



Newsletter

The choir of the Bolshoi Theatre was awarded the prestigious musical prize of the Best Opera Choir of 2019 at the International Opera Awards. The awards ceremony took place at Sadler's Wells Theatre in London on April 29.

National Artist of Russia, Chief Chorus Master [Valery Borisov](#) accepted the prize.

The choirs of De Nederlandse Opera, Opéra de Lyon, Covent Garden Royal Opera, Dresdner Staatsoper and La Scala were also nominated for The Best Opera Choir award.

The Bolshoi guest soloist, Merited Artist of Russia, National Artist of Tatarstan [Albina Shagimuratova](#) entered the prize list as the performer of the main role in the opera Semiramide by Giacomo Rossini was selected as The Best Opera Recording.

Russian winners of this year's prize also included conductor Maxim Yemelyanychev (The Best Novice) and soprano [Asmik Grigorian](#), who was awarded for the second time (first time she was awarded the prize for The Singer of the Year in 2016).

[Katie Mitchell](#) was named The Best Opera Director.

The gong For Contribution To Art was given to the legendary American opera singer (soprano) Leontyne Price.

[See](#) the complete list of nominees of the 2019 International Opera Awards.

[Winners](#)

On April 25 at the Imperial foyer of the Bolshoi Historic Stage [the theatre's plans for the new 24th season were announced](#). Alexei Ratmansky and Dmitri Tcherniakov will premiere new works at the Bolshoi in the 2019-2020 season.

THE OPERA COMPANY WILL PRESENT NINE PREMIERES:

September 26, 2019, New Stage – The Tale Of Tsar Saltan by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov. Music director – Tugan Sokhiev. Production Director – Alexei Frandetti

November 29, 2019, Pokrovsky Cham-



The Bolshoi Choir was given the International Opera Award as the Best Opera Choir of 2019



Makhar Vaziev, Vladimir Urin, Tugan Sokhiev, Katerina Novikova announced plans for a new 24th theatre season.

Photo by Alexander Korolkov/RG

ber Stage – Gostiny Dvor by Vasily Pashkevich Music director – Philipp Tchizhevsky Director – Gleb Cherepanov

December 5, 2019 – Dido and Aeneas, co-production with International Opera Festival in Aix-en-Provence. Music director – Christopher Moulds Director – Vincent Hugué

February 14, 2020, Historic Stage – Sadko by Nikolai Rimsky-Kor-

sakov Director – Dmitri Tcherniakov. Music Director – to be announced.

March 5, 2020, Chamber Stage – The Little Chimney Sweep by Benjamin Britten Music Director – Ayrat Kashaev Director – Oleg Dolin

March 6, 2020, Historic Stage – Mazepa by Tchaikovsky, concert version Conductor – Tugan Sokhiev

May 24, 2020, Historic Stage – Anna Boleyn by Gaetano Donizetti, concert version Conductor – Tugan Sokhiev

June 17, 2020, New Stage – Don Giovanni by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Music Director – Tugan Sokhiev. Director – Semyon Spivak

July 2, 2020, Chamber Stage – Les Pêcheurs De Perles by Georges Bizet. Music Director – Alexei Vereschagin. Director – Vladislav Nastavshv

THE BALLET COMPANY WILL PRESENT FIVE NEW WORKS:

November 21, 2019, Historic Stage – Giselle music by Adam, Choreography by Alexei Ratmansky

March 26, 2020, New Stage – one-act ballet evening – Dancemania choreography by Vyacheslav Samodurov to music by Yuri Krasavin, Seasons choreography by Artemy Belyakov to music by Alexander Glazunov and Made in Bolshoi choreography by Anton Pimonov to music by Anatoly Korolyov.

May 21, 2020, New Stage – Master and Margarita to music by Shostakovich, choreographer Edward Clug.

On December 8 a big concert at the Historic Stage will mark the 10th anniversary of the Bolshoi Youth Opera Program.

Four livestreams and three recordings of the Bolshoi ballets will be shown within [Bolshoi In Cinema](#) project in 2019-2020.

October 27 – Raymonda

November 17 – Le Corsaire

December 15 – The Nutcracker

January 26 – Giselle

February 23 – The Swan Lake

March 29 – Romeo and Juliet

April 19 – Jewels

* – livestreams and recordings

One of the main events of the season – the International contemporary [Dance Festival DanceInversion](#) will take place in Moscow for the 20th time. The Bolshoi invited companies from France, USA, UK, China, Spain, Norway, Lebanon.

The Bolshoi Theatre Museum prepares exhibitions: The 75th anniversary of the Great Victory, Legend of Big Opera (for the 80th anniversary of Elena Obraztsova), Faces of Giselle (for the 175th anniversary of the first performance at the Bolshoi), Fairytale World of Rimsky-Korsakov, Vladimir Vasiliev (for the dancer's 80th

anniversary) and Tchaikovsky (for the 180th anniversary of the composer).

[See more](#) in press conference materials.

On May 9 in honour of the celebration of the 74th anniversary of the Victory in World War II a gala concert was held at the Historic Stage of the Bolshoi Theatre. The Bolshoi Opera soloists and members of the Bolshoi Theatre Youth Opera Program took part in the concert.



Sverdlov (now – Theatre) Square. Street party on the Victory Day, May 9, 1945.

Hero warriors in front of the Bolshoi Theatre.

Photo by Alexander Ustinov



On May 1 due to a tradition established many years ago there was a solemn meeting of war veterans cele-

brating the 74th anniversary of the Victory was held at the New Stage of the Bolshoi Theatre. Moscow major Sergei Sobyanin attended the meeting. The Bolshoi artists gave a gala concert as a part of the meeting.

Events

On May 15, Historic Stage, a premiere in honour of the 220th anniversary of the birth of Alexander Pushkin (May 26, 1799) will be presented – romantic scenes in three acts [Evgeny Onegin](#) by Tchaikovsky, libretto by the composer and Konstantin Shilovsky based on the poet's novel of the same name.

Music Director: [Tugan Sokhiev](#)

Stage Director: [Yevgeny Arye](#)

Set Designer: [Simon Pastukh](#)

Costume Designer: [Galina Solovyova](#)

Lighting Designer: [Damir Ismagilov](#)

Movement director: [Igor Kachaev](#)

Video design: Asya Mukhina.

There will also be performances on May 16, 17, 18, 19 (14:00) 2019.

The Bolshoi Opera soloists [Igor Golovatenko](#), [Anna Nechaeva](#), [Ekaterina Morozova](#) rehearse the main roles.

Evgeny Onegin returns to the Historic Stage replacing [the production that ran on the New Stage](#) (September 1, 2006 – May 17, 2017), a production by Dmitri Tcharniakov than caused a lot of interest and discussion within the audience and was shown in many countries (at the Paris Opera, at La Scala in Italy, at Covent Garden in England, during tours in China, Greece, Slovenia).

Tchaikovsky's opera was staged at the Bolshoi 11 times and survived two scenic versions.

The first performance was on January 11, 1881 (conductor – Enrico Modesto Bevignani). The second one, in 1895, was conducted by Sergei Rakhmaninov.

April 24, 25, 26, 27 (12:00 and 19:00) and 28, Historic Stage – the premiere of the current season, opera [Il Viaggio A Reims](#). Music director – [Tugan Sokhiev](#). Stage Director – [Damiano Michieletto](#). Set Designer – [Paolo Fantin](#) – Costume Designer – [Carla Teti](#). Lighting Designer – [Alessandro Carletti](#).

Tugan Sokhiev and Damiano Michieletto speak about the premiere of Il Viaggio a Reims in a video on [YouTube](#).

Co-production of Dutch National Opera (Amsterdam), Danish Opera (Copenhagen) and Australian Opera. [Casts](#)

May 2 (12:00 and 19:00), 3, 4 (12:00 and 19:00) and 5 (14:00), Historic Stage – Tchaikovsky's ballet [The Sleep-](#)



Il Viaggio A Reims. A scene from the opera

[ing Beauty](#), Libretto by Ivan Vsevolozhsky and Marius Petipa based on fairy tales by Charles Perrault.

Since its first premiere in Moscow in 1899 the ballet was performed at the Bolshoi almost 600 times. Since November 2011 The Sleeping Beauty has run at the Historic Stage in the choreographic version by Yuri Grigorovich and with sets by Ezio Frigerio. Costumes by Franca Squarciapino.

[Casts](#)

Pavel Klinichev conducted the performances on May 2, 3, 4 (19:00); Pavel Sorokin – on May 4 (12:00) and 5.



The Sleeping Beauty at the Historic Stage

April 27 (12:00 and 19:00) and 28 (14:00) at the New Stage – one-act ballets, masterpieces of the 20th century choreography [The Cage](#), [Etudes](#), [Carmen Suite](#).

[The Cage, casts](#)

See more about the history of the ballet in an abstract from the book by Greg Lawrence [Dance with Demons: the Life of Jerome Robbins](#).

[Etudes, casts](#)

See more about Etudes by Harald Lander in the article [Ballet Metaphor](#).

[Carmen Suite, casts](#)

Conductors – Anton Grishanin (The Cage and Etudes) and Pavel Sorokin (Carmen Suite).



Daria Bochkova as Novice, Alexander Vodopetov as the Second Intruder. Photo by Elena Fetisova



Carmen Suite. Denis Rodkin as Jose. Vitaly Biktimirov as Corregidor. Photo by Mikhail Logvinov



Nicoletta Manni at the curtain calls after her debut (with Klim Efimov), Etudes by Harald Lander, New Stage, April 27. Photo by Gabriel Ramires De Aguilera/Instagram

On May 19 ballets [Carmen Suite](#) and [Petrushka](#) (the current 243 season premiere) will be livestreamed in cinemas all over the world within the Bolshoi In Cinema project and on the theatre's official channel [media.bolshoi.ru](#) for the Russian audience. 18:00 (Moscow)

Svetlana Zakharova and Denis Rodkin will perform the main roles of Carmen and Jose in Carmen Suite on May 19.



Carmen Suite. Denis Rodkin as Jose. Vitaly Biktimirov as Corregidor. Photo by Mikhail Logvinov



Yulia Mazurova as Cherubino, maestro Francesco Lanzillotta, Anna Khrapko (debut as Susanna), Yuri Syrov (debut as Figaro), New Stage, May 5. Photo / Facebook

May 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (14:00), New Stage — [Le Nozze di Figaro](#) by Mozart.

Music Director: [William Lacey](#)

[Casts](#)

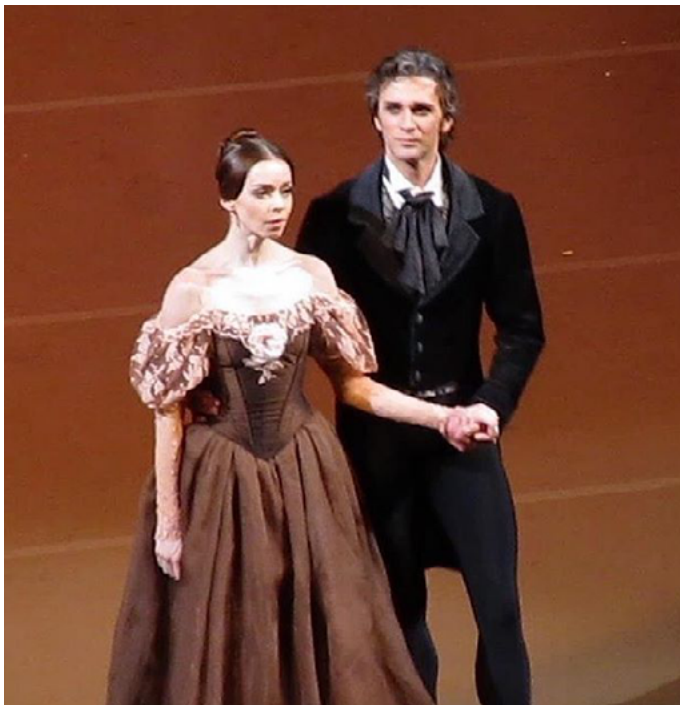
Conductor — Francesco Lanzillotta.

May 8, 9 (12:00 and 19:00) and 10, New Stage — ballet by [Onegin](#) John Cranko also inspired by Pushkin's novel in verse to music by Tchaikovsky.

The production premiere took place at the Historic Stage on July 12, 2013; it has run on the New Stage since January 25, 2018.

Conductors — Pavel Klinichev (May 8; 10 мая). Alexai Bogorad (May 9).

[Casts](#)



Ekaterina Krysanova (debut as Tatiana) and Ruslan Skvortsov (Onegin) at curtain calls on March 12, 2017 (photo by Joshua French /Instagram)

May 5, 12:00, Beethoven Hall — a Youth Opera Program concert for Heroes of Russia Club in honour of the Victory Day.

May 5, 19:00, Beethoven Hall — [Bolshoi Theatre Wind Quintet Concert](#) — Nikolai Popov (flute), Sergei Lysenko (oboe), Sergei Petrov (clarinet), Andrei Rudometkin (bassoon), Alexei Raev (French horn).

Natalia Kiseleva (piano), Pavel Stepin (contrabass), Wang Youwei (saxophone), Anton Mikhalevsky (tubular bells).

The programme included *Pictures at an Exhibition* by Modest Mussorgsky, *Carmen Suite* by Georges Bizet,



After the Youth Opera Program concert for Heroes of Russia Club in honour of the Victory Day, May 5.

Photo/Facebook

Memoirs of Rudolf — a fantasy on themes from Puccini's *La bohème* by Nikolai Popov, and *Potpourri fantastico sul Barbiere di Siviglia* del Mo Rossini by Giulio Briccialdi.

Actor-reciter — Viktoria Aizentir. Ivan Rudometkin take part in the concert.

On April 27 and 28 Pokrovsky Chamber Stage presented an 18th century Christmas miracle play [The Rostov Mystery](#) by Dimitri Rostovsky. Stage Director - Boris Pokrovsky, Music Director — Vladimir Agronsky.

[Casts](#)



Opera *The Rostov Mystery* at Pokrovsky Chamber Stage. A scene from the opera

May 3 and 4, Pokrovsky Chamber Stage — a comic opera by Gustav Mahler based on drafts by Carl Maria von Weber [Die Drei Pintos](#).

Conductor at the premiere — Gennady Rozhdestvnsky Stage Director, Choreographer — Mikhail Kislyarov Designer — Sergei Barkhin. Chorus Master and Conductor — Alexei Vereschagin.

[Casts](#)

The president of Russia Vladimir Putin signed a decree conferring government awards to culture professionals.

For major contribution to national culture and art development and for many years of fruitful work the 4th Degree order For Merit to the Fatherland was bestowed on the National Artist of Russia Bolshoi prima ballerina [Svetlana Zakharova](#).

National Artist of Russia, holder of the order For Merit to the Fatherland 4th Degree (2001) and 3rd Degree (2008), the Bolshoi opera soloist [Vladimir Matorin](#) was awarded the order of Friendship.

The RF President decree of April 29, 2019, No.199 is available on the [official legal information website](#) (*.pdf)



Svetlana Zakharova at the rehearsal of her new programme at the Bolshoi, April 2019. Photo by Gerard Juifert



Vladimir Matorin turned 71 on May 2

Prima Anastasia Stashkevich and principal dancer Vyacheslav Lopatin, nominated for The Star, ballet-master Alexander Vetrov nominated for The Teacher, the Bolshoi director Andrei Melanyin nominated for The Knight of Dance, were awarded the professional ballet prize Soul of Dance.



Anastasia Stashkevich and Vyacheslav Lopatin, the winners of the Soul of Dance award in The Star nomination category, in the duet of Princess Florine and Blue Bird, The Sleeping Beauty by Tchaikovsky.

The 25th awards ceremony and a gala for the anniversary of the prize took place on April 30 at Stanislavsky Musical Theatre.

During the past 25 years the prestigious ballet prize was given to many outstanding artists such as



Alexander Vetrov – the winner of The Teacher award.
Photo /Instagram of Igor Tsvirko



The Bolshoi director Andrei Melanyin – the winner of The Knight of Dance award

Olga Lepeshinskaya, Marina Semyonova, Yuri Grigorovich, Maya Plisetskaya, Rodion Schedrin, Vladimir Vasiliev. The list was continued with contemporary masters including Ulyana Lopatkina, Nikolai Tsiskaridze, Svetlana Zakharova, Diana Vishneva, Natalia Osipova, Ivan Vasiliev and many other dance professionals.

This year Soul of Dance has nine nomination categories: The Star, the Star of Ballroom Dance, the Star of Contemporary Dance, the Star of Folk Dance, the Rising Star, Maitre of Dance, the Teacher, the Knight of Dance and the Press Leader.

Press analysis:

Russian mass media

Domestic media report the Bolshoi Choir winning the “opera Oscar” in the British capital.

“Russians became laureates of the international opera award. “The Bolshoi Choir has won the Best Opera Choir award although the last time it had performed in England was before the prize was established,’ [NTV](#) reports.” (Liza Gerson of Segodnya).

The International Opera Awards-2019 covered by:

[Rossia-K](#)

[Colta.ru](#) and other sources.



[NTV](#)

New productions of the Bolshoi continue to attract media attention.

“Two main Moscow theatres held press conferences where their heads announced repertoire plans for the next season. Tatiana Kuznetsova and Sergei Khodnev discuss the information,” [Kommersant](#) reports (The Fight for Repertoire: The Bolshoi Theatre And MAMT Announced Their Plans For The Season 2019/20).

“Between them it makes more than 20 premieres: ballets, operas and concert programmes,” Maria Bab-

alova tells [Evening Moscow](#). “The most important events are Sadko in Theatre Square and Don Quixote in Bolshaya Dmitrovka. ...

The Bolshoi keeps presenting concert versions of operas under its chief conductor Tugan Sokhiev. Two titles are at play – Mazepa by Tchaikovsky, an opera in a contemporary setting with corresponding political context. There will be also a concert version of Anne Boleyn by Donizetti, that will join both theatres since the main role will be sung by Khibla Gerzmava...”

The Bolshoi premieres covered by:

[Rewizor.Ru](#)

[Kulturomania](#)

[Ekatreinburg-TV](#) (Vyacheslav Samodurov Will Stage The Ballet Dancemania At The Bolshoi) and other sources.

On the results of the country’s main theatre award.

“The Golden Mask 2019 has summed up the results - [Ekran I Stsena](#)”. “The biggest number of (ballet) awards was given to the Bolshoi Theatre/ ... Main prizes – The Best Choreography and The Best Ballet Production – also went to the Bolshoi/ Or, more precisely, remained at the Bolshoi since the 25th ceremony was held on its Historic Stage. We cannot say than the ballet Nureyev has received its awards due to diplomatic reasons. The powerful performance with beautiful choreography and stunningly expressive duets and solos has definitely deserved that yield of awards.”

The Golden Mask 2019: Nureyev vs Petipa, “clash of the titans” – Anni Gordeyeva draws conclusions about the award in the French-language publication [Le Courrier de Russie](#).

[Rossia-K channel](#) announces the broadcasting of the recording of the fifth Children’s Dance Festival Svetlana gala (held on March 30, 2019, at Rossia Concert Hall).

Dance Festival Svetlana was supposed to become an annual vent and it looks like nothing else that is held in Russia. According to Zakharova, she “wanted to combine different genres and lines of choreographic art,” give children an opportunity to present themselves and meet other dance groups of the country.

On May 5 in Italy, at Teatro Comunale Luciano Pavarotti the Bolshoi prima and La Scala etoile Svetlana Zakharova presented her new programme with a single ballet [Mademoiselle/Chanel](#) by Ilya Demutsky in choreography by Yuri Possokhov and a ballet divertissement from other choreographic productions.

Svetlana Zakharova’s premieres evening [Modanse](#) will take place at the Historic Stage on June 22 and 23.

The Bolshoi leading soloist Igor Tsvirko gave an interview to [GQ](#): “I need chaos, need to run somewhere, to hurry” and had his pictures taken for the magazine photo gallery. Tsvirko told how he left Russia in 2018 for Budapest to work at Hungarian National Ballet and why there in Budapest he missed the Bolshoi and the fast pace of Moscow, how those artists leaving Russia feel, and compared today’s situation in ballet with the one in the time of Nureyev and Baryshnikov.

Dance. Emotion. Body Movement – [La Personne](#) offers a special project for the Day of the Dance with participation of the Bolshoi soloist Artemy Belyakov: When we speak about ballet artists we imagine an unearthly creature that mastered the perfection of the body via everyday toil and a stubborn mind. Their body is an impossible ideal, their dancing is a dream.”

Press analysis:

international mass media

[Dance Australia](#) that the Bolshoi Ballet has revealed which of its stars will be performing in its 2019 season at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC), June 26 – July 7. The Bolshoi will be performing Spartacus and Jewels. There is a list of some of the Bolshoi dancers coming to Australia and a link to the [QPAC website](#).



Alexander Volchkov and Olga Smirnova in Spartacus
Photo by Damir Yusupov

The Australian newspaper Courier Mail (Australia) publishes an article by its Arts Editor Phil Brown in its QWeekend section about the Bolshoi Ballet’s Jewels and

the company's upcoming tour to Brisbane. "You know a ballet is special when an audience erupts into rapturous applause before the performance has even begun. As the curtain rises at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow on a snowy winter evening and the dancers are revealed, there is an audible collective gasp, then a spontaneous outburst of acclamation. Because what we are beholding is beauty personified, the opening scene of the first act of Russian choreographer George Balanchine's masterpiece *Jewels*, a ballet in three acts that has the reputation of being one of the most beautiful in a genre renowned for beauty. *Jewels* is one of two works the famous Bolshoi Ballet is bringing to Brisbane for the 2019 QPAC International Series that will run in the Lyric Theatre from June 26 to July 7." Scanned copy of article available upon request at the theatre press dept.

The online specialised opera news publication [Opera Wire](#) publishes an article by David Salazar who selects the five top opera shows to see this weekend. This includes *Il Viaggio a Reims* by the Bolshoi Theatre.

[Danza and Danza](#): "For her part, Nicoletta Manni will also be in Moscow on April 27th, on the stage of the New Bolshoi to dance alongside Klim Efimov and Jacopo Tissi, the role of Harald Lander's first dancer in *Etudes*, at the centre of the triptych with *The Cage* by Robbins and *Carmen Suite* by Alonso."

[Danza and Danza website](#) announces the nominees of Benois de la Danse 2019.

[The New York Times](#) publishes an article by Rebecca Schmid about live streaming of performances in cinemas. "Since the Metropolitan Opera began broadcasting live to movie theatres, in 2006, companies from the Bolshoi to the Komische Oper Berlin have seen digital distribution as crucial to positioning themselves internationally." The article gives a number of interesting statistics and insights into the growth of the live streaming of performances.

The English language Azerbaijan newspaper [Azernews](#) (Azerbaijan) publishes an article by Laman Ismayilova who reports "On April 19 Azerbaijani opera singer Azer Rzazade made his brilliant debut at the Russian Bolshoi Theatre. He performed as Alfredo Germont in Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata* opera, Trend Life reported." The article includes a video and a photo gallery.

In brief

On April 29, the International Day of the Dance, Zizi Jeanmaire turned 95.



Zizi Jeanmaire, 1978

Zizi Jeanmaire is an outstanding ballerina. The muse of Roland Petit.

Carmen, one of her most remarkable roles in ballet art of the 20th century, was staged for her. On the London premiere in 1949 the ovation lasted for 40 minutes.

Having graduated from the Grand Opera ballet school, she owed much to Russian tutors, too, with whom she trained on her own, first of all to Boris Knyazev (Yvette Chauviré brought her to him). Zizi Jeanmaire left the Opera early and started her personal career. Serge Lifar staged for her in *Les Ballets Nouveaux de Monte-Carlo*. She worked in Hollywood. Howard Hughes was in love with her. She filmed in *Hans Christian Andersen* and *Folies Bergère*. Christian Dior and Ives Saint Laurent created costumes for her.

The muse and wife of Roland Petit she was the star of virtually all his ballets and shows. He staged amazing revues for her. In the 50s she started singing at his urging. Cosma, Prévert, Serge Gainsbourg wrote for her. Petit, Nureyev, Baryshnikov and many others were her partners. She was considered to have the most beautiful legs. Her plastique, her peculiar style, her wit combined with a slightly raspy voice and heartfelt performance of such songs as *Cherry Time*, *We'll Fall Asleep Together*, *Diamond Devouresse* made her the icon of her generation. Millions adored her.

After her husband passing away she lives in Switzerland.

She wrote a book and a memoir.

The actress' birthday is marked by [Le Figaro](#) and many publications in media and social media.

[m.youtube.com](#)

[m.youtube.com](#)

[blogs.mediapart.fr](#)

[www.agoravox.fr](#)

[www.vogue.ru](#)

[www.muzcentrum.ru](#)

The Bolshoi soloists Agunda Kulaeva, Nikolai Kazansky, Ilya Selivanov took part in Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvazov's concert [Das Traumpaar der Klassik](#) that was held on April 29 at the Grand Hall of Alte Oper in Frankfurt am Main.

Pavel Klinichev conducted Baden-Baden Philharmonic orchestra.

Artists presented a programme including works by Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Rakhmaninov.



Ilya Selivanov, maestro Pavel Klinichev, Anna Netrebko, Yusif Eyvazov, Agunda Kulaeva, Thiago and Nikolai Kazansky, Alte Oper, Frankfurt am Main, April 29. Photo / facebook

On May 8 Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvazov gave a [gala](#) at Opéra Garnier within the framework of the celebration of the 350th anniversary of Paris Opera.

The programme included arias and scenes from operas by Verdi, Giordano, Leoncavallo, Puccini, Charpentier and other composers. Lorenzo Viotti will conduct the orchestra of Paris Opera.

The international festival [Dance Open](#) finished with a performance of world ballet stars at a gala at Alexandrinsky Theatre in St-Petersburg.

The festival programme opened with *The Winter Route* by Christian Schpuk, Dortmund Ballet presented the Russian premiere of *Alice* with choreography by Mauro Bigonzetti and Wiener Staatsballett presented

the world classic masterpiece *Coppelia*. “The gala is the climax of Dance Open ... Sometimes its programme is scheduled years beforehand. 90 dancers came to congratulate the festival on its 18th birthday. //”

The Bolshoi soloists Evgenia Obraztsova and Vyacheslav Lopatin dedicated their grand pas from *Coppelia* by Sergei Vikharev to the memory of the choreographer. //”



Evgenia Obraztsova and Vyacheslav Lopatin – grand pas from *Coppelia* by Sergei Vikharev

There were also fragments from recent ballet premieres. St-Petersburg saw a fragment from *Anna Karenina* by Yuri Possokhov. The head of the International Ballet Festival Ekaterina Galanova is already thinking of the next festivals. The programme of the nearest two are already planned. Dance Open lives with the planning for several years ahead.”

[Kommersant](#)

[Kultura channel](#)

[Dance Open details](#)

The gala awarding ceremony of the Soul of Dance prize was held on April 30 in Moscow at the Stanislavsky Musical Theatre.

“The only Russian ballet prize Soul of Dance will be given in Moscow for the 25th time,” [TASS](#) reports. Olga Svistunova talked to the chief editor of Ballet magazine Valeria Uralskaya.

The awards ceremony and gala is covered by [Ros-sia-K](#).

Online publication [Belcanto](#) publishes an interview with one of the winners. Natalia Yaschenkova is a ballet tutor who has worked at Moscow State Ballet Academy for nearly 40 years and has now received The Teacher award. Among Yaschenkova's pupils there are principal dancers, leading soloists and dancers of the Bolshoi Theatre: National Artist of Russia Sergei Filin, Merited Artists of Russia Alexander Volchkov, Vladislav Lantra-

tov, international competition winners Artemy Belyakov, Georgy Gusev, Klim Efimov and many others.

www.prensa-latina.cu

laopinion.com and other media



The winner of the prize Soul of Dance Natalia Yaschenkova

On April 26 Kristina Kretova and Igor Tsvirko performed within the programme of the evening of London Russian Ballet School at Cadogan Hall — [La Bayadere Answers To La Fille Mal Gardée](#).

On May 4 and 5 Kristina Kretova performed at Shanghai Dōngfāng Yìshù Zhōngxīn within [the programme Vladimir Malakhov and World Ballet Stars](#).

Together with Mikhailovsky Theatre principal dancer Julian McKay the Bolshoi leading soloist performed the pas de deux from Romeo and Juliet in choreography by Lavrovsky and from Don Quixote by Petipa.



Kristina Kretova and Julian McKay at the rehearsal at the Bolshoi, April 27. Photo by Nicolas McKay/ Facebook

The Bolshoi YOP member (since September 2018) soprano [Yulia Muzychenko](#), the guest soloist, bass [Grigory Shkarupa](#) (The Bolshoi YOP member in 2010-13) will take part in the vocal competition [Operalia](#).

Five singers including sopranos Maria Nazarova, Anna Shapovalova and mezzo soprano Maria Kataeva will represent our country.

[Rosebud Publishing](#) house has issued a study of English conductor John Eliot Gardiner about the life of Johann Sebastian Bach Music in the Heaven's Castle. Gardiner studies the life of the great composer delving deeply into the musical poetics of his works. Restoring Bach's way of thinking, recreation of religious challenges and musical arguments of his time in order to see how life transforms into music was the tremendous and brilliantly solved task of this 900-page historic detective work. The Russian edition of the book was prepared with the support of the Culture and Education Department of the British Embassy in Moscow within the Year of British Music in Russia 2019.

[Gorky online](#) publication offers a fragment of John Eliot Gardiner's book about the great German composer.



Джон Элиот Гардинер

Музыка в
Небесном Граде

Портрет Иоганна
Себастьяна Баха

Gardiner, John Eliot. Music in the Heaven's Castle. A Portrait of Johann Sebastian Bach — M.: [Rosebud Publishing](#), 2019. — 928 p. — ISBN 9785905712265

Artem Ovcharenko and Olga Smirnova danced as guest soloists in *Anna Karenina* by John Neumeier on May 8 and 9 (as Alexei Vronsky and Anna Karenina respectively) at the Staatsoper Hamburg. [Full cast](#)



Artem Ovcharenko and Olga Smirnova dance in *Anna Karenina* by John Neumeier on May 8 and 9, Hamburg.

The premiere of *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* by Shostakovich staged by Krzysztof Warlikowski took place at Opera Bastille in Paris, Alexei Tarkhanov of [Kommer-sant](#) reports. The article was titled: Mess, Revenge And Music of *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* at the Paris Opera. Conductor – Ingo Metzmache; Aušrinė Stundytė (soprano) as Katerina Izmailova.

“Two productions of Dmitri Tcherniakov at the main venues of Paris and Berlin with two iconic conductors Philippe Jordan and Daniel Barenboim became masterpieces of direction,” Alexei Parin of [Novaya Gazeta](#) thinks. “Tcherniakov had pulled out of *Les Troyens* by Hector Berlioz – a 5-hour long duology not completely ‘mounted’ by the composer – many frightening features of our time and showed various aspects of a chronicle of a dying country. And in *The Betrothal in a Monastery*, a funny and romantic swirl of our beloved Sergei Prokofiev, he found the base for a sarcastic discussion about incurable opera fandom, goddamn.”

On April 27 and 28 and May 4 and 5 Ildar Abdrazakov presented the premiere of the opera *Attila* by Verdi at Bashkir State Opera and Ballet Theatre. The singer appeared as Attila on April 27 and May 5. Abdrazakov had already appeared as Attila in New York, St Petersburg, Rome, Astana, Monte Carlo and just recently at the opening of the La Scala season in Milano. Along with him, guest soloists Vasily Ladyuk, Larisa Akhmetova, Evgeny Akimov, Zhupar Gabdullina, Sergei Skorokhodov and Askar Abdrazakov took part in the premiere performances. Music Director and conductor – Artem Makarov.

In the run-up to Ildar Abdrazakov’s debut as a director the theatre exhibited the costumes of the production’s characters, [MK-Ufa](#) reports.

From June till December, 2019, the best foreign and national theatre will tour in St Petersburg and Russian regions, There will be lectures and workshops of leading theatre professionals as well. In the year of its 25th anniversary [Theatre Olympics](#) will for the first time in history be held in two countries simultaneously – Russia and Japan. The opening ceremony of Theatre Olympics will take place on June 15, 2019. Alexandrinsky Theatre will be the main venue, most of the performances will run on its Main and New stages.

The programme includes productions of outstanding theatre directors such as the founder of Theatre Olympics Theodoros Tersopoulos, Valery Fokin, Tadashi Suzuki, Heiner Goebbels, Robert Wilson, Andrei Scherban, Andrij Zholdak, Krystian Lupa, Jan Klata. The city will host more than 30 theatre productions from 15 countries. [Facebook](#)

Bolshoi Mourns the Loss



Bolshoi Theater deeply mourns the loss of the famous composer Arif Melikov.

Melikov died on 10 May at the age of 85. Arif Melikov was an Azerbaijani and Soviet composer. He shot to fame in 1961 when his “Legend of Love” was staged by Yuri Grigorovich at the Kirov State Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet in Leningrad. Now this ballet is also in repertoire of Bolshoi Theatre.

People’s Artist Arif Melikov was buried in the Alley of Honor in Baku. The burial ceremony was attended by Baku Mayor Eldar Azizov, Minister of Culture Abulfas Garayev, Minister of Education Ceyhun Bayramov and other officials, family, friends of deceased, film and stage figures, public representatives and citizens.

[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Social networks



Anna Tikhomirova, Ralph Fiennes, Sergei Filin, Kristina Kretova and Artem Ovcharenko at the presentation of the film Nureyev. The White Crow in Moscow.

Photo by Anna Tikhomirova on [FB](https://www.facebook.com)

“Today’s Etudes at the Bolshoi has been the flight of affiliated dance,” a ballet fan writes under the photo in [FB](https://www.facebook.com). “My congratulations to the world’s best corps de ballet and the principal trio – Olga Smirnova, Artem Ovcharenko and Semyon Chudin. This is the Bolshoi I am proud of!”

Sponsors of the Paris Philharmonic and its director Laurent Bayle visited the Bolshoi.

“It’s a great delight to sing in such company!” Agunda Kulaeva writes on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) on April 29 after the concert of Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvazov in Frankfurt.

“Anechka, thank you for the duet of Liza and Polina, a long-lasting inspiration! There were many debuts yesterday! Yusif, my congratulations, bravo! The



Chief conductor and music director Tugan Sokhiev with the guests from Paris, April 28.

Photo / Facebook

iconic combination of the world opera career and the best human qualities! Thank you, guys, for THIS! Love!”



Agunda Kulaeva on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)

An exhibition for the anniversary of Gabriela Komleva in the Imperial Foyer of Mariinsky Historic Stage – Anna Galayda shares photos on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).



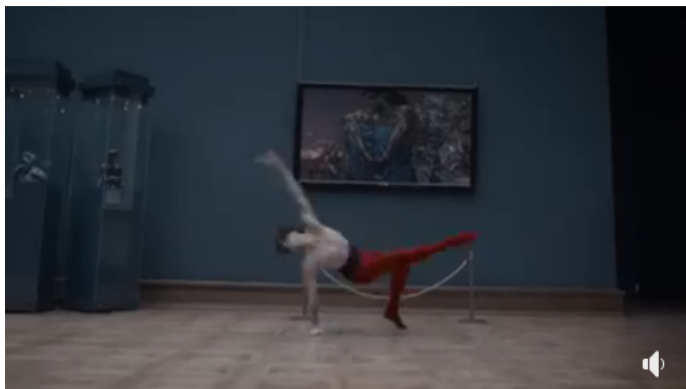
An exhibition for the anniversary of Gabriela Komleva in the Imperial Foyer of Mariinsky Historic Stage/ Anna Galayda [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)

Katerina Novikova publishes photos of an 1819 edition of dance recordings on her [FB](#): “Look how beautifully they recorded dances 200 years ago.” And four dance caricatures as well.



[Dance recording of 1819](#)

Artem Ovcharenko congratulated everybody on the International Day of Dance with a [video](#) from Tretyakov Gallery – “Dance like nobody is watching you!”



Debuts

[Il Viaggio A Reims](#)

April 24, 26 and 27 (19:00)

Renowned mezzo soprano [Anna Goryachova](#) first appeared at the Bolshoi as Melibea.

The Bolshoi guest soloist [Sergei Romanovsky](#) debuted as Cavaliere Belfiore

[Anke Briegel](#) debuted as Corinna.

[Diego Godoy](#) – as Conte di Libenskof



Anna Goryachova as Melibea, *Il Viaggio A Reims* at Dutch National Opera (Amsterdam)



Sergei Romanovsky as Cavaliere Belfiore in *Il Viaggio A Reims* – April 24, 26 and 27 (19:00)

[Nicola Ulivieri](#) – as Don Profondo

[Alexander Miminoshvili](#) appeared as Don Alvaro

[José Fardilha](#) appeared as Barone di Trombonok

On April 26 [Olga Pudova](#) first appeared in the production by the Bolshoi as Contessa di Folleville.

Etudes

April 27 (19:00)

La Scala principal dancer [Nicoletta Manni](#): debuted in the main part at the Bolshoi.

Carmen Suite

April 28

Ivan Vasiliev first appeared as Jose.
The Sleeping Beauty

May 2 (12:00)

[Alexandra Trikoz](#) as Lilac Fairy.

May 2 (19:00)

Artemy Belyakov as Prince Desire
Maria Vinogradova as Lilac Fairy

May 4 (12:00)

Antonina Chapkina as Lilac Fairy
Vitaly Biktimirov as Evil Fairy Carabosse

Le Nozze di Figaro

May 1

[Francesco Lanzillotta](#), music director of Macerata Opera festival, permanent guest conductor of leading Italian theatres debuted at the Bolshoi. He conducted all May performance series (May 1-5).

[Guzel Sharipova](#) – Susanna.

[Elena Novak](#) – Marcellina.

[Bekhzod Davronov](#) – Don Curzio, magistrate.

May 5

[Yuri Syrov](#) – Figaro.

[Anna Khrapko](#) – Susanna.

Cast alterations

Il Viaggio A Reims

Svetlana Moskalenko appeared as La Contessa di Folleville on April 24, 25 and 27 (12:00)

Olga Pudova debuted in this role on April 26

Albina Shagimuratova sang in the performance on April 27 (19:00).

Etudes

April 27 (12:00)

Daria Khokhlova replaced Ekaterina Krysanova.

Carmen Suite

April 28

Ekaterina Krysanova appeared as Carmen. Previ-

ously announced performance of Margarita Shrayner was cancelled.

Le Nozze di Figaro

On May 1, 3 and 5 [Zoltán Nagy](#) appeared as Count Almaviva. Previously announced debut of Davide Luciano was cancelled.

Birthdays

April 27 – composer Ilya Demutsky, author of the music to ballets The Hero Of Our Time (2015) and Nureyev (2017) for the Bolshoi



Ilya Demutsky

April 29 – balletmaster, Merited Artist of Russia Jan Godovsky

April 29 – the International Day of Dance

April 29 – Zizi Jeanmaire, ballerina, singer and variety actress; wife and muse of the outstanding French choreographer Roland Petit – 95th birthday

April 29 – Zubin Mehta, conductor, director of Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra

May 2 – the Bolshoi Opera soloist, National Artist of Russia Vladimir Matorin (bass)

May 2 – guest soloist of the Bolshoi, Merited Artist of Azerbaijan Yusif Eivazov (tenor)

May 2 – conductor, artistic director and CEO of Mariinsky Theatre, National Artist of Russia Valery Gergiev

May 2 – National Artist of Russia, former soloist of Kirov Ballet Vadim Gulyaev, the first performer of the role of Rzhnevsky in the ballet The Hussar Ballad by Tikhon Khrennikov

May 4 – the Bolshoi principal dancer Vyacheslav Lopatin – 35th birthday



Vyacheslav Lopatin – the Golden Mask winner for the role of the Pupil, Nureyev The Bolshoi Historic Stage, April 16

May 4 – conductor, pianist, composer and National Artist of the USSR Gennady Rozhdestvensky



Gennady Rozhdestvensky Photo / TASS

May 5 – opera singer Konstantin Baskov (1929-2001); the Bolshoi soloist in 1965-1995, head of the opera company in 1989-1992

May 7 – composer Pyotr Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)