

The Bolshoi presents its version of Richard Wagner’s opera Lohengrin on February 24, 2022, (a co-production with Metropolitan Opera). Premiered on February 24, 2022, at the Bolshoi Historic Stage. Libretto by the composer.

The world renowned Canadian director François Girard, staged the opera, Wagner’s works have a special place in his creative career: Siegfried (Canadian Opera, 2005, 2006, 2016; Opéra de Lyon, 2007), Parsifal (Opera de Lyon, 2012; Metropolitan Opera, 2013), Der fliegende Holländer (Québec Opera, 2019; Metropolitan Opera, 2020).



Music Director – Evan Rogister
 Dramaturge – Serge Lamothe
 Movement Director – Maxim Petrov
 Set and Costume Designer – world renowned

contemporary Chinese artist Tim Yip (JipGam-tim/YèJintiān)
 Lighting Designer – David Finn
 Video Projection – Peter Flaherty
 Chief Chorus Master – Valery Borisov

There will be performances also on February 25, 27, 28, and March 2 and 3.

The opera will be performed in English with Russian subtitles.

Main roles at the premiere by:

Heinrich der Vogeler – [Günther Groissböck](#);

Lohengrin – [Sergey Skorokhodov](#);

Elsa of Brabant – [Anna Nechaeva](#);

Friedrich von Telramund – [Martin Gantner](#);

Ortrud – [Khatuna Mikaberidze](#);

the King's Herald – [Derek Welton](#);

Brabant nobles – Zakhar Kovalev, [Vladimir Komovich](#),
[Ivan Maksimeyko](#), Daniil Akimov;

Pages – Lilit Davtyan, [Eleonora Vodyanova](#),

Daria Belousova, Vasilisa Shaplyko.

[See more](#)

Also Lohengrin [Brenden Gunnell](#), [Tomislav Mužek](#), Elsa of Brabant, [Johanni van Oostrum](#), Friedrich von Telramund, [Thomas Johannes Mayer](#), Ortrud, [Maria Lobanova](#).

The press briefing dedicated to the premiere was held on February 22.

Music director Evan Rodgister, director Francois Girard, Lohengrin performed by Sergey Skorokhodov, set and costume designer Tim Yip, Heinrich der Vogeler performed by Günther Groissböck, Elsa of Brabant performed by Anna Nechaeva, the Metropolitan Opera general director Peter Gelb, the Bolshoi of Russia general director Vladimir Urin took part.



The press briefing at the Bolshoi Theatre, dedicated to the premiere of Wagner's Lohengrin, a co-production with the Metropolitan Opera; February 22. Photo by Ivan Semenyaka and Mikhail Yarush.

François Girard is a guest of the Green Salon: shortly before the premiere of Lohengrin at the Bolshoi, the head of the press office Katerina Novikova spoke with the director, the video (33'40") is available on [YouTube](#)



François Girard – a guest of the Bolshoi Green Salon/[YouTube](#)

On February 18, Anatoly Iksanov, the Bolshoi Theatre general director from 2000 to 2013, celebrated his birthday.



Anatoly Iksanov celebrates his 70th birthday

Anatoly Iksanov graduated from the theatricology department of the Leningrad Institute of Theatre, Music and Cinematography and began his career as the chief manager of the Leningrad Maly Theatre. A year later, he moved to the same position at the Bolshoi Drama Theatre where he worked for 20 years (1978–1998) together with such prominent theatre figures as Georgy Tovstonogov and Kirill Lavrov. In 1996, he became the director of the BDT; in 1998 – a deputy general director of Kultura TV channel. On September 1, 2000, he took over the leadership of the Bolshoi Theatre and worked for 13 years. Over these years, the New Stage was opened (in November 2002), the Bolshoi Historic Stage was reconstructed and restored (2005–2011), unique workshops and modern warehouses were built, the theatre budget was increased tenfold, the Board of Trustees and the Young Artists Opera Programme were created, the theatre's tours were resumed at the best stages of the world, relations with La Scala, the Paris Opera, Covent Garden and the Metropolitan Opera were re-established. Unique directors, designers and artists were involved in the work of the theatre – Dmitri Tch-

erniakov, Alexei Ratmansky, Roland Petit, Alexander Vedernikov, Svetlana Zakharova, Bob Wilson and many others. New operas and ballets were commissioned to music composed by Leonid Desyatnikov. Now Mr Iksanov holds the post of Executive Director of the Interstate Fund for Humanitarian Cooperation of the CIS. He is a Chevalier of the French Order of the Legion of Honour (2011), awarded the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic (2012), the Brazilian Anita Garibaldi Medal of Merit (2010), etc.

On the occasion of the 70th birthday of Anatoly Gennadievich Iksanov, the magazine [Muzykalnaya Zhizn publishes](#) an interview and detailed material – «Anatoly Iksanov: «For me, the main thing is human relations.»» The Bolshoi Theatre General Director Vladimir Urin, Academician of the French Academy, Director of the Impressionism Museum in Giverny, ex-Director of the Paris Opera (1995–2004) Hugues Gall, the Director of the Moscow Novaya Opera Theatre, ex-deputy general director of the Bolshoi Theatre of Russia (2002–2016) Anton Getman, artistic director of the Bolshoi Young Artists Opera Programme Dmitry Vdovin, director of the Bolshoi Orchestra Alexander Shanin all congratulate the hero of the day.

Vladimir Urin: «Dear Anatoly Gennadievich! I have tremendous respect for you as a theatrical figure of the highest class. For me, your name is associated with the BDT and the Bolshoi Theatre's glory days. When I came to work at the Bolshoi, I understood quite well how much you did there. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate you on your wonderful anniversary. Most important of all: be healthy!»

Hugues Gall: «Dear Anatoly Gennadievich! I am really happy to wish you a wonderful birthday. I have known you for 21 years. We met at a time when you were in charge of the Bolshoi Theatre, one of the most important theatres in the world, and I was in charge of the Paris Opera. Each of us has overcome our difficulties and crises. But I saw how you took on all the problems of the reconstruction and restoration of the Historic Building, resolved the New Stage construction and launch issues. And you also had to preserve the repertoire without losing the quality of the performances. Thanks to your efforts, the Bolshoi ballet and orchestra once again shine all over the world. All this could not have happened without you and your wonderful team – I would especially like to mention Anton Getman and Katya Novikova, dear to me. My respect and admiration for you is great, and from this a friendship arose that is a rare thing between directors, actually ... Generally life is wonderful, and I want to see you for years and years more, dear Anatoly Gennadievich!»

On March 5, the Bolshoi Orchestra will tour at the Samara Opera and Ballet Theatre. They will perform the [Symphony No. 7 Leningradskaya](#) by Dmitry Shostakovich

Conductor – Tugan Sokhiev

The tour is timed to coincide with the 80th anniversary of the Leningrad Symphony's first performance which took place on March 5, 1942, during the evacuation of the Bolshoi Theatre in Kuibyshev, and will be held within the Big Tour federal programme.



Continuation of the Master and Margarita premiere performances (photo by Sasha Gusov from rehearsals)

February 15, 16, 17, the New Stage – continuation of the premiere performances of the two-act ballet [Master and Margarita](#) after Mikhail Bulgakov's novel of the same name, to music by Alfred Schnittke and Milko Lazar. The world premiere took place at the Bolshoi Theatre on December 1, 2021. The famous European choreographer, the ballet company artistic director of the Slovene National Theatre in Maribor [Edward Clug](#) (in 2018, he made his first creation for the Bolshoi Theatre – ballet *Petrushka* by Stravinsky) staged the ballet based on his own libretto.

Set Designer – [Marco Yapehl](#)

Costume Designer – [Leo Kulash](#)

Lighting designer – [Martin Gebhardt](#)

Music Director – [Anton Grishanin](#) (conductor – all days)

[Casts](#)



Master and Margarita.
Curtain calls after the performance on February 17.

A Ticket to Bolshoi – a documentary dedicated to the creation of the ballet [Master and Margarita](#)

EVENTS



Sergei Vikharev (February 15, 1962 – June 2, 2017) at the rehearsals of the ballet *Coppelia* with Maria Alexandrova and Ekaterina Krysanova (photo by Vyacheslav Podorozhny)

On February 15, [Sergei Vikharev](#) would have turned 60 (1962–2017).

February 13, the New Stage – Leo Delibes' ballet [Coppelia](#) – dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the birth of the Merited Artist of Russia.

To [Sergei Vikharev](#)– see more.

The premiere of this version of the ballet at the Bolshoi took place on March 12, 2009. The capital revival premiered on April 20, 2018.

[Cast](#)

A video fragment of the Bolshoi Ballet artistic director Makhar Vaziev's speech before the performance on February 13 ([Instagram](#)).

At the performance-homage to Sergei Vikharev, his friends and colleagues recall the Merited Artist of Russia: National Artist of Russia, the Bolshoi Ballet artistic director Makhar Vaziev, ballet soloist, ballet-mistress, participant in the production of Sergei Vikharev's *Coppélia* Anna Antropova, National Artist of Russia, first performer of the role of Swanilda in Sergei Vikharev's *Coppélia* Maria Alexandrova, Merited Artist of Russia, National Artist of the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, participant in the production of the ballets *Coppelia* and *Petrushka* by Sergei Vikharev (April, 2018) Ekaterina Krysanova.

Makhar Vaziev and Ekaterina Krysanova in a [video](#) *Coppelia* – the production revival (2018).

Sergei Vikharev was a guest of the Bolshoi [Green Salon](#) (2013), – Katerina Novikova talked with the choreographer, ballet-master and restorer of old ballets, laureate of the Golden Mask award (44'07").

On the occasion of the anniversary of Sergei Vikharev's birth, the Mariinsky Theatre [TASS](#) presented his reconstruction of the fairy tale ballet *The Sleeping Beauty* by Tchaikovsky in Petipa's

version of 1890 on February 15-17; the Yekaterinburg State Opera Ballet [TASS](#) - the ballet *La Fille mal gardée* (in choreography, restored according to Marius Petipa's St Petersburg version of 1885) on February 16, TASS and other media report .

On February 14, the presentation of the book *Sergei Vikharev's Lessons* by Irina Prokofieva took place at the St Petersburg State Theatre Library. The book is based on Sergey Vikharev's lessons in class, recorded in 2001–17. They form a guideline, useful and necessary for dancers, ballet-masters, classical dance teachers.

[See more](#) on the library website.



Curtain calls after the performance of *Coppelia* on February 13: Eva Sergeyenkova (LaPrière), Ekaterina Krysanova (Swanilda), Artem Ovcharenko (Frantz), Yuri Ostrovsky (Coppelius)

The matinee performance on February 12 featured a number of debuts:

[Arina Denisova](#) – first appeared as L'Aurore,

[Eva Sergeyenkova](#) – as La Prière,

[Maria Mishina](#) – as LeTravail.

[Casts](#)

February 19 and 20, the New Stage – [La Sylphide](#) by Levenskiold. Libretto by Nourrit and Taglioni based on Charles Nodier's tale *Trilby* (1822.)

A new choreographic version of August Bournonville's famous production (premiered at the Royal Danish Theatre – November 28, 1836) was created in 2008 by the famous Danish dancer Johan Kobborg, invited by [Alexei Ratmansky](#).

Set and Costumes – [Peter Farmer](#) .

[See more](#) about the production in the article Bournonville a la Kobborg.

[Casts](#).





Anna Tikhomirova as Sylph. Dmitry Smilevsky as James.
Photo by Damir Yusupov

February 15 and 17, Beethoven Hall – the Bolshoi Young Artists Opera Programme concert [Anthology of Russian Classical Romance. Sergei Rachmaninov. Part 4.](#)

The concert programme prepared by the teacher-accompanist, Merited Artist of Russia Lyubov Orfyonova.

The Bolshoi YOP artistic director – [Dmitry Vdovin.](#)

[The programme](#)



After the concert on February 15. Photo by Natalia Ignatenko / [FB](#)

February 19 and 20, the Chamber Stage – three performances of the symphonic fairytale for children [Peter and the Wolf](#) by Prokofiev.

Director – [Boris Pokrovsky.](#)

Music Director – Vladimir Agronsky

The performance [details](#)

[Casts](#)



A scene from Peter and the Wolf. Alexei Prokopiev as Grandfather.
Photo by Vladimir Mayorov

Rehearsals of Antonio Salieri's opera [Falstaff, ossia Le tre burle](#) are taking place at Pokrovsky Chamber Stage.

The premiere will take place on March 10, 2022.

Libretto by Carlo Prospero Defranceschi after William Shakespeare's comedy [The Merry Wives of Windsor.](#)

Director – Alexander Khukhlin

Music Director – [Ivan Velikanov](#)

Set and Costume Designer – Anastasia Bugaeva-Ryabushinskaya

Movement Director – Mikhail Kolegov

Chorus Master – [Pavel Suchkov](#)



Rehearsals of the opera Falstaff, ossia Le tre burle at Pokrovsky Chamber Stage. Photo by Anna Baunan / [FB](#)

An organ gala [Reflections of Harmonies](#) will take place at the Historic Stage on February 26 (19:00).

Organists involved: Jean-Pierre Steijvers (organ, Netherlands) Hiroko Inoue (organ, Japan) Evgenia Krivitskaya (organ, Russia)

The programme includes works by Tomaso Albinoni (Remo Giazotto), Luis Bacalov, Johann Sebastian Bach, Johannes Brahms, Louis Vierne, George Frideric Handel, Leonard Cohen, Pietro Mascagni, Michio Miyagi, Ramon Noble, Maurice Ravel, Karina Filippova, Gabriel Fauré.

[The programme](#)



By the President of the Russian Federation Decree No. 70 of February 21, 2022, [Alexander Alexandrovich Shanin,](#) director of the Bolshoi Orchestra, was awarded the Order of Friendship.

МИНИСТЕРСТВО КУЛЬТУРЫ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ

246 | Театральный сезон 2021/2022

ИСТОРИЧЕСКАЯ СЦЕНА

26 ФЕВРАЛЯ

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Жан-Пьер СТАЙВЕРС
(орган, Нидерланды)

Евгения КРИВИЦКАЯ
(орган, Россия)

Хироко ИНОУЭ
(орган, Япония)

Орган
ГАЛА
ОТРАЖЕНИЯ ГАРМОНИЙ

В программе произведения: И.С. Баха, Г.Ф. Генделя, Т. Альбиници, Г. Форе, П. Масаньи, М. Равель, И. Брамса

В концерте принимают участие:
Людмила Херсонская (скрипка) | Петр Кондрашин (басисты) | Алексей Корнильев (трубы) | Михаил Широченко (контрабас)

КАМЕРНЫЙ ХОР МОСКОВСКОЙ КОНСЕРВАТОРИИ
Художественный руководитель и дирижер - Александр Соловьев

Ведущий пианист - Петр Татарский

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«Lohengrin returns to the stage of the Bolshoi Theatre» – a video report by [Rossia-K](#) on February 14:

«The production by Canadian director Francois Girard is conceived as a scenario for a post-apocalyptic film. The authors of the production claim that they did not strive for film effects – but the effects will be there, and the designer Tim Yip is in charge of them.

Tim Yip spends all his time in the Bolshoi Theatre workshops. The Oscar-winning costume designer for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* is now creating the dark worlds of Wagner's Lohengrin.»

Tim Yip, the designer: «These are sophisticated realms. They are full of various meaning. Much is dark there. Yet the light is also present. I convey this aspect via colour.»

Tim works in the field of contemporary art, theatre, cinema, and literature. He is not only an artist – he is also a fashion designer, which helps him a lot in his theatre projects. For Wagner's opera at the Bolshoi, he designed costumes to match the scenery. Four-colour cloaks with magnets ... 180 cloaks. Each one weighs four kilograms. Artists paint them by hand. In each costume, Tim uses a certain symbolism: «The image of Elsa is associated with nature and love. When love comes, the first shoots sprout from the frozen earth. But as soon as the love ends, everything freezes again.»

The artist saw the Bolshoi stage two years ago. He came to Moscow specially to see the space. He decided that the transparent world of German epos would contrast with the luxury of gold and red velvet of the house.

Tim Yip: «The music requires a certain static. But something will happen all the time. The colour and light will change. The choir will constantly interact with the scenery.»

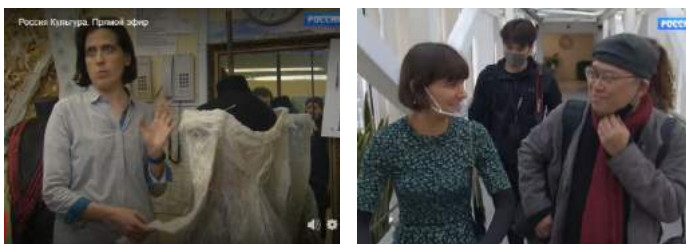
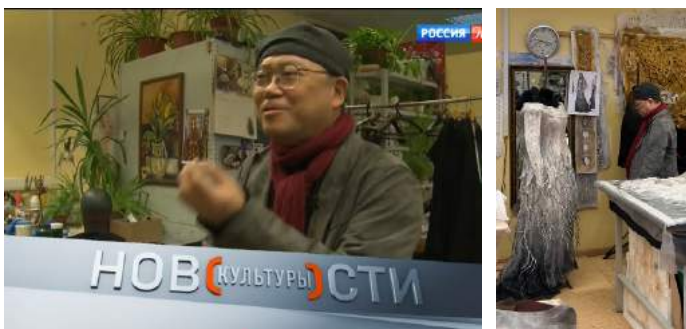
[Teatr magazine](#) «Last time the opera about a knight of the Holy Grail was performed at the Bolshoi was in the 1930s. Then the parts of Lohengrin and Elsa were sung by Leonid Sobinov and Antonina Nezhdanova. It is to them that the opera owes its success in Moscow in the first place. Shortly after the artists left the stage, the history of the performance ended. Almost a century later, *Lohengrin* returns to the Bolshoi Theatre in the version of Wagner's experts: theatre and film director Francois Girard and conductor Evan Rogister. Previously, they staged productions to the music of the German composer at theatres in Europe and America ...

Francois Girard: «... If I commit to staging an opera, I agree to live in this music forever. It's like choosing your own home. Music should enchant me»...

Lohengrin by Francois Girard will be designed in the fantasy genre. The director will oppose the pagan and Christian worlds, and also transfer the time of action into the future, «when the normal course of things is disrupted, the foundations of human civilisation are destroyed,» Girard notes. Otherwise, as the director says, he will remain true to the plot.

RUSSIAN MEDIA

Russian media announced the premiere of Richard Wagner's opera at the Bolshoi Theatre of Russia.



«Lohengrin returns to the stage of the Bolshoi Theatre» – set and costume designer – the world-famous contemporary Chinese artist Tim Yip in the video report by [Rossia-K](#)



MZh

“Evan Rogister: “In working with Wagner operas, the most difficult thing is to unite 300 singers» – [Muzykalnaya Zhizn](#) continues – “in anticipation of the event, introducing its main participants”:

Evan Rogister told Katerina Novikova and Olga Rusanova about special features of the current work:

“When you deal with Wagner’s music, the biggest difficulty lies in the very scale of his works. Imagine: 120 people in the choir, 100 in the orchestra, and sometimes even more, plus soloists! And my task as a conductor is to make sure that our efforts coincide, that 250 people sing and play as one. For this, it is necessary that each artist could express their talent to the maximum, so that our energies would unite, and we would come to this common goal. And the goal for me is always to tell a real, sincere, very important story. /.../ We have an excellent cast... /.../ As for my interaction with Francois Girard, we are working in very close contact now. In general, we started discussing the production two years ago. This is the rare case when “thanks to the pandemic” we could slowly think about Wagner, about the opera, during these years, and now, finally, we started working together, on the same stage. This is not always the case, sometimes a conductor and a director meet for the first time only at rehearsals. /.../”

Russian media keep announcing the upcoming premiere of Richard Wagner’s opera at the Bolshoi Theatre.

The cultural and political magazine [E-Vesti](#) describes the prerequisites for the opera creation. *Lohengrin* by Wagner: On the Origins of the Plot of the Knight of the Swan.

“*Lohengrin* is not only an example of musical genius, but also a monument to Wagner’s literary and research talent. The first acquaintance with the medieval legend of the Swan-Knight took place in 1842. The composer was at first unimpressed by the Christian legend told in the poem about the Wartburg Tournament, but continued his search and began to discover other versions of this legendary story. Gradually, the plot captured the composer, and he himself wrote the libretto for the future opera./.../

Lohengrin is the first of Richard Wagner’s operas to be staged in Russia. It was staged in 1868 at the Mariinsky Theatre, and in 1889 at the Bolshoi. The last time this opera was performed in Moscow was in 1936, [Apollo magazine](#) says (*Lohengrin* by Wagner Will Be Shown at the Bolshoi Theatre).



Lohengrin – Sergey Skorokhodov. Curtain calls after the performance on February 24. Photo by Damir Yusupov.

[Kommersant Weekend](#): “*Lohengrin* by Richard Wagner at the Bolshoi remained a legend for almost a hundred years, thanks to two great singers of the 1930s, Antonina Nezhdanova and Leonid Sobinov. This season *Lohengrin* returns to the Bolshoi as a co-production with the Metropolitan Opera, directed by François Girard and conductor Evan Rogister. The creators of the production promise an opera-fantasy, and this, of course, is quite consistent with the Wagnerian story of the knights of the Grail. Please note: due to the epic length of the composition, performances at the Historic Stage begin an hour earlier than usual – at 18.00.”

Austrian bass Günter Groissböck, who appears as Heinrich der Vogeler in the opera *Lohengrin*, gave an interview to Alexei Parin (the author’s programme was broadcast on [Ekho Moskv](#)y on 20.02.22)



Günter Groissböck gave an interview to Alexei Parin ([Ekho Moskv](#)y, 20.02.22) Photo by Katerina Novikova

Global City: The Opera *Lohengrin* Returns to the Bolshoi **Profile magazine**. No.5–6, February 14. Holy Grail with Special Effects: Moscow, the Bolshoi Theatre, February 24–28.»



National Artist of the USSR Makvala Kasrashvili (pictured as Tatyana, with Sati Spivakova and her students – Maria Buynosova, Veronika Ershova, Ekaterina Petrova / Instagram) – the heroine of the programme Sati ... Entertaining Classics on Rossia-K.

National Artist of the USSR, Assistant to the Chief Conductor – Music Director of the Bolshoi Theatre **Makvala Kasrashvili** will celebrate her birthday on March 13.

Rossia-Kultura TV channel (Monday, February 14, repeated on Tuesday, February 15) airs a new episode of the programme Sati ... Entertaining Classics:

“She came to the Bolshoi Theatre more than half a century ago and still continues to work there. Opera diva, teacher and assistant music director of the country’s main theatre Makvala Kasrashvili turns 80 this year. The prima donna, National Artist of the USSR Makvala Filimonovna Kasrashvili is visiting Sati Spivakova. And her students came together with her to the programme Sati ... Entertaining Classics studio...”

Most recently, Igor Tsvirko became a new principal dancer of the Bolshoi Ballet, the **Ballet-online magazine** reports.

In an interview with Alexei Isaychev, Igor spoke about the path to the status of a principal, about his attitude to the profession and plans for the future. The article was titled I Am A New Type Of Principal.

“Are you still excited before entering the stage?”

“I am excited every time. It depends on the performance. I worry for classical parts that need flawless dancing. This inner trepidation is inexplicable. Sometimes we repeat difficult things many times in class, and it would seem that it’s no problem to go on stage and do the same, but there are many factors that affect the general condition or can “give you nerves”:

“What is the most difficult performance for you?”

“There are two of them: *Rubies* and *Raymonda* where I am Abderakhman. I’m just dying from the tempo and difficulty there. To perform this, you need a true commitment.”



Igor Tsvirko: I Am a New Type of Principal **Ballet magazine**

“The first performance of *Swan Lake* took place in Moscow, at the Bolshoi Theatre on February 20, 1877. And today, 145 years later, it is hard to believe that at the beginning the fate of this most popular classical ballets was difficult and dramatic...” – **Music Seasons** tells the detailed history of the ballet’s creation and its productions.



Galina Ulanova as Odette, Swan Lake.

Merited Artist of Russia Sergei Vikharev, who restored Petipa’s legendary ballets, would have turned 60 on February 15. On memorable dates, the Mariinsky Theatre shows a reconstruction of the 1890 version of *The Sleeping Beauty*: his first major restoration. Victoria Tereshkina, Alina Somova and Anastasia Matvienko as Aurora.

[Ballet magazine](#) collected important facts – What Is Essential to Know about the Choreographer.

The Mariinsky Theatre marked the 60th anniversary of Sergei Vikharev’s birth, [Kommersant](#) reports.

“Critics recognised Vladislavs Nastavševs’ first production on the musical stage – *Les pêcheurs de perles* by Georges Bizet at the Bolshoi Chamber Stage – as one of the central events of the last theatrical season,” [ClassicalMusicNews.ru](#) reports, announcing that the director’s new work: *Eugene Onegin* in Perm will become Nastavševs’ first production at a major opera stage (to be premiered on April 1, 2, 3 and 5, 2022).

[Orpheus](#)

“The *International Vocal Competition Competizione dell’opera* has ended recently at the Bolshoi Theatre. The project founder and manager, famous director and producer [Hans-Joachim Frey](#) – the guest of the Tavor in Major programme on [Orpheus radio](#) (February 14.) Presenter – Yossi Tavor.



Hans-Joachim Frey about *Competizione dell’opera* on [Orpheus radio](#)

The Kaliningrad region government [website](#) reports about the ongoing construction of the cultural and educational centre in Kaliningrad (February 11, 2022):

“50 test piles have been installed at the Bolshoi Theatre branch construction site. Another, third Auger rig was delivered to the site to continue work at the prescribed pace. The static tests of the first piles have been completed, the survey results have been transferred to the design institute.” (“The construction of a cultural and educational centre continues in Kaliningrad: Buildings of branches of the Bolshoi Theatre and the Tretyakov Gallery, residential buildings are being erected.”)



Construction of the Cultural and Educational Centre is under way in Kaliningrad. Photo /the Kaliningrad region government [website](#)

The [Nizhny Novgorod TV](#) and [NA Vremya N](#) covers the collaboration between the Bolshoi Theatre and the Nizhny Novgorod Opera Ballet: “The Nizhny Novgorod Opera Ballet will cooperate with the Bolshoi Theatre... Relevant agreements with the capital venue management were achieved in January 2022. It is planned that the Moscow theatre will provide costumes, sets, and scores to their colleagues in Nizhny Novgorod.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIA



«Boris Akimov gives a master class at the Hamburg Ballet...»

Photo /[MK](#)

Sylvie Guillem – a documentary on [the DanceMasterclass website](#).

A documentary on the [DanceMasterclass website](#).

Daniil Simkin interviews Sylvie Guilliem about her career in dance. She mentions «(9:40) Speaking about Boris Akimov she said: «You know I told you I hated the class because it's really boring and sometimes people can be mean. When Boris Akimov came I loved it. I loved it! He was crazy, he was poetic, he was nice, he was passionate and that's for me. If you can't learn from him then you can't become someone better. ... those people that are nice people, very intelligent, you can learn from looking at them, who they are, listening to them, looking at them.» *Sylvie Guilliem. A Short Documentary.*

Foreign newspapers and online publications announce upcoming screenings of Bolshoi Ballet productions (recorded) in cinemas all over the world.

[Lincoln County News](#) (Maine, USA) announces the upcoming screening of Bolshoi's *Jewels* in local cinemas

[Sakshi Post](#) (India) announces the upcoming screening of Bolshoi's *Swan Lake* in local cinemas

The online entertainment news publication [Broadway World](#) publishes an article by Stephi Wild who announces: «*La Sylphide* comes to Bolshoi this month. Performances run 19 February – 17 March 2022.»

The French classical music magazine [Crescendo Magazine](#) (France) publishes an article by Yvan Beuvar who reviews the recording «Fifty years of Russian music for flute and piano.» «Sergei Prokofiev (1890–1953) ...» «The years have passed and Sandrine's career [Tilly, editor's note: first solo flute of the Orchester du Capitole de Toulouse] has led her to tackle in depth the immense repertoire of Russian orchestral music under the direction of one of its most gifted representatives, Tugan Sokhiev.»

[Broadway World](#) publishes an article by Stephi Wild who announces: «Bolshoi will present the premiere of the evening of one-act ballets: *Dancemanía; Les Saisons; Made in Bolshoi* at the New Stage of Bolshoi Theatre on 7 July 2022. In the upcoming 246th season, the Moscow Bolshoi Theatre has planned a magnificent ballet evening, which will show one-act ballets of talented modern choreographers. The programme will include *Dancemanía*, staged by Vyacheslav Samodurov to the music of the composer Yuri Krasavin, the ballet *Les Saisons* by the young choreographer Artemy Belyakov for musical works by Alexander Glazunov, as well as the one-act ballet, based on the musical work by Anatoly Korolyov *Made in Bolshoi* from Anton Pimonov.»

The Italian theatre critics website [Teatro e Critica](#) publishes a review by Stefano Tomassini of Nureyev's version of *La Bayadère* at La Scala. «It was a great evening. ... for the exceptional nature of the performers: with Svetlana Zakharova, étoile of La Scala and of the Bolshoi, Jacopo Tissi, the first Italian appointed étoile at the Bolshoi Theatre.» «Zakharova is memorable in the role of Nikiya, while the undoubted charm of Tissi (in the role of Solor) is not enough to cover the uncertain balance in the jumps, yet to be governed.» «The sets and costumes of Luisa Spinatelli dominate everything, precise and well regulated in the re-

quired taste. The undisputed success of this historic revival of La Scala, superbly supervised by Michel Legris, tells of how the life of the past is able to reopen its cycle of time.»

[Russian Rome. Faces](#), February 13:

«Today is the birthday of our festival's ambassador and the Bolshoi Ballet principal dancer – Jacopo Tissi! We congratulate Jacopo and wish him new creative achievements and triumphs! We also publish an interview with the the Bolshoi principal dancer ...

Jacopo learned Russian all by himself and speaks it with surprising ease! To such an extent that Jacopo took part in the voice acting of the character from the Disney and Pixar cartoon *Luka*. A talented ballet dancer, Jacopo performs the main roles in the most famous productions.» (16'30").



Jacopo Tissi in the interview cycle *Russian Rome. Faces* ([YouTube](#))

The Italian version of the magazine [Cosmopolitan](#) publishes an article by Lea Forti who writes about Jacopo Tissi. "Jacopo Tissi is a talent who in just 26 years has managed to achieve everything a child dreams of when he starts dancing. The diploma at La Scala, the experience at the Vienna Opera, the return to Milan and, finally, the move to Moscow." "In 2017, in fact, he was chosen by Makhar Vaziev and moved to Moscow, where he joined the Bolshoi dance troupe. He is the first Italian dancer to have succeeded." "Choosing to leave Italy and the family is never an easy choice", he will say, "but there are trains on which it is even more difficult not to get on. I started with a trial week, but after a few days, I no longer had any doubts about staying." The definitive consecration: Jacopo Tissi is a star of the Bolshoi, Moscow, it is the umpteenth occasion in which to demonstrate all his talent and develop new skills in the company of the most respected dancers. The Russians soon fall in love with this reserved and dedicated student (in Moscow, those who dance are a real stars), while the world tours lead him to the definitive consecration: at the beginning of 2022, Jacopo Tissi becomes the étoile of the Bolshoi, thus reaching the highest point of his climb in the world of classical ballet."

BRIEFLY

On February 15, the premiere of the gala performance [My father – Maris Liepa. Time. A life.](#) Dance took place on the stage of the Alexandrinsky Theatre. The performance was created on the initiative of Ilze Liepa. The programme features principals and soloists from the Bolshoi and Mariinsky Theatres: Mikhail Lobukhin, Kristina Kretova, Igor Tsvirko, Igor Kolb, Kristina Shapran and other dancers.

[SPB Vedomosti](#) and other media.

The premiere of the ballet *My father – Maris Liepa* took place at the Alexandrinsky Theatre in St Petersburg. The script for it was written by the daughter of the legendary ballet dancer, Ilze Liepa, [Rossiyskaya Gazeta](#) writes.

[TASS](#): The premiere of the ballet *My father – Maris Liepa* took place in St Petersburg, with participation of Ilze Liepa.

[Kanal SPB](#)

A [gala concert Andris Liepa 6:0](#) at the State Kremlin Palace, dedicated to the anniversary of National Artist of Russia, was rescheduled from February 28 to March 1, 2022. The Bolshoi Ballet soloists Evgenia Obraztsova, Eleanora Sevnard, Artemy Belyakov and Denis Rodkin will take part in the concert.

International media report the meeting between President Vladimir Putin and Brazilian president Bolsonaro mentioning that President Putin referred to the [Bolshoi School in Joinville](#), Brazil, as one of the areas of successful Russian Brazilian cooperation.

The Brazilian online news publication NSC Total: "The Bolshoi School in Joinville was mentioned by Russian President Vladimir Putin in his meeting with President Jair Bolsonaro this Wednesday morning (16 February) (Brasília time) in Moscow. Putin's remarks were made during press conferences at the Kremlin."



The Bolshoi School in Joinville

The UK online theatre and lifestyle news publication [Culture Whisper](#) publishes an article by Teresa Guerreiro who announces the "International ballet stars will light up the stage at the London Coliseum for the [Ballet Icons Gala 2022](#), which pays homage to Sergei Diaghilev on his 150th anniversary" on 13 March 2022. The programme will include "The gala numbers this year will include extracts from many of the works created by Diaghilev's Ballet Russes, including [Le Spectre de la Rose](#), [Scheherazade](#), [L'Après-midi d'un Faune](#) and [Petrushka](#)." "The provisional list of participants is eye-watering" "Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet will be represented by exciting principals and soloists such as Maria Alexandrova, Vladislav Latrantov and Artem Ovcharenko."

On February 15, Mark Minkowski continued his performances in Moscow and gave a concert with the Russian National Youth Symphony Orchestra (conductor) – [Beethoven's Sixth Symphony](#) and two suites from the music to the drama [L'Arlesienne](#) by Bizet were performed in the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall.

The day before, a concert of the musician and the orchestra took place in [Rakhmaninov Concert Hall](#).



Tchaikovsky Concert Hall. Photo by Katerina Novikova

The new issue of the [Agora programme](#) on February 12 was dedicated to the contemporary theatrical process and its trends:

"In January, the [Golden Mask Festival](#) started, which for many years has provided an opportunity to see performances brought to Moscow not only from different cities of Russia, but also from abroad. This is an occasion to talk about how diverse the theatre is in its manifestations and what are the characteristic trends of the modern theatrical process. Moderator – Mikhail Shvydkoy.

The [Golden Mask Festival](#) has announced an online programme – this year live broadcasts of productions marked by the theatre award experts will be streamed for the fifth time. It will be possible to review them within a year, [Rossiyskaya Gazeta](#) reports.

Recordings will be available to all registered users of the Okko platform.

[TASS](#)

On February 17, the birthday of Viktor Yuzefovich, [MO](#) speaks about the music expert and scholar.

Thanks to the works by Viktor Yuzefovich, many un-

known pages and facts of the life and work of such giants of the Russian musical art as Sergey Koussevitzky, David and Igor Oistrakh, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Vadim Borisovsky were revealed.

For many years, Viktor Yuzefovich had a friendship with Gennady Rozhdestvensky. Viktor Yuzefovich's interview with Gennady Rozhdestvensky, on his 85th birthday and a memorial article were published in the [Muzykalnoye Obozrenie](#) newspaper.

In 2021, Viktor Yuzefovich prepared material for the [MO](#) in memory of Igor Oistrakh with whom he was also friends for several decades.

In the near future, the 2nd edition of Viktor Yuzefovich's book *Viola Knight Vadim Borisovsky* will be published.



Viktor Yuzefovich turned 85



«... David Hallberg returns to the stage» /[ABCNews](#)

The Australian news outlet [ABC News](#) releases a video announcing "Ballet icon David Hallberg returns to the stage. (Video Duration: 3 minutes 31 seconds) He was once described by the New Yorker as "the most exciting male dancer in the Western world". And looking at David Hallberg's resume, it's not hard to see why."

A video on [YouTube](#)

The online entertainment news publication [Broadway World](#) publishes an article by Marissa Tomeo who announces: "The Australian Ballet has announced that Artistic Director David Hallberg will join the Company on stage in a series of special guest appearances for their production of *Kunstkamer*." "The production of *Kunstkamer* is set to run in Sydney from 29 April – 14 May and in Melbourne from 3–11 June."

Hallberg In Conversation on the [Australian Ballet website](#)
Australian dance magazine [Dance Australia](#)



Teodor Currentzis at the presentation of his perfume (2017).

Photo by Nikolai Oberemchenko /[KP](#)

Teodor Currentzis turns 50 on February 24. "On this day, watch the episode of the Enigma programme with the participation of the maestro on [Kultura TV channel](#)," the announcement says:

... Greek and Russian conductor, one of the brightest figures on the modern music scene, working in the range from baroque opera to radical experiments by modern composers.

A student of the legendary Ilya Musin, Teodor Currentzis was an assistant to Yuri Temirkanov in the St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, collaborated with such renowned companies as Vienna and Munich Philharmonic Orchestras, Mahler Chamber Orchestra, as well as with the Bolshoi Theatre, Zurich Opera, Paris National Opera, Teatro Real de Madrid.

February 22, Boris Eifman's new ballet [The Seagull](#). *A Ballet Story* was shown at the Alexandrinsky Theatre. The performance is based on Chekhov's play *The Seagull*, [TASS](#) informs:

This is his second take to the famous play, which had its first ballet interpretation 15 years ago, in the year of Boris Eifman Ballet's 30th anniversary. However, the audience will see not the old production revival, but a new ballet in which only the principle of transferring action from drama world to ballet sphere of is preserved.

[Rossia-K](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA



«... I ask you to support the fundraising campaign to perpetuate the memory of Olga Vasilevna Lepeshinskaya, the installation of a memorial plaque in memory of the great ballerina» /[FB](#)

«... I ask you to support the fundraising campaign to perpetuate the memory of Olga Vasilevna Lepeshinskaya, the installation of a memorial plaque in memory of the great ballerina on the house where she lived for 64 years,» – [Sergei Khaikin](#) writes

Our goal is to raise 600 thousand roubles in two months.

Sberbank card number for transfers 4817 7602 1660 3518

Olga Lepeshinskaya (1916–2008), the Bolshoi Ballet prima, ballet-mistress and public figure, National Artist of the USSR, lived in our house, at 1st Tverskaya-Yamskaya Street 36, for most of her life, from 1944 to 2008. Olga Vasilevna died 14 years ago. Until now, there is neither a museum, nor even a memorial plaque on the house in memory of the great ballerina.

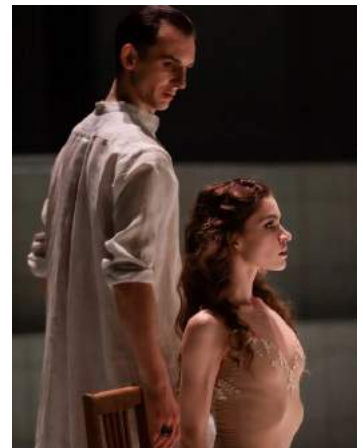
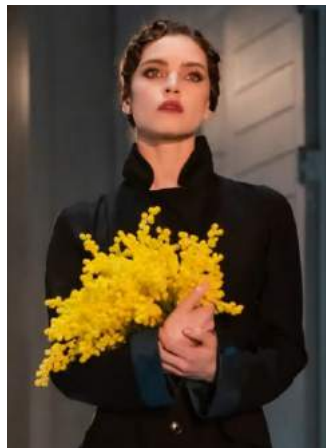
Upon the initiative of the Lepeshinskaya Foundation and with the support of the house residents, in 2016–18, a project was designed and a memorial plaque was made in memory of the ballerina. The author is the Merited Artist of the Russian Federation, sculptor Oleg Zakomorny.



[Anna Netrebko](#): “Transforming into Aida ... Performances at [Teatro San Carlo](#)”



Marina Konstantinovna Leonova, – National Artist of Russia, rector of Moscow Ballet Academy (Bolshoi Ballet dancer in 1969–1989) on February 18 in congratulations from [Eva Sergeyenkova](#), and all her grateful students.



February performances of [Master and Margarita](#) shot by [Batyr Annadurdyev](#) (Igor Tsvirko: as Master, Maria Vinogradova as Margarita, Semyon Chudin as Woland)



Natalia Vinogradova: "The movie Chaliapin is being filmed at the Bolshoi and near it" /FB



Wagneriana by [Günther Friedrich Groissböck](#)

