



October 1 2019

Issue No.2

Newsletter

Premiere

On September 26, 27, 28 and 29 the Bolshoi presented the first premiere of the 244th season — opera [The Tale of Tsar Saltan](#) by Nikolai Rimsky Korsakov, libretto by Vladimir Belsky after Alexander Pushkin's tale of the same name, dedicated to the 175th anniversary of the composer's birth and the 220th anniversary of the birth of the great Russian poet.

Music Director — the chief conductor and musical director of the Bolshoi Tugan Sokhiev.

Director — [Alexei Frandetti](#)

Set Designer — [Zinovi Margolin](#)

Costume Designer — [Viktoria Sevryukova](#)

Lighting Designer — [Ivan Vinogradov](#)

Choreographer and Movement Director — [Irina Kashuba](#)

Performed by:

Tsar Saltan — Denis Makarov, Alexander Markeev, Vyacheslav Pochapsky

Youngest sister, Tsaritsa Militrisa — Olga Seliverstova, Maria Lobanova

Middle sister (The Weaver) — Yulia Mazurova, Ekaterina Vorontsova

Eldest sister (The Cook) — Svetlana Lachina, Yevgenia Vasilchuk

Old mother Babarikhha — Irina Dolzhenko, Evgenia Segenyuk

Tsarevich Guidon — Bekhzod Davronov, [Konstantin Artemiev](#), Ilya Selivanov

The Swan-Princess — Anna Aglatova, Anastasia Sorokina, Guzel Sharipova

Messenger — Andrei Potaturin, Andrei Grigoriev

Jester — Nikolai Kazansky

[Casts](#)

Conductor — maestro Tugan Sokhiev (all days).

The Music Director Tugan Sokhiev speaks in a video on the theatre [YouTube channel](#): “For Rimsky-Korsakov the tale is maybe one of the chief ‘milestones’ in his creative career, in his activity as a composer. We always work with his musical material with great interest — we sing it, play it, and try to make the orchestra



Tugan Sokhiev about the opera The Tale of Tsar Saltan / [YouTube](#)

sparkling brilliant, soloists — bright and expressive... The main thing for me in this score is the unusual combinations of musical images...”
[See more](#) about the opera and an interview with the director.



[The Tale of Tsar Saltan](#) at the Historic Stage. Photo by Batyr Annadurdyev

The Bolshoi [YouTube channel](#) published a video — Children in The Tale of Tsar Saltan where the young actors Arseni Bukharev and Liza Butulova speak about their roles (middle Guidon) in the opera by Nikolai Rimsky Korsakov.



Arseni Bukharev and Liza Butulova
on the theatre [YouTube channel](#)

The 20th International Festival [DanceInversion](#), one of the main events of the season, continues: leading world modern dance companies perform in Moscow at the invitation of the Bolshoi.

On September 26 and 27 at the Theatre of Nations a Lebanese company performed in Russia for the first time — Omar Rajeh Company presented their production [#MINARET](#), named in memory of a destroyed minaret of Grand Mosque which had been towering over the ancient city Aleppo for about 1000 years. The premiere was in September 2018 at the RomaEuropa Art Festival in Rome.

[The performance poster](#)

October 2 and 3, the New Stage — The Norwegian National Ballet presents the ballet [Hedda Gabler](#) to music by Nils Petter Molv  r, choreography by Marit Moum Aune based on the play by Henryk Ibsen.

[The ballet Hedda Gabler at Operahuset website](#)

[The premiere video trailer on YouTube](#)

On October 8 and 9 at Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre — [Outwitting the Devil](#) by



Omar Rajeh showed his [#MINARET](#).
Photo by Stephan Floss



[Hedda Gabler](#) on the New Stage. Photo by Erik Berg
The programme of [DanceInversion-2019](#)



Performance in one act by Akram Khan Company
[Outwitting the Devil](#) at Stanislavskiy
and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre
on October 8 and 9. Photo by Jean Louis Fernandez

Akram Khan to music by Vincenzo Lamagna. The world premiere was on July 15, 2019 in Stuttgart.

Events

On September 28 and 29 at the Historic Stage — premiere performances of [Christopher Wheeldon](#)'s ballet [The Winter's Tale](#), Composer — [Joby Talbot](#), Set and Costume Designer — [Bob Crowley](#).



Dmitry Smilevsky (debut as Florizel) and Ana Turazashvili (debut as Paulina) — after the evening performance of *The Winter's Tale* on September 28 with Alexandra Trikoz (Perdita), Olga Smirnova (Hermione) and Artem Ovcharenko (Leontes); the Historic Stage. Photo / Instagram

Libretto by Christopher Wheeldon and Joby Talbot after the play of the same name by William Shakespeare.

“For me the main point in this ballet was to reveal the plot. The base of my choreography is classics with elements of modern dance,” Christopher Wheeldon said about his rehearsal process in a video (2’04”) on the theatre [YouTube channel](#) before the premiere.

Casts

Music Director — Anton Grishanin (conductor — all days)

Video Designer — [Daniel Brodie](#).

Lighting Designer — [Natasha Katz](#).

Associate Set Designer — [Jaimie Todd](#)

Ballet Masters — [Jacquelin Barrett](#), [Jonathan Howells](#), [Piotr Stanczyk](#), [Zenaida Yanowsky](#), [Charles Andersen](#), [Jason Fowler](#).

[The video](#) (2’37”) for the premiere on the Bolshoi YouTube channel: the ballet company director Makhar Vaziev, choreographer Christopher Wheeldon, composer Joby Talbot, first performers of the ballet roles Olga



Anna Nikulina and David Hallberg after their debut in the roles of Hermione and Leontes, with Vyacheslav Lopatin (Florizel), Maria Vinogradova (Perdita), Alexander Vodopetov (Polixenes), Anna Balukova (Paulina); the Historic Stage, September 29. Photo / Instagram

Smirnova (Hermione), Denis Savin (Leontes), Maria Vinogradova (Perdita) speak about the production.

Prima Evgenia Obraztsova and principal dancer Artem Ovcharenko speak about the ballet and their roles in a video on [YouTube](#).

[Photos from the premiere of *The Winter's Tale* ballet Christopher Wheeldon at the Green Salon of the Bolshoi](#) (a video 39’ 57” on YouTube).



Diamonds to music by Tchaikovsky (leading couple — Alyona Kovalyova and Jacopo Tissi) — George Balanchine's ballet *Jewels* at the Historic Stage on October 1 and 2

October 1 and 2, the Historic Stage — George Balanchine's ballet *Jewels* (Emeralds, music by Gabriel Fauré;

Rubies, music by Igor Stravinsky; Diamonds, music by Tchaikovsky).

The Bolshoi premiere was on May 5, 2012

Teachers-Repetiteurs: Sandra Jennings, Merrill Ashley, Paul Boos

Set Designer — Alyona Pikalova. Costume designer — Elena Zaitseva. Music Director — Pavel Sorokin

Conductor — Pavel Klinichev.

[Casts](#)

[See more on the website](#)

An interview with George Balanchine Foundation directors Barbara Horgan and Ellen Sorrin is available on the Bolshoi official [YouTube channel](#) (Green Salon 2014).

[See more](#) about the ballet and its staging

October 4, 5 and 6, the Historic Stage — ballet [Ivan the Terrible](#) by Yuri Grigorovich to music by Sergei Prokofiev.

The ballet premiere was at the Bolshoi on February 20, 1975. The production revival in a new choreographic version took place on November 8, 2012.



Svetlana Zakharova as Anastasia, Ivan the Terrible.
Photo by Damir Yusupov

Stage settings for the production restored according to the drafts by the legendary theatre designer Simon Virsaladze.

Yuri Grigorovich: speaks about his ballet on the [theatre website](#).

Conductors — Pavel Klinichev (October 4), Alexander Soloviev (October 5, 6)

[Casts](#)

Live screening of the ballet [Ivan the Terrible](#) from the Historic Stage was available for Russian and world audiences on April 19, 2015 (main roles by Mikhail Lobukhin, Anna Nikulina, Denis Rodkin).

[Livestream recording of the ballet on RuTube](#)



Set fragments for Ivan the Terrible by Simon Virsaladze

October 5 (12:00 and 19:00) and 6 (12:00), the New Stage — [Iolanta](#) by Tchaikovsky. The premiere of the Sergey Zhenovach production was on October 28, 2015.

[The performance details](#)

[Casts](#)

Conductor — Anton Grishanin.



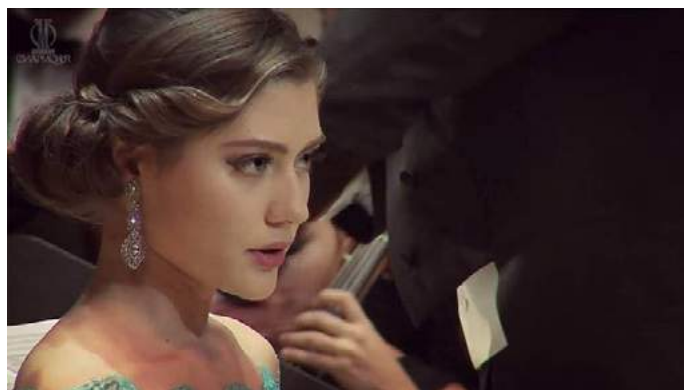
Robert — Andrei Zhilikhovsky;
Iolanta by Pyotr Tchaikovsky at the New Stage

On October 6, 15:00, Beethoven Hall opened the season with a Sunday performance for children — [Peter and the Wolf and Other Musical Stories](#).

Participants: the Bolshoi YOP member, the Audience Choice Award and the 3rd Prize winner of the International Young Opera Singers Competition Les Azuriales in Nice (2018), the winner of the 5th Magomaev International Vocal Competition (2018), the winner of the Special Prize of the 9th Obraztsova International Opera Singers Competition (2017) soprano [Elmira Karakhanova](#), the winner of international soprano competitions [Xenia Dezhneva](#); pianists Alexander Pravednikov and Nikolai Mikhametov. Narrator — Evgeni Redko.

The Bolshoi Chamber Orchestra, conductor — Mikhail Tsinnman.

See more about the concert programme in the article [Peter and the Wolf And Others](#).



The Bolshoi YOP member Elmira Karakhanova (photo by /Yenicag.Ru) takes part in the Sunday performance for children — [Peter and the Wolf and Other Musical Stories](#); Beethoven Hall, October 6 (15:00)



Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of France in the Russian Federation Sylvie Bermann presented the head of Strategy and Special Projects Department of the Bolshoi Irina Chernomurova with L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres; Moscow, September 17.
Photo by Damir Yusupov

In the French Republic Embassy in Moscow Irina Chernomurova was awarded [L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres for her contribution to art](#) (dance) promotion. the head of Strategy and Special Projects Department of the Bolshoi, one of organisers and artistic director of International Contemporary Dance Festival DanceInversion, professor honoris causa of the Russian University Of Theatre Arts.

The Bolshoi director general Vladimir Urin was awarded with one of Japan's the highest awards — the Order of the Rising Sun. Ambassador of Japan Toyohisha Kozuki held the award ceremony in his residence on September 30. During the ceremony he mentioned that in 1956 the Soviet Union and Japan had signed a declaration of peaceful cooperation. A year later the Bolshoi Ballet was sent to Japan for a friendly visit.



The Order of the Rising Sun was presented to the director general of the Bolshoi Theatre Vladimir Urin on September 30

On September 26 Alexei Ratmansky started rehearsing the ballet his new version of [Giselle](#) — the premiere will be on November 21, 2019, at the Historic Stage. The new version of the ballet [Giselle](#) (choreography by Jean Corallie, Jules Perrot, Matius Petipa.) Choreographic Director Alexei Ratmansky continues rehearsing.



Alexei Ratmanský rehearsing the ballet *Giselle*
Photo: Gérard Uféras

Famous French photographer Gérard Uféras attended a rehearsal at the Bolshoi on September 27.

On October 2-5 in Vienna members of the Bolshoi Youth Opera Programme and the head of YOP Dmitry Vdovin took part in the Russian-Austrian youth creative platform and presenting session of youth programmes in the music sphere within a Russian-Austrian Bilateral Year of Youth Exchange announced in June 2018 by the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin and the Federal Chancellor of the Austrian Republic Sebastian Kurz, the Russian Ministry of Culture together with the Family and Youth Section of the Federal Chancellor of the Austrian Republic Department.

The Platform aims to unite creative youth of Austria and Russia, establish effective contacts between young Austrian and Russian professionals in the field of culture, present contemporary educational programmes and the latest teaching methods and stimulate creation of cultural projects.

Muzykalnaya Zhizn magazine publishes an extensive interview with Dmitry Vdovin — [Dmitry Vdovin: Opera Exists To Lift Us To Academic Heights](#).

The Bolshoi will start the touring part of the new 244th season in the South Urals with a performance of Dmitry Shostakovich's ballet [The Bright Stream](#) (choreography by Alexei Ratmanský, sets and costumes by Bo-

ris Messerer). On October 11 and 12 (12:00, 19:00) they will present the production at the Chelyabinsk Opera and Ballet Theatre named after Mikhail Glinka

The Orchestra of Chelyabinsk Opera and Ballet Theatre named after Mikhail Glinka

Conductor — Alexey Bogorad (Bolshoi Theatre)

[See more on the theatre website](#)

The *Bright Stream* ballet was successfully performed in London during the Bolshoi Ballet summer season at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden.

The Bolshoi together with Pathé Live and Bel Air Media will continue live streams and screenings of its ballets in cinemas all over the world.

On October 27 the ballet *Raymonda* by Alexander Glazunov will be broadcast live from the Historic Stage within the project Bolshoi In Cinema-2019/2020. Libretto by Yuri Grigorovich after scenario by Lidia Pashkova, based on medieval knight's legends.

Production choreographer — Yuri Grigorovitch (version of 2013.)

They used fragments from versions by Marius Petipa and Alexander Gorsky.

The broadcast starts at 18:00, Moscow time.

Cast announced: Olga Smirnova will appear in the title role, Artemy Belyakov — as Knight Jean de Brienne, Igor Tsvirko — as Abderakhman. [Cast](#)



Olga Smirnova, Artemy Belyakov and Igor Tsvirko
in the main roles of [Raymonda](#)
to be live streamed on October 27
from the Bolshoi Theatre to cinemas around the world

[See TheatreHD website for cinemas and booking](#)

The ballet company director Makhar Vaziev, ballet master-repetiteur Alexander Petukhov and Bolshoi Ballet dancers speak about Petipa's masterpiece on the official [YouTube channel](#).

September 24 — October 31, 2019, the Bolshoi New Stage foyer - an exhibition timed for the 80th anniversary of the birth of National Artist of Russia Yuri Grigoriev (from the Bolshoi Theatre Museum collection).

Yuri Grigoriev was a leading soloist of the Bolshoi Opera from 1968 to 1990. He made his debut in the main role in Prince Igor by Alexander Borodin. His repertoire included all leading baritone parts. One of his all-time favourite roles was that of Grigory Gryaznoy in The Tsar's Bride by Rimsky-Korsakov which showed Yuri Grigoriev's vocal individuality and dramatic talent most brilliantly.



Yuri Grigoriev as Vyazemsky, The Maid of Pskov
Photo by G. Solovyov

Press analysis:

Russian mass media

All major media reported the staging of the opera The Tale Of Tsar Saltan by Rimsky-Korsakov at the Bolshoi New Stage.

“The Bolshoi presents the first premiere of the new 244th season,” TASS reported, briefly covering the history of the opera's productions and its stage life, speaking about the ideas of the director Alexei Frandetti and conductor Tugan Sokhiev in the fourth incarnation of The Tale at the Bolshoi and giving the performers' names.

“Opening the season the Bolshoi prepared a present for children and adult audiences — a production based on the works of great classic composers,” [RIA Novosti](#) reports.



Photo /[RIA Novosti](#)

“The Tale of Tsar Saltan returns to the Bolshoi for the first time in 30 years. ... The authors of the new version took care with Pushkin's text and theatre traditions and created a genuine family show. Picturesque sets and historic costumes combined with circus action will prove interesting both for adults and children.” [Rossia-Kultura channel](#): Alexei Frandetti about the premiere of the production at the Bolshoi.



Alexei Frandetti on [Rossia-K TV channel](#)

“The opera by Rimsky-Korsakov is planned as a family show. It is a rare occasion when a production of this kind is meant both for adults and children,” they say in a piece by the [NTD channel](#) and quote the words of the production team representatives and the performers of the main roles.

“... A riot of colour and a storm of different feelings — the opera by Rimsky-Korsakov proved magic in every way. The Swan Princess fights the vulture near the ceiling, the squirrel runs in a wheel, bumblebees fly about the stage, and embroidered costumes are mesmerizing. What cinema qualities the production has and what miracles await audiences of all ages,” — the first review of the premiere in an article by [RIA Novosti](#).



Tsar Saltan Returned To The Bolshoi After 30 Years / [TVC](#)

“Director Alexei Frandetti is very successful in ‘light’ genres, i.e. musical and operetta, and this is his second major production in this season. Comparing it to the recent Brussels Saltan by Dmitri Tcherniakov is inevitable and one can suggest Frandetti putting much attention and staging fantasy into the magic, fantastic aspect of the story, so we’ll have both the Buyan Island and Ledenets City,” [Kommersant Weekend](#) says. “Conductor — music director of the Bolshoi Tugan Sokhiev.”

[Teatr magazine](#) announces the premiere on its website

Alexei Frandetti — in The Main Role talk-show on [Rossia K TV-channel](#).

[Vesti.Ru](#)

[TVC](#)

[Radio Kultura](#)

[Regnum](#)

[Izvestia](#)

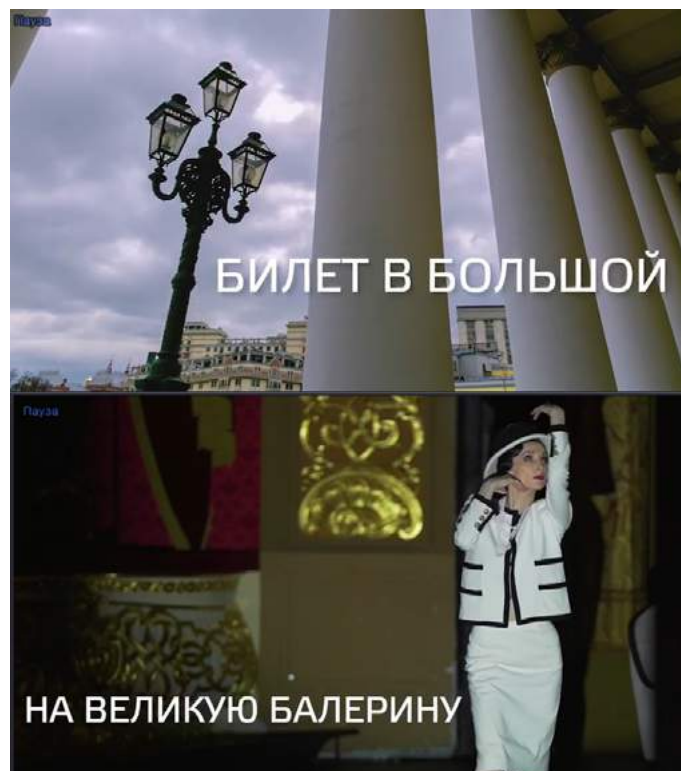
[Muzykalnaya Zhizn](#)

and many other media.

A [Ticket to Bolshoi](#) programme on Kultura channel (Friday, September 27, 18:45) was dedicated to Svetlana Zakharova.

“National Artist of Russia, winner of the State Prize, l’etoile of La Scala Theatre, the Bolshoi prima-ballerina Svetlana Zakharova turned 40 on June 10. She is perfectly fit and full of new ideas. Why did Svetlana Zakharova choose the Bolshoi? What did Maya Plisetskaya say upon seeing Zakharova as Carmen? How the image of Giselle came to being? What did the role of Anna Karenina teach the ballerina? What does Svetlana Zakharova

have in common with Gabrielle Chanel? All this in a new film...”



Ticket to Bolshoi on [Kultura channel](#) — Friday, September 27, 18:45

A branch of Moscow Ballet Academy has opened in Kaliningrad, [TASS](#) reports.

“We will do our best to make this school one of the benchmarks of its kind in the world,” vice-prime minister of the RF Olga Golodets said.



Photo/ [Kaliningrad 24](#)

Head of BBA Marina Leonova said that next year a secondary professional education programme will begin at Kaliningrad branch of the Academy; the chil-

dren will study for 8 years, graduating with a certificate allowing them to teach at children's art schools. "We know that there will be a branch of the Bolshoi in Kaliningrad, so these little kids are already future dancers of the Bolshoi," she pointed.

[TASS](#)

[Orfei](#)

[Radio Kultura](#)

and other sources.

The Bolshoi general director, the RF Presidential Council for Art and Culture presidium member Vladimir Urin will be the guest of the Culture Exchange programme on the [OTR TV channel](#). Next editions of the programme will host the chief conductor and music director of the Bolshoi Tugan Sokhiev (air on October 12) and Bolshoi Ballet prima Olga Smirnova (October 19.)

DanceInversion Festival hosted the Norwegian Ballet at the Bolshoi New Stage. [Kultura channel](#) presented a piece about the ballet Hedda Gabler.

"Ibsen for them is somewhat like Chekhov for us. On the other hand, it seems to me that we will understand the story, since what Ibsen spoke about, his style, and what Chekhov spoke about in his dramas are very close to each other, they are from the same time," the artistic director of DanceInversion Festival Irina Chernomurova pointed in a report by Kultura.



Artistic director of DanceInversion Festival
Irina Chernomurova commented on [Kultura channel](#)

[Muzykalnoe Obozrenie](#) announces the ballet Hedda Gabler by Norwegian Ballet at the Bolshoi New Stage within the International Contemporary Dance Festival DanceInversion.

[Vecherniyaya Moskva](#) "Members of Dorrance Dance famous for their 'singing feet' show an impeccable sense of rhythm, musicality, virtuoso ensemble interac-

tion, expressive feelings and improvising skills. Michelle Dorrance's tap-dancers bravely thump on the rhythm of their spirits, heart and life. A jazz improviser is a special type of artist who creates his work together with ensemble partners, and the improvisation is an art of dialogue, multi faceted communication in the language of dance and music. ... Try and see if you can.'

Tatiana Kuznetsova of [Kommersant](#) offers her review of the three-part programme (Jungle Blues/Three to One/Mielinization, Russian Academic Youth Theatre, September 19) by the American company – Artificial Insemination Of Tap By Hip-Hop. Americans at DanceInversion.)



Dorrance Dance presented their programme
at DanceInversion-2019.

Photo / www.dorrancedance.com

The Multimedia Art Museum invites visitors to their exhibition (up to November 17) [World Ballet Stars In the Focus Of Legendary Serge Lidot. 1930–1980](#).



Serge Lidot. Roland Petit and Jean Babilée,
aprx. 1945 / [MAMM](#)

The first Russian exhibition of pictures by the famous ballet photographer from Pierre Paolo Cossa collection. The maestro's portfolio includes photos of world ballet stars such as Roland Petit, Nina Vyrubova, Vaslav Nijinsky, Serge Lifar, Milorad Mišković, Alicia Markova, Margot Fonteyn, Rudolf Nureyev, Maurice Bejart, Martha Graham, Maya Plisetskaya, Mikhail Baryshnikov and many others. In the works of this photographer dance comes alive and almost palpable. Besides, Lido made portraits of artists, musicians and actors - Jean Cocteau, Edith Piaf, Igor Stravinsky, Pablo Picasso, Jean Marais, Marlene Dietrich, Sophia Loren and others. His unique pictures form a chronicle of artistic Paris of the 1930s-1980s.

Cadres Decide Everything (Staff Is All-Important): The Archive of Serge Lidot on the exhibition at Multimedia Art Museum — [Kommersant](#) publishes a big article by Tatiana Kuznetsova about the photographer and the exhibition.

[Russki Reporter](#) magazine (ed.17-18 /483) publishes an interview Photographer Alexander Gusov: "Having only 26 shots you work like a sniper."

"Journalists compare the life of Russian photographer Sasha Gusov with a romance of roguery: he was born in Taganrog, moved to Moscow, was involved in black marketeering, got to London (occasional tourists met in the Red Square helped him to get the invitation), worked as a waiter there, then in a photo shop... And then photographed the Bolshoi tour at Albert Hall and rose to fame overnight. ... Putin presented a book with Sasha Gusov's photos to the Pope. Gusov uses black and white film. 'I went to England in 1989, and the Bolshoi and Grigorovich came touring in 1992. I got a camera pass just barely having lied I was a famous Russian photographer in exile. That's how our reciprocated love with the Bolshoi began. I came to The British Journal of Photography with a letter from Grigorovich, he wrote that nobody shot the Bolshoi better than Gusov. They immediately decided to print a page spread and a cover. Thus my career as a photographer had started."

In 2015 the first book about the Bolshoi was published, sponsored by Abramovich. In 2017 it was republished in English."

Press analysis:

international mass media

International media announce upcoming screenings of Bolshoi Ballet in cinemas.

[The Telegraph](#) newspaper (UK) publishes a list of the Bolshoi's upcoming productions in cinema and offers: "Telegraph subscribers, in collaboration with Trafalgar Releasing, can enjoy exclusive 2-for-1 tickets to the Bolshoi Ballet cinema season across the UK. The Bolshoi Ballet 2019/20 cinema season showcases the world's finest dancers in some of ballet's greatest productions."



Nina Kaptsova in Giselle.

Photo by Dmitry Yusupov / [The Telegraph](#)

The online specialised entertainment news publication [Broadway World](#) announces the upcoming screening of the Bolshoi's Nutcracker at the cinema in Stowe, Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center. "Accompanied by Tchaikovsky's beloved score.

Presented by The Bolshoi Ballet, an internationally renowned classical ballet company, founded in 1776, and based at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, Russia."

The French broadcaster [France Musique](#) announces the transmission of the Bolshoi's Raymonda on 27 October. Link to the article and the video trailer

The online Italian specialised dance news publication [Danza and Danza](#) announces the upcoming sixth edition of World Ballet Day on 23 October. "The exceptional day of streaming dance that connects some of the world's leading ballet companies in a non-stop live show in which important moments of daily life behind the scenes are shown. The Australian Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet, Royal Ballet will be the hosts of the 2019 edition."

The French online specialised culture and music news publication [Culture 31](#) publishes an article by music critic Hubert Stoecklin about the L'Orchestre du Capitole and Tugan Sokhiev. "What a wonderful return with The Capitol Orchestra and Tugan Sokhiev! The return of the Capitol Orchestra of Toulouse is always a high-

ly anticipated expected event. This year it seemed for a moment that so many of the public had come that they would not be able to enter the vast Halle-aux-Grains. But everything went well; the orchestra was able to settle in the centre of a tight audience, attentive and happy.” Writing about a concert of the young pianist Behzod Abduraimov with the orchestra: “The Capitol Orchestra is in great shape, focused and relaxed. The music flows with a mastered but generous energy. Tugan Sokhiev cares for the pianist, he constantly looks at the young man to follow his game. He regulates each instrumentalist repeatedly asking the violins to play less loudly. The result is very, very beautiful. And this rare alchemy combining the musicality of the pianist, the conductor and the orchestra miraculously occurs tonight.”

The Italian online specialised theatre news publication [Teatri Online](#) publishes an article by Carlo Emilio Tortarolo about Giselle at La Scala with Svetlana Zakharova and David Hallberg in the leading roles. “Star of the evening Svetlana Zakharova (Giselle), the Etoile of La Scala who proves to be ethereal but at the same time extremely pragmatic, able to juggle the various facets of the protagonist who, in the first act, is alive and pulsating, in the second is spiritual and dreamlike. For her continuous interruptions by the public with sincere and continuous applause. David Hallberg (Prince Albrecht), the first American at the Bolshoi, also starred on stage.” His performance is “very multifaceted in which human qualities stood out and in which the exhausting test of the second act showed all its artistic quality, was widely appreciated by the public.”

The website of Italian broadcaster Sky tg24 publishes a photo gallery of 16 photos from the La Scala Ballet performances of Giselle. “After the tour in China, the ballet company returns to the stage of Piermarini with the romantic ballet par excellence. Protagonists in the first performances are the étoile Svetlana Zakharova and David Hallberg, for the first time together in this title (edited by Chiara Ribichini). The romantic ballet par excellence Giselle, with music by Adolphe Adam, returns to the Teatro alla Scala in Milan from 17 September to 8 October.”

[Link to the photo gallery](#)

[Vogue Italia](#) publishes an interview with David Hallberg by Valentina Bonelli

“Can you tell us about your first American experience at the Bolshoi?”

“In 2011 when I arrived it was a shock: as an American I had to demonstrate a lot. But over time I realised that I had found a home in that theatre and had become attached to his dancers. Of course, there is a curtain: I remain a foreigner; they do not consider me one of them.

But they are fond of me, they are happy that I am there, with my different personality. The Bolshoi interests me, I’m absorbing everything: even in Moscow, in Russia, a country that can be very difficult for people, culture, but I like to experiment, it’s like living another life.”

David Hallberg’s interview before his performance at La Scala on the theatre [YouTube channel](#)



Svetlana Zakharova as Giselle and David Hallberg as Count Albrecht, La Scala, September 17.

Photo by Stefania Galatioto / [Instagram](#)

Curtain calls after the performance on September 17 in Valentina Bonelli’s [Instagram](#)

The UK newspaper [The Guardian](#) publishes an interesting article by Anna Winter about why audiences are still interested in the ballet Giselle. “There’s something special about Giselle. Ever since its gas-lit premiere in 1841 at the Paris Opera, audiences have thrilled to the spectral sights and emotional heights of this romantic ballet. Dancers still covet the so-called Hamlet of ballerina roles.”

[Getty Images](#) (an American photo agency owning one of the world biggest image banks — about 70 mln photos) publishes a photo of Maria Alexandrova and Vladislav Lantratov taken on September 21 by TASS photo reporter Sergei Karpukhin at the opening of the Central Ballet School Pre-Academy in Moscow, artistic director Ekaterina Shipulina.

German newspaper [Die Welt](#) published Photos of the Day including one taken by Dimitar Dilkoff of AFP and titled: Amazed audience: people watch the light installation on the facade of the Bolshoi Theatre in front of the monument to Karl Marx during the international festival Circle of Light in Moscow.

Russian pianist Pavel Dombrovsky won International Stanisław Moniuszko Music Competition in Poland. There were 40 musicians from different countries.

Members of the Bolshoi YOP Maria Motolygina (1st prize) and Ruslana Koval (4th prize) had won the 10th International Stanisław Moniuszko Vocal Competition in May, 2019.

[TASS](#)

[Orfei](#)

[Kulturomania](#)

[Muzykalnaya Zhizn](#)

[ClassicalMusicNews](#)

The October edition of the monthly specialised dance magazine *Dancing Times* publishes an article by Margaret Willis who interviews Katerina Novikova, head of press for the Bolshoi Theatre. "To thousands of ballet lovers world wide, Katerina (Katya) Novikova, is the face and the voice of the Bolshoi Theatre." "Her highly visible fame has come through the regular Bolshoi Ballet live performances beamed across the world into cinemas." "Thanks to Katya, they (cinema audiences) are always given a huge amount of information that makes the performance even more special." "Translating simultaneously into three languages- Russian, French and English – Katya with a genuine beaming smile and fabulous new dresses, seamlessly charges from one language to another with pyrotechnical skill." "It's gold dust to Bolshoi fans who could only dream of getting such intimate views of their heroes." Copies of the article are available from the *Dancing Times*.



The October edition of *Dancing Times* publishes an article about the Head of the Bolshoi press office Katerina Novikova

Briefly

On September 22 at [Opernhaus Zürich](#) the opera *Več Makropulos* by Leoš Janáček (1854–1928) took place.

Director — Dmitri Tcherniakov

Music Director — Jakub Hruša

Costume designer — Elena Zaitseva

Lighting Designer — Gleb Filshtinsky

Performances also on October 6, 9, 13, 17, 22.

The main role of Emilia Marti by soprano Evelyn Herlitzius.

An interview with the director about his new production — *A Duel with Death* is available at [Opernhaus Zürich website](#).



Več Makropulos staged by Dmitri Tcherniakov

Photo / [Opernhaus Zürich](#)

Swiss media review the new production of the opera the *Več Makropulos* (Makropoulos Affair) by Leoš Janáček at the Zurich Opera staged by Dmitri Tcheriakov.

The online specialised classical music publication [ResMusica](#) (France) publishes a review by Dominique Adrian who writes: "What is attractive about Tcherniakov's work is first and foremost the high quality of the direction of the actors, which helps the excellent cast of the Zurich Opera to express all its qualities, in an opera where speech is inseparable from the music. Tcherniakov is not afraid of comedy: Sam Furness (Gregor) and Tómas Tómasson (Master Kolenatý), each in his own way, deliver by voice and acting comic portraits of irresistible efficiency." "The impression that remains is that of an effective staging, rhythmic, humorous, visually pleasing, but without a real vision of the work. Tcherniakov has a considerable theatrical know-how which is very well done, but such a work deserves a little more depth of interpretation."

The Swiss newspaper the [St Gallen Tagblatt](#) (Switz) publishes a review by Anna Karkos who writes: "At the Zurich Opera House, Evelyn Herlitzius, as Emilia Marti, initially sits with her back to the audience. The accurate

page cut — half Anna Wintour, half Mireille Mathieu — shines in the spring light, which falls through the birch leaves in front of the window in the salon. Gleaming, shimmering, magical (director Dmitri Tcherniakov designed the great stage design himself)."

The Swiss radio broadcaster [SWR2](#) (Switz) publishes a photo gallery, an article and a radio broadcast by Bernd Künzig. "At the Zurich Opera House, the much-sought-after director Dmitri Tcherniakov has re-staged the opera for the opening of the season opening, inspiring SWR2 opera editor Bernd Künzig."

[Link to the article, broadcast and the video](#)

The theme and the list of artists for the Main Project of the 8th International Moscow Biennale of Modern Art and the list of participants of the Parallel Programme were announced on October 4 at a press conference at [TASS](#).



Opera director Dmitri Tcherniakov speaks at a press conference at TASS

The Main Project of Moscow Biennale (October 31, 2019 — January 22, 2020) includes more than 50 works of 34 artists from 11 countries: Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Germany, Italy, China, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, USA, Russia France. One of the world leading museums — Albertina (Austria) — has for the first time become the partner of the Moscow Biennale.

Director Dmitri Tcherniakov, champion of the 8th Moscow Biennale of Modern Art, told [Kommersant](#) newspaper about his debut as a champion and his take on the relationships between theatre and modern art.

Leading soloist of the Bolshoi Opera, Merited Artist of Russia Igor Golovatenko appears as [Sir Richard Fort](#)

in premiere series of Bellini's *I puritani* by Laurent Pelly (performances run at Opera Bastille up to October 10).

Conductor — Riccardo Frizza

Director — Laurent Pelly

With participation of Paris Opera choir and orchestra, performed by: Elsa Dreisig as Elvira, Luc Bertin-Hugault as Lord Walter Walton, Nicolas Testé as Sir George Walton, Javier Camarena/Francesco Demuro as Lord Arthur Talbot, Jean-François Marras as Sir Bruno Robertson, Gemma Ní Bhriain as Queen Henrietta.



Jean-François Marras as Sir Bruno Robertson and Igor Golovatenko as Sir Richard Fort, *I puritani* by Bellini. Photo / [OnP](#)



On October 1-8 in Pesaro National Artist of the USSR Makvala Kasrashvili, the assistant to the Bolshoi chief

conductor and musical director, gives master-classes for the new school year 2019/20 at the International Opera Academy of Renata Tebaldi and Mario Del Monaco.

The new school year was presented by the Academy president Amerigo Varotti, artistic director Nino Lezhava and manager Lika Lezhava, [Vivere Pesaro](#) reports.

On December 5, 2019, the Bolshoi presents another joint production with the International Opera Festival in Aux-en-Provence — opera [Dido and Aeneas](#).

Conductor — Christopher Moulds

Director — Vincent Huguet.

A successful premiere of *The Rake's Progress* by Stravinsky, staged by Simon McBurney — a co-production with the International Opera Festival in Aux-en-Provence — took place recently at [Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Music Theatre](#) in Moscow.

[Kommersant](#) publishes an extensive interview with the festival's new director Pierre Audi who replaced Bernard Foccroulle, the former intendant of Aix.

[Kommersant](#) also publishes a review on the new version of [The Rake's Progress](#) "Critics noted that McBurney's *The Rake* begins where Tcherniakov's *Macbeth* ends: what was a devastating intrusion of metaphysical cosmos into the realm of human illusions is here the preliminary place-time adjuncts."

The production reviews published by:

[Vedomosti](#)

[Muzykalnaya Zhizn](#)

[MK](#)

The main role in the new version of Stravinsky's opera is sung by tenor [Bogdan Volkov](#) — the Bolshoi YOP member in 2013-15, Bolshoi Opera soloist in 2016-18.



Pierre Audi and Bogdan Volkov after the premiere of Stravinsky's opera *The Rake's Progress*

Media reported about the Russian opera prize Casta Diva awards and named the winners. "The Pro-

duction Of The Year is the opera *il Viaggio A Reims* by Rossini, staged by Italian director Damiano Michieletto at the Bolshoi," — a piece by [Rossia-K TV channel](#) (Novosti Kultury, aired September 25, 15:00; "The winners of Casta Diva opera prize announced in Moscow.")

[Rossiiskaya Gazeta](#)

[IA Oreanda-Novosti](#)

Bogdan Volkov awarded in the nomination — [The Upswing](#).

[The Telegraph](#) newspaper (UK) also publishes an article by Emma Cooke who compares Europe's cheapest and most expensive cultural city breaks. Moscow is fifth on the list comparing the cost of six cultural attractions. "The overall price of six experiences in Moscow dropped 30 per cent from last year to £161, thanks to the Bolshoi Ballet performing on the New Stage. A ticket came in at under half the price of the previous year's productions on the more expensive Bolshoi Historic Stage: £63.25 instead of £132.22. A ticket to a National Philharmonic concert in Tchaikovsky Hall also halved to £16.15."



Maestro Temirkanov opens the 99th concert season.

Photo / [Sergievskie Kuranty](#)

September 25 — Dmitry Shostakovich's birthday — St Petersburg Philharmonic traditionally opened its 99th season performing his works.

[Sergievskie Kuranty](#)

Concert series of the winners of the International Tchaikovsky Competition are held at [Mariinsky Theatre](#).

October 31 — a [concert](#), of the 1st prize winners in the Solo category — the Bolshoi YOP soloist (since 2017 mezzo soprano [Maria Barakova](#)) (she is also the 1st prize winner of the 26th International Vocal Competition named after Mikhail Glinka held in spring 2019 in Kazan) and bass Alexandros Stavrakakis (Greece). They will perform together with the Mariinsky symphony orchestra.

October 4, 5 and 6, Mikhailovsky Theatre — premiere of the ballet [La Bayadere](#) in the version by Nacho Duato (Benois prize winner). This early ballet first appeared in Mikhailovsky repertoire in 2000 in a version by Nikolai Boyarchikov. In 2012 it resumed its stage history with the production by Mikhail Messerer — he had carefully restored the Ponomarev/Chabukiani version.



Photo from a rehearsal of La Bayadere.
©Mikhailovsky Theatre



An evening with Azari Plisetsky took place in London.
Photo/[Afisha London](#)

“An extraordinary artistic pleasure awaited the guests of the evening with Azari Plisetsky who visited London in the beginning of the week,” Afisha London reports. “The renowned ballet dancer, tutor, choreographer, one of the theatrical dynasty of Plisetsky-Messerer shared the story of his troubles in life with the guests, told them about his career in ballet, about his sister Maya Plisetskaya and about his meetings with great people who had influenced his creative and spiritual evolution. ... All guests without exception could communicate with maestro personally, ask him to sign books and take photos.”

Test access to the world biggest online music encyclopaedia Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians published by [Oxford University Press](#) is open on the Net until October 18.

Russian National Library did it. The visitors can use the online encyclopaedia without limitations as well as save the articles they need in .pdf.

Grove Music Online is the world biggest online music encyclopaedia. The website appeared in 2001 as a digital version of the printed edition of Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians published since 1878.

The online encyclopaedia includes 55,000 articles and 33,000 biographies written and edited by 9,000 authors, more than 5,000 pictures and music samples.

Sad news

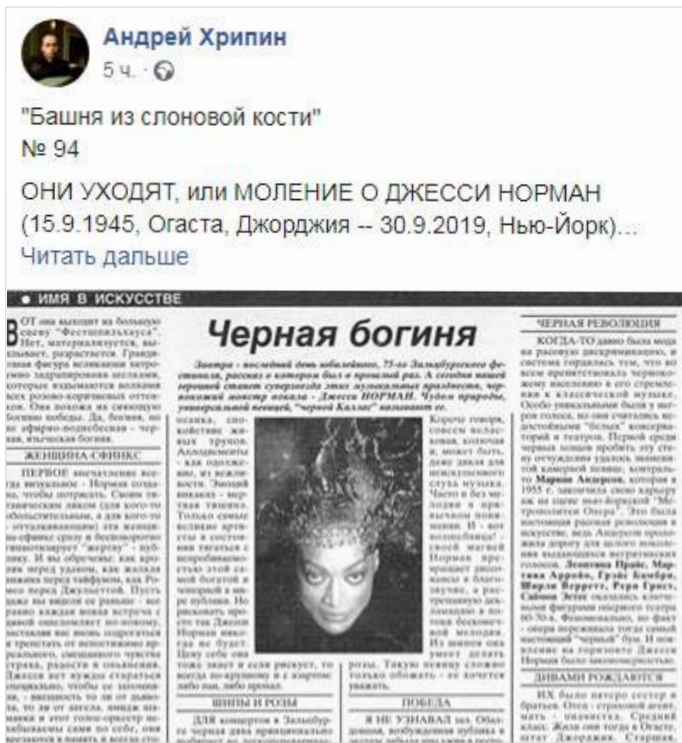


Giya Kancheli — one of the best composers of our time, pianist, tutor, National Artist of the USSR, the State Prize winner passed away on October 2. An outstanding person and a successful composer, loved by all for his famous cinema music yet first of all as a composer of symphonic and chamber music including seven symphonies, the musical comedy Khanuma' Tricks, opera Music For The Living and many other works performed by world-renowned musicians. His passing was reported by all Russian and many foreign media. You can see a conversation with him in the Enigma programme on Kultura channel via the [link](#).

Social networks

The passing of Jessie Norman is one of the main topics of social media posts in the beginning of October.

Andrei Khripin in his [Facebook](#) cycle Ivory Tower posts his old articles about the singer.



Post exchange in Instagram
by [Roberto Bolle](#) and [Svetlana Zakharova](#)

Director — Alexei Frandetti

Costumes – Viktoria Sevryn

Don't even ask me about music...!

Shared on [FB by Alexandra Durse](#)

Toyohisha Kozuki, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Japan in Russia, on [Facebook](#) on October 1: “The Order of the Rising Sun, Golden rays with sash frame, was officially awarded on behalf of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan to Director General of the Bolshoi Theatre Vladimir Urin in my residence yesterday... For me being a genuine lover of Russian Art it was the most happy day in the three years and nine months of my ambassadorial tenure in Russia!”



Toyohisha Kozuki, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Ambassador of Japan in Russia, on [Facebook](#)



Natalia Bolshakova in the focus of Valentin Perelmuter
(in ballets Chopeniana – partners Olga Likhovskaya
and Vadim Gulyaev, The Hussars Ballad, Bakti)
[Facebook](#)



Hip-hop in the Theatre Square on Dorrance Dance
[Instagram](#), the company took part
 in DanceInversion Festival

“Netrebko supported Placido Domingo after the scandal, “ ZvezdaTV channel [website](#) appreciates the singer’s post on Instagram: “Yesterday [September 25] there was Macbeth. Good job, all. Placido, we love you.”



Anna Netrebko on Instagram:
 “Yesterday there was Macbeth. Good job, all. Placido,
 we love you.”



송혜란 ▶ Ballets Russes
 27 сентября в 06:31

Tatiana Leskova

She is the great- granddaughter of the Russian writer Nikolai Leskova.

Her parents escaped to Paris during the Russian Revolution in 1917, and she was born in Paris in 1922.

Tatiana is one of last surviving pupils of dancers from the golden world of the Imperial Russian Ballet.

[Tatiana Leskova](#)



David Hallberg debut as Leontes in The Winter’s Tale
 by Christopher Wheeldon on september 29.
 Photo /Instagram



송혜란

★ Восходящая звезда - 3 октября в 12:24

Anna Pavlova , Giselle 1903



[Facebook Ballets Russes](#)

Debuts

The Winter's Tale

September 28 (12:00). Dmitry Dorokhov — Bohemian household, Shepherd/Four Shepherds

September 28 (19:00). Ana Turazashvili as Paulina

September 29. Main roles of Hermione and Leontes for the first time performed by (respectively) prima ballerina, Merited Artist of Russia Anna Nikulina and guest principal dancer David Hallberg. Dmitry Smilovsky (Grand Prix winner of the 4th All-Russia Young Dancers Competition Russian Ballet, BBA graduate of 2019, company member from the start of the season) appeared as Florizel.

Jewels

October 1. Denis Zakharov first appeared in the main role in Emeralds (leading couple), Eleonora Severnard — in the main role in Rubies (leading couple). [Ivan Poddubnyak](#) (Vaganova Academy graduate, Bolshoi Ballet member since June 2019) — Pas de trois; Polina Afanasieva, Anastasia Dedikina, Maria Pozdnyakova, Xenia Tairova (BBA (Bolshoi Ballet Academy) graduates, the Bolshoi Ballet members since July 2019) — Emeralds. Anastasia Yermolaeva, Egor Geraschenko, Eujr Khromushin — soloists in Diamonds.

October 2. Emeralds: Anastasia Goryacheva replaced Evgenia Obraztsova (Two leading couples). Antonina Chapkina — Soloist; Ekaterina Klyavlina (Gzhel Theatre Ballet School graduate, joined the company in the beginning of the season), Anton Gainutdinov — Rubies.

Ivan the Terrible

October 4. Olga Kishneva — Images of Death. Alexandra Trikoz, Antonina Chapkina — Victory Heralds

October 5 (12:00). Igor Tsvirko first appeared in the main role, Egor Geraschenko — as Prince Kurbsky. Vitaly Getmanov, Andrei Koshkin, Grigory Chapaev — Skomorokhs. Nikita Elikarov as Boyarin/Boyars

October 5 (19:00). Taimuraz Baskaev as Skomorokh/Skomorokhs

Iolanta

October 5 (12:00). [Konstantin Artemiev](#) (Bolshoi Opera trainee since July 2019) as Almerik.

October 5 (19:00). Guest soloist [Elena Guseva](#) (winner of Obraztsova International Young Opera Singers Competition in 2010, in 2011 graduated with honours from Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow (Tutor Galina Pisarenko) made her debut in the main role. Denis Makarov first appeared as King Rene. [Anastasia Lerman](#) (Bolshoi Opera trainee since April 2019) — as Brigitta.

October 6. Guest soloist [Fyodor Ataskevich](#) appeared as Vauodemont.

Servilia

October 6. Alexei Morozov first appeared as Eg-natius.

Cast alterations

The Winter's Tale

September 28, 19:00. Artem Ovcharenko replaced Denis Savin as King Leontes.

Jewels

October 1. Emeralds Anastasia Goryacheva replaced Evgenia Obraztsova (Two leading couples).

October 2. Emeralds Klim Efimov replaced David Motta Soares (Two leading couples)

Iolanta

October 5. Elchin Azizov appeared as Ibn-Hakia in the matinee performance and Alexander Kasianov — in the evening.

Birthdays

September 28 — Bolshoi prima-ballerina, ballet tutor, laureate of four Stalin Prizes and the Order of Lenin, National Artist of the USSR Olga Lepeshinskaya (1916-2008)



September 28 — National Artist of Russia Andrei Uvarov, Bolshoi Ballet soloist in 1989-2011, principal dancer, since 2011 — ballet-master, manager of the ballet company of Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre, since 2016 — acting artistic director of the ballet company.



Andrei Uvarov as Solor in The Shadows, La Bayadere.
Photo by Damir Yusupov

September 29 — Bolshoi Opera soloist, Merited Artist of Russia Marina Lapina

September 30 — National Artist of the RSFSR Nadezhda Kapustina (1907-1987), Bolshoi Ballet (1927-1959), one of the best character dancers of the company, MBS tutor (1961-1965)

October 1 — ballet dancer, Bolshoi Ballet soloist (1951-1974), the Russian University Of Theatre Arts professor, Merited Artist of Russia Yaroslav Sekh

October 2 — Bolshoi conductor-in-training Alexander Soloviev

October 3 — Bolshoi Ballet soloist (working under contract), Merited Artist of Russia Andrei Merkuriev.

October 3 — Bolshoi supernumerary manager, Merited Culture Professional of Russia Ekaterina Mironova

October 3 — Bolshoi caregiver, founder of Chereshevny Les Art Festival Mikhail Kusnirovich

October 5 — ballerina, ballet-master, National Artist of the USSR Raisa Struchkova (1925-2005)



Raisa Struchkova

October 5 — Bolshoi opera soloist Bekhzod Davronov

October 6 — Bolshoi Ballet soloist (1996-2012), deputy artistic director of Nizhegorod Ballet (since 2019) Morihiro Ivata

October 8 — Bolshoi Ballet principal dancer, Merited Artist of Russia Vladislav Lantratov



Vladislav Lantratov, Emeralds

October 8 — Bolshoi Ballet prima (1993-2017), National Artist of Russia Anna Antonicheva

10 October — director Timofei Kulyabin. He staged Don Pasquale by Donizetti at the Bolshoi in 2016 and Rusalka by Dvořák in 2019.

11 October — American choreographer and director Jerome Robbins (1918-1998). One of his most well-known works, The Cage ballet, was staged at the Bolshoi in 2017.