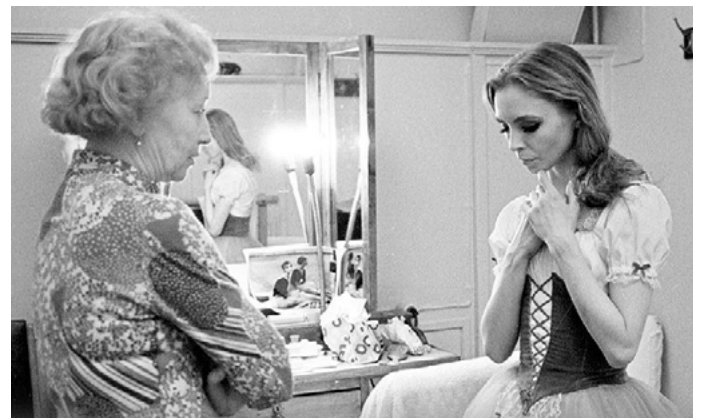
[TASS](#) and many other sources reported the Bolshoi taking part in the holiday programme of the International Child Protection Day on June 1:

[Rossia-K](#)

Lyudmila Semenyaka became the Person of the Month according to June issue of [La Personne](#) ballet magazine.

“Lyudmila Ivanovna speaks about artists with whom she started working (at the Bolshoi) with incredible warmth, admiration and respect. Yet she herself had soon joined the ranks of those ballet stars and her name is inscribed in the history of Russian (then the great Soviet) ballet. In a creative union of her legendary mentor Galina Ulanova the young ballerina prepared the leading roles of classic repertoire. √√”

“I live in the present and in what the Bolshoi is living in now. I love it when new productions appear - important, full-scale, with many roles, many dances. ... At least I know for sure that I belong to those people, those artists that are linked to the Universe via some light. It was not me who chose this art — it chose me. I am deeply sure about that! And I wish the same to all!”



Alexander Makarov:

Galina Ulanova and Lyudmila Semenyaka, 1978

## Press analysis:

international mass media

Chinese Central TV broadcasts a report about the Bolshoi Theatre and the influence of the Russian ballet school on establishing of ballet in China. The channel’s reporters visited morning classes of Boris Akimov, rehearsals and the performance of Don Quixote (May 28). The Bolshoi Ballet leading soloist Kristina Kretova



(Kitri) and ballet-master, National Artist of the USSR Boris Akimov gave their comments on the [channel](#).



Boris Akimov and Kristina Kretova in [CCTV report](#)

International media also mention the Bolshoi Theatre in connection with the state visit of Xi Jinping. The French news agency [AFP](#) (Agence France Presse): “Chinese President Xi Jinping headed for Russia Wednesday to mark a new era of friendship and reinforce economic ties that had benefited from Moscow’s isolation from the West. Due to arrive in the early afternoon, Xi will be received with full honours. He will have talks in the Kremlin with President Vladimir Putin before attending a formal reception and in the evening he will attend a night out at the Bolshoi Theatre.” Reports and TV-spots about the gala evening at the Bolshoi by:

[New York Times](#) [BBC](#) [Bloomberg](#)

[English-speaking Chinese news publication CGTN](#)  
[WION TV](#)

English-speaking Chinese online news publication

[China.org.cn](#)

and many others.

The Italian online culture news publication and magazine [Amadeus](#) publishes an article by Valentina Bonelli about Yuri Grigorovich’s Legend of Love at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow. “The Legend of Love surpassed the dazzling modern aesthetic of sixty years ago to become a model of contemporary narrative ballet, where it is the dramatic montage of the choreographic scenes that generate and incite the story.” “The handsome Denis Rodkin, the first dancer in which Grigorovich finally found his ideal performer, embodies the court painter Ferkhad, the hero without rhetoric, torn by life choices on which the happiness of others depends. Ekaterina Shipulina is Queen Mekhmene Banu, who by losing her beauty to save her beloved sister Shireen from death refuses to compete with her for Ferkhad’s love. Anna Nikulina, romantic Shireen, is perhaps the most disturbing figure: she forgets the duty of gratitude in the all-encompassing love for Ferkhad.” [Amadeus](#) also publishes a photo gallery from the ballet.

Australian media actively announce the upcoming visit of the Bolshoi Ballet company to Brisbane.

The Australian daily newspaper [The Sydney Morning Herald](#) asks its critics to pick the best in upcoming cultural events. Dance critic Valerie Lawson selects “Spartacus and Jewels, Bolshoi Ballet, Lyric Theatre, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, June 26-July 3 There’s more than one Spartacus in the ballet world but Yuri’s Grigorovich’s 1968 production is considered the benchmark. Danced to Khachaturian’s score, it’s been a calling card for the Bolshoi Ballet for decades. In June it returns to Australia as one of two ballets at this year’s international ballet season at Brisbane’s Queensland Performing Arts Centre. The second is George Balanchine’s much loved Jewels. The ballet in three movements, Emeralds, Rubies and Diamonds, depict the three different styles of ballet Balanchine knew so well.”

The online specialised theatre news publication [Absolute Theatre](#) (Australia) written by Eric Scott also announces the cast for the Bolshoi’s Brisbane tour.

The Australian online specialised entertainment news publication Hush Hush Biz publishes an article by Caroline Russo who also announces the cast for the Bolshoi’s Brisbane tour. The article includes a video of Taming of the Shrew. [Link to article and video](#)

The specialised online Australian entertainment publication [West End](#) also announces the cast for the Bolshoi’s Brisbane tour.



Alyona Kovalova and Jacopo Tissi, Jewels

Photo by Damir Yusupov

The online specialised culture Australian news publication [The Culture Concept Circle](#) publishes an ar-

ticle by Carolyn McDowall “Dance, in the western world today is both an art form and a universal language, one whose emotions are communicated in a format far more powerful than mere words. Two extraordinary, and historical ballets are Spartacus by Yuri Grigorovich, and Jewels, a ballet in three parts by George Balanchine.”

Quest Community Newspapers Brisbane (Australia) a group of nine local Australian newspapers publishes an article by Sonja Koremans: “Moscow’s mighty Bolshoi Ballet will return to Brisbane to present Spartacus and Jewels at QPAC from June. Bolshoi Ballet director Makhar Vaziev said preparations were well under way for the series which will feature 100 dancers.”

The Australian daily newspaper Courier Mail publishes an article by dance critic Phil Brown: “Denis Rodkin looks like a prince but wants to be more. Playing the lead in the Bolshoi Ballet’s sword and sandal epic Spartacus gives him the chance to throw off his princeliness and get his teeth into something a bit meatier.”

Copies of articles are available upon request at the press department.



Anna Nikulina as Phrygia, Denis Rodkin as Spartacus.  
Photo by Damir Yusupov

The Australian broadcaster SBS Russian: “Brisbane spectators will have a special treatment this winter as

the Bolshoi Theatre is heading there with two ballets: Spartacus and Jewels. Spartacus is called the identity card of the Soviet ballet school while Jewels is presented in Neo-classicism. We speak with the principal ballerina Anna Nikulina, who dances the leading role of Phrygia, about her part as well as the agitation of dancing in front Yuri Grigorovich.”

[Link to the video report and video interview](#)

The Australian culture and leisure news publication [Leisure Magazine](#) announces “Eight Queensland cities and towns will experience a performance by Russia’s mighty Bolshoi Ballet direct from Queensland Performing Arts Centre’s (QPAC) Lyric Theatre for free.” “As part of the 2019 QPAC International Series a free simulcast of Yuri Grigorovich’s Spartacus will be available on Saturday 6th July 2019 to audiences in regional Queensland,” announced Minister for Arts Leeanne Enoch.”

The specialised Australian dance magazine Dance Australia and Australian daily newspaper [New Zealand Herald](#) offers a competition to win a chance to see the Bolshoi in Brisbane.

Foreign newspapers and online editions announce upcoming screenings of Bolshoi Ballet productions in local cinemas.

The local newspaper [Courier Gazette and Camden Herald](#) (USA) announces the upcoming screening of Bolshoi’s Carmen Suite and Petrushka in local cinemas.  
[Cyprus Mail](#)

The April/May edition of the specialised dance magazine Ballet2000 publishes a number of articles related to the Bolshoi.

Ballet2000 (p 15) publishes a photo of Ekaterina Krysanova and Denis Rodkin in Don Quixote and a short article announcing the Bolshoi Ballet’s upcoming tour at Covent Garden in London this summer: “Led by Makhar Vaziev, the Muscovite company is back at Covent Garden from 29 July to 17 August with four different shows and naturally a dazzling host of stars.”

Ballet2000 (63) publishes a photo of Svetlana Zakharova and Germain Louvet in the Rudolf Nureyev version of The Sleeping Beauty at La Scala in Milan.

The June edition of the specialised dance magazine Dancing Times (UK) publishes a number of articles related to the Bolshoi.

DT publishes an article by Gerald Dowler about Clement Crips the UK’s senior dance critic, who wrote for the Financial Times for more than 60 years, published numerous books and who has appeared in countless films and TV programmes. On the eve of a Royal Ballet performance of Romeo and Juliet dedicated to him Dowler interviewed Crips. “Olga Smirnova I adore — as I adored Markova, Makarova, Semenyaka, Lynn Seymour.

Classic academic dancing is ever-young, ever-satisfying, ever-noble.” “From Petersburg and Moscow there is always some lustrous new talent. See the Bolshoi staging of Coppelia on a recent DVD: beautifully done, danced with real joy, and with Margarita Shrayner the most adorable Swanilda. Spiffing talent.”

The May issue of the specialised monthly magazine Dance Europe published several interesting reports related to the Bolshoi.

DE publishes a brief article announcing the Bolshoi Ballet London tour at Covent Garden this summer writing that “the Bolshoi will present Spartacus, Swan Lake, The Bright Stream and Don Quixote - and not Nureyev as had been rumoured.” The article also publishes a list of the leading dancers scheduled to appear.

The Czech radio station Radio Prague broadcasts a 4:30 min report: “This Tuesday concludes the 74th edition of the Prague Spring Festival. This season it will be the turn of the National Orchestra of the Capitole de Toulouse, under the baton of Tugan Sokhiev, Russian music director of the ONCT and the Bolshoi the appear for the first time in Prague. Emmanuel Pahud and Renaud Capuçon, French flutist and violinist will accompany the orchestra.”

There is an interview in French with Tugan Sokhiev: “I think there is always a lot of emotion in Slavic music. It’s not only Russian music, it’s also Czech music that has these Slavic roots. It is this kind of extroverted romanticism that is a little stronger than what we are used to hearing in French music, which is much more transparent with a lot of impressionism. Russian music is emotion.”

[Link to the radio broadcast](#)

The French online specialised classical music publication [Culture 31](#) publishes a review by Serge Chauzy. “The June 10 concert of the Capitol National Orchestra under the direction of Tugan Sokhiev brings together the Capitol Choir and British baritone Garry Magee in a Russian music programme.”

June edition of the important magazine [Opera News](#) (USA) publishes an article of their chief editor F. Paul Driscoll about Bogdan Volkov (Photo of Dario Acosta): “...Volkov has a strikingly virile, clear tenor that is charged with emotion and purpose, whatever he sings. Volkov’s calendar this season included Don Otavio at Palm Beach Opera in March and andApril run at Berlin State Opera as Antonio in Betrothal in a Monastery, conducted by Daniel Barenboim and directed by

a favorite colleague, Dmitri Tcherniakov, whose Bolshoi Onegin Volkov cites as “My best production ever.” This month, the tenor is Tsarevitch Gvidon in Tcherniakov’s staging of The Tale of Tsar Saltan in Brussels. Next up are Fenton in Falstaff at the Munich Festival in July and Tamino in LA Opera’s Zauberflöte in November. ...”

The article is available on [Facebook](#)



Bogdan Volkov in the June edition of Opera News

The online specialised opera news publication Opera Wire announces the programme for [Oper Köln](#) 2019-20 season which will include “Dmitri Tcherniakov will direct Verdi’s Il Trovatore, a production which premiered at La Monnaie in 2012. Performance Dates: Mar. 1 – 29, 2020.”

The Canadian online local news publication [The Gal Post](#) publishes an article by Lilly Nice about Alexei Ratmansky titled “To feel Ukrainian’: a history of the new York choreographer Alexei Ratmansky” ” He was born in Leningrad and studied at the Moscow choreographic school. But at the Bolshoi Theatre, Ratmansky did not take, and he worked in Kiev, where he has family. “Today, I feel Ukrainian, but I am in New York,” says the choreographer, who already has put in ten years at the American Ballet Theatre.”

[The Times](#) (UK) publishes a review by Debra Craine of San Francisco Ballet at Sadler’s Wells Theatre, London, giving the performance four stars out of five and mentioning: “Alexei Ratmansky’s Shostakovich Trilogy offers a substantial helping of the Russian’s acclaimed talents. The Bolshoi Ballet is performing Ratmansky’s full-length The Bright Stream – a masterful comic ballet – at the Royal Opera House in August, and next season the Royal Ballet is reviving his one-act Preludes, newly reimagined from its 2013 Covent Garden premiere.”

Argentine national daily newspaper La Nacion publishes an article by Constanza Bertolini announcing Julio Bocca giving master-classes at the Bolshoi: “Of course, it is not the first time that the Argentine star returns to Russia, not even to the temple of dance, on whose stage he was as a dancer and also as a jury member of Benois de la Danse (a sort of ‘Oscar’ for this art). In fact, just a few hours ago, Bocca performed for the first time in the Bolshoi’s main hall to make his debut as one of there as one of the most respected professionals in the world.”

[Link](#) to the article and two archive videos about Julio Bocca’s performances and his awards at the 5th International Ballet Contest in Moscow.

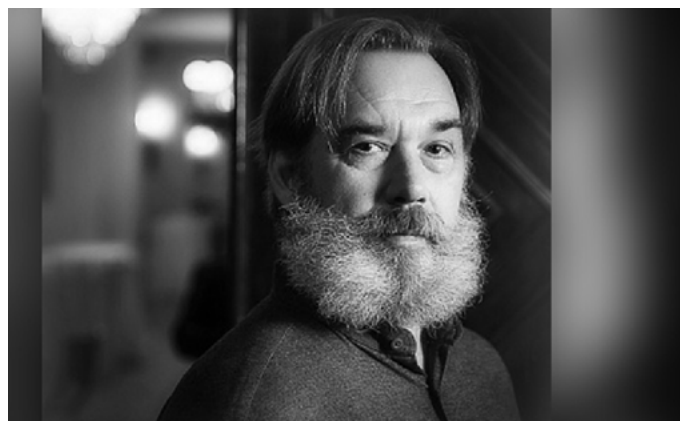


“Bocca in front of the fabulous temple of dance.”  
Photo / Facebook

gave a concert in memory of the Bolshoi Opera soloist, bass [Maxim Mikhailov](#) (1962-2018).

The grandson of the famous Russian bass profundo passed away on November 21, 2018, at the age of 56. The singer worked with Yurovsky for many years.

The programme included Yuri Butsko, The Legend of Pugachev’s Rebellion for soloists, two choirs and an organ (world premiere), Modest Mussorgsky, Boris Godunov — scenes from the opera in the version of 1869.



Maxim Mikhailov Photo /Sputnik

Director general of Chekhov Festival Valeri Shadrin told [Forbes](#) about how much one of the main theatre events of the year cost and what productions are definitely must-see. Among them — Giselle by Akram Khan that will be performed on the Bolshoi stage.

## Briefly

The annual international ballet festival In Honour of Ekaterina Maximova took place in Chelyabinsk on stage of [Glinka SAOBT](#) on June 1-9, 2019.

[Balet 24](#)

[The Musical Magazine](#)

[ClassicalMusicNews](#)

[The premiere of the ballet Anna Karenina on June 1 and 2, 2019, at the festival](#)



XI МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ ФЕСТИВАЛЬ БАЛЕТА  
«В ЧЕСТЬ ЕКАТЕРИНЫ МАКСИМОВОЙ»  
**1-9 ИЮНЯ**  
С УЧАСТИЕМ ТЕАТРОВ ИЗ  
ЧЕЛЯБИНСКА, УФЫ, ВАЛЕНСИИ (ИСПАНИЯ)

On June 9 [Svetlanov State Academic Symphonic Orchestra of Russia](#) Under the baton of Vladimir Yurovsky



Giselle / DR

Japanese company Noism showed their version of the ballet Carmen at [Chekhov Festival](#). It is not the first time the company founder Jo Kanamori has come to Russia and to the festival. Carmen by Kanamori resembles nothing of the kind (although besides the music by Bizet the choreographer uses records of Schedrin’s orchestration in his version generously.) For the first time

in its history this ballet is less opera and more oriented towards literature — it shows many plot lines and characters of the story by Prosper Merimee that have never gotten into the opera.”



A scene from Carmen by Jo Kanamori.  
Photo by Alexander Kurov / Tchekhov MTF

The Stanislavsky Musical Theatre finishes the premiere parade of their 100th season with the performance of the most famous Shakespearean opera Othello by Giuseppe Verdi staged by Andrei Konchalovsky. The premiere has also become the highlight of the art festival Cherry Forest. A review by Maria Babalova. [Vechniaya Moskva](#)

The third round and a gala awards ceremony for the winners of the 7th Vishnevskaya International Opera Singer Competition took place in Moscow on June 7 at Stanislavsky Musical Theatre. The jury included the Assistant to the Bolshoi Music Director and Chief Conductor, Makvala Kasrashvili.

A singer from South Korea has won Vishnevskaya Opera Competition in Moscow. The 2nd and 3rd prize winners are from Mongolia and SAR, [TASS](#) reports.

[Rossia-K](#)  
[Vechniaya Moskva](#)

Laurent Hilaire in his interview with [Kommersant](#) speaks about ballet schools, Russian artists and his work in Moscow. The artistic director of Stanislavsky Musical Theatre, l'etoile of Paris Opera and its former chief répétiteur held an open master-class at Theatre de Paris where he introduced his Russian artists Oksana Kardash and Ivan Mikhalev to Parisians, commented on their work and answered questions from the willing audience.

[Ekran i Stsena](#) gives details of the Golden Mask 2019: foreign programme completed in cooperation with theatre critics and experts Marina Davydova and Anton Flyorov. The ballet part (two productions by Sharon Eyal and Guy Behar and Autobiography by Wayne McGregor) is still ahead while drama pieces by Christoph Marthaler and Simon Stone were shown in Moscow already.

On June 6 at [Pushkin State Museum](#) an exhibition Tragediettes was opened prepared together with the Bolshoi Theatre, Bakhrushin Theatre Museum and Russian National Music Museum, [Rewizor reports](#).

Bakhrushin Theatre Museum presented a new exhibition [Innovative Costume of the 21st Century: New Generation](#). It continues an international project developed at the museum involving modern theatre costume research. The exhibition includes the most unusual works created after 2000.

[Kultura channel](#) learned about what inspires young artists from the museum director Dmitry Rodionov.

Director Dmitri Tcherniakov presents the opera The Tale of Tsar Saltan by Rimsky-Korsakov at [La Monnaie](#) (Brussels) on June 11-29. Tenor Bogdan Volkov as Prince Gvidon and soprano Olga Kulchinskaya take part in the performance. Svetlana Aksyonova performs one of the main parts — the one of Queen Militrisa.



After a rehearsal of The Tale of Tsar Saltan.  
Photo by Bogdan Volkov / FB

On September 22 and 25 Dmitri Tcherniakov will present the premiere of the opera Več Makropulos by Leoš Janáček at Zurich Opera, [Teatr magazine](#) reports.

In honour of the 220th anniversary of the birth of Alexander Pushkin on June 6-9 the Pushkin-FEST festival took place at Novaya Opera theatre, Moscow.

[Teatr](#)

[MO](#)

[Moscow 24](#)

[Rewizor.ru](#)

Rossia Wants Iñaki Urlezaga To Create A Ballet In Honour Of Pushkin, La Nacion (Argentina) reports. The ex-principal dancer of London Royal Ballet and Argentine Teatro Colón, former head of Argentina National Ballet (2013-18) is now finishing his performing career and planning to commit himself to choreography. He has received an invitation from the artistic director of Jakobson Ballet Theatre in St-Petersburg Adrian Fadeev to stage a ballet The Queen of Spades to music by Tchaikovsky...

The premiere is planned for the beginning of December. Since Jakobson Ballet has no stage of their own, the production can be seen first at Alexandrinsky Theatre, then at Mariinsky, and in 2020 — at the Bolshoi.

The Queen of Spades. The rehearsal schedule at [Jakobson Ballet Theatre website](#) and their [VK page](#) (foto)

UNESCO actively supports the Bolshoi Theatre and the Hermitage as non-memorial architectural complexes and cultural phenomena, [Vecherniyaya Moskva](#) reports. (Khokhloma And The Bolshoi Theatre: What To Add To UNESCO Cultural Heritage List.) Now the monuments of UNESCO cultural heritage are the Moscow Kremlin and Novodevichy Monastery, the article says.

The world premiere of the ballet Rasputin to music by Kirill Richter took place at the London Palladium within Sergei Polunin's five-day mixed performance programme in the British capital. Polunin gained Russian nationality in 2018. A big article in [TASS](#).

The premiere covered by:

[The Times](#) (Debra Craine)

[The Guardian](#) (Sanjoy Roy)

[The Stage](#)

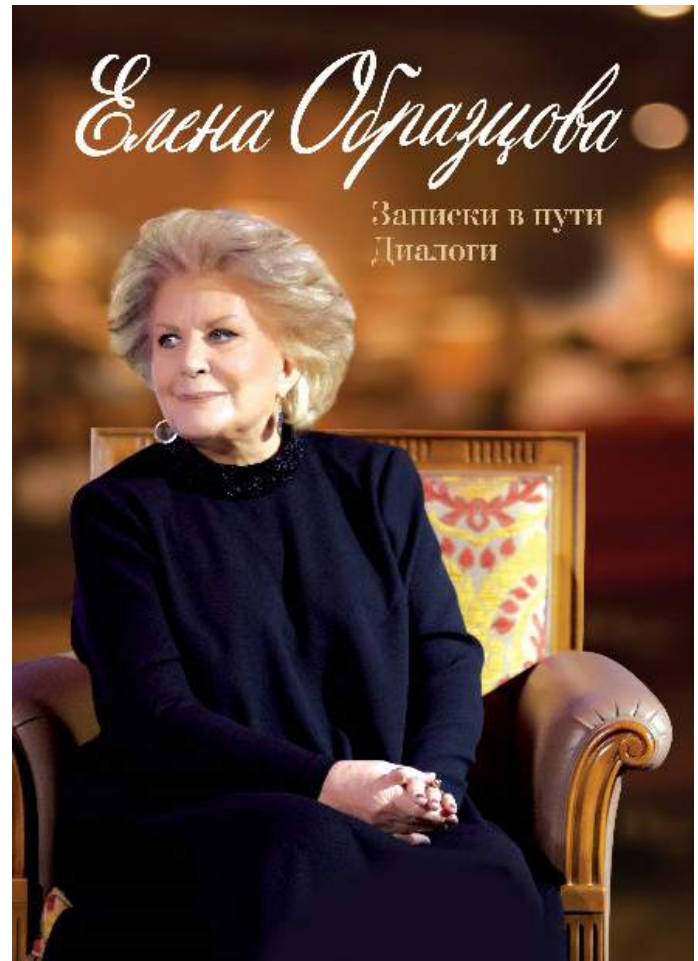
[Seen and Heard](#) (a review by Jim Pritchard) and other British sources.

June 11, Opera Garnier — premiere of [Don Giovanni](#) by Mozart in a new version by Ivo van Hove.

Conductor — Philippe Jordan.

There will be performances on June 13, 16, 19, 21, 24, 29, and July, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13 as well.

## Social networks



Presentation of a new edition of the book Elena Obraztsova: Travel Notes. Dialogues, Red Square Book Festival, June 1

Photo / [Facebook](#)

Autonomous non-profit organisation to support culture and art Culture People marked its birthday on May 31 and congratulates Artemy Belyakov and Dmitry Umnikov in [Facebook](#).

“Today is the birthday of my Teacher, Valery Stepanovich Lagunov!!!” — Vladislav Lantratov on June 2, [Instagram](#). “It’s impossible to write down all I feel...”



Thank you for all! We miss you so much... and long to see you.”



June 2 — birthday of the Mertied Artist of Russia Valery Lagunov. Photo / [Instagram](#) of Vladislav Lantratov



[facebook](#)

“Tonight we will play Pictures at an Exhibition at Paris Philharmonic. And the 4th Piano Concerto by Beethoven. Unrivaed Elizaveta Leonskaya will perform it,” Tugan Sokhiev writes on [Instagram](#).

[Concert time-line](#)



ORCHESTRE NATIONAL DU  
CAPITOLE DE TOULOUSE -  
TUGAN SOKHIEV - ELISABETH  
LEONSKAJA - BORODINE,  
BEETHOVEN,  
MOUSSORGSKI/RAVEL

Tugan Sokhiev on [Instagram](#)

## Debuts

### Giselle

June 1 (12:00). Vyacheslav Lopatin (rehearses under Boris Akimov) as Count Albrecht (debut in the version by Yuri Grigorovich). [Denis Zakharov](#) (rehearses under Denis Medvedev) — Pas de deux

June 1 (19:00). Alexandra Trikoz as Wilis/Two Wilis. Anna Balukova as Berthe

### Carmen

June 7. [Dalibor Jenis](#) debuts in the Bolshoi production as Escamillo (also in evening performances on June 8 and 9) — a renowned Slovak baritone, winner of many international vocal contests and performer of leading roles in operas by Bellini, Rossini, Mozart and Verdi on major stages of the world, first appeared at the Bolshoi in November 2018 as Sergeant Lescaut in the opera by Giacomo Puccini.). [Andrei Potaturin](#), Bolshoi Opera soloist since April 2019 (graduated from Sobinov State Conservatory in Saratov, class of Lylia Belova, in 2016) as Morales (first appeared as Robert in *Iolanta* by Pyotr Tchaikovsky on May 25 and 26). [Alexander Borodin](#) (Bolshoi Opera soloist since November 2018, debuted as Don Prudenziio in *Il Viaggio a Reims* by Damiano

Michieletto and Tugan Sokhiev) as Zuniga (also on June 8, 19:00).

June 8 (12:00). [Dmirty Golovnin](#) appears for the first time as Jose (debuted at the Bolshoi in 2016 as Don Juan in *The Stone Guest* by Dargomyzhsky.). The Bolshoi Opera soloist since 2018/19 season, the winner of Radio Rossii prize of 2019 [Guzel Sharipova](#) as Frasquita. Yuri Syrov as Zuniga

### Don Carlo

June 12. Denis Makarov as the Monk. Anastasia Lerman as a Voice from Heaven. Igor Podoplelov, Giorgi Chelidze as Flemish Deputies



[Dalibor Jenis](#) (photo by Peter Zakovic) debuts as Escamillo; [Dmirty Golovnin](#) (photo /Mikhailovsky Theatre) as Jose. — [Carmen](#)

## Cast alterations

### Giselle

June 1 (12:00)

Olga Marva as Myrtha, Denis Savin as Hans

June 1 (19:00)

Angelina Vlashinets as Myrtha

June 2

Yuri Ostrovsky as Hans

### Carmen

June 8 (12:00)

Dmirty Golovnin debuts as Jose.

Oleg Dolgov's performance cancelled.

### Don Carlo

Princess Eboli

June 12 and 14 — Elena Zelenskaya

June 13 and 15 — Agunda Kulaeva

## Birthdays

**May 31** — ballet-master, Merited Artist of Russia Vasily Vorokhobko (1947-2014). In 1988-2014 — ballet master-repetiteur of the Bolshoi.

**June 1** — the Bolshoi Opera soloist, National Artist of Russia Elena Zelenskaya



[Valery Lagunov](#) near the Bolshoi New Stage.  
Photo by Denis Medvedev

**June 2** — ballet master-repetiteur, Merited Artist of Russia Valery Lagunov

**June 4** — Bolshoi Opera soloist Ekaterina Vorontsova

**June 5** — world ballet star, choreographer Johan Kobborg

**June 6** — Alexander Pushkin (1799-1837) — 220th anniversary of his birth



Alexander Pushkin — self-portrait

**June 6** — composer, conductor, National Artist of the USSR Aram Khachaturyan (1903-1978). Among the



most important works by Khachaturyan – Spartacus (1954) and Gayane (1942)

**June 7** – singer (tenore leggero), National Artist of the Soviet Republic Leonid Sobinov (1872-1934)



Leonid Sobinov as Lensky in Evgeny Onegin

**June 7** – ballerina, the Bolshoi Ballet soloist in 1954-1976 Natalia Kasatkina – 85th birthday

**June 8** – Bolshoi Ballet leading soloist Maria Vinogradova

**June 10** – Bolshoi Ballet prima ballerina, National Artist of Russia Svetlana Zakharova

**June 11** – conductor, National Artist of the RSFSR Vasily Nebolsin (1898-1958) He was the Bolshoi's chorus master in 1920, and conductor in 1922.

**June 12** – ballet company manager, National Artist of Russia Galina Stepanenko

**June 12** – Ballerina, ballet-master, National Artist of the USSR Maria Semyonova (1908-2010)

**June 13** – opera singer (romantic coloratura), tutor, National Artist of the USSR Valeria Barsova (1892-1967)

**January 15** – ballet master répétiteur of the Bolshoi Anna Leonova



Natalia Kasatkina



Svetlana Zakharova

**June 15** – director and set designer Pier Luigi Pizzi. He staged the opera La Sonnambula by Bellini at the Bolshoi in 2013

**June 16** – the ballet company director, National Artist of Russia Makhar Vaziev

**June 16** – ballerina. Ballet-master Alla Osipenko

**June 18** – Bolshoi Opera soloist Aluda Todua