



# Newsletter

FOLLOWING THE DECREE BY MOSCOW MAYOR SERGEI SOBYANIN THE BOLSHOI HAS CANCELLED ALL PERFORMANCES, CONCERTS AND OTHER EVENTS AT ALL VENUES TILL APRIL 10. TOURS OF ALL FOREIGN AND RUSSIAN PERFORMERS ARE CANCELLED AS WELL. THE THEATRE WILL CONTINUE THE REHEARSAL PROCESS HAVING RESTRUCTURED IT SO THAT THERE WILL NOT BE MORE THAN 50 PERSONS IN A ROOM AT A TIME.

THE REIMBURSEMENT ORDER WAS ANNOUNCED ON MARCH 17, 2020, ON THE THEATRE'S WEBSITE.

## TICKET REFUND FOR CANCELLED PERFORMANCES

March 7 and 8, the Historic Stage — the concert version of [Mazeppa](#) by Tchaikovsky, libretto by Viktor Burenin based on Alexander Pushkin's poem Poltava. The composer created the opera in 1881-83, and it was first staged on February 15, 1884 at the Bolshoi in Moscow (conductor — Ippolit Altani, director — Anton Bartsal, designers Matvei Shishkov and Mikhail Bocharov, choreographer — Lev Ivanov). Main roles:

Mazeppa — Gevorg Akobyan (March 7), Elchin Azizov (March 8);

Kochubei — Stanislav Trofimov (March 7), Denis Makarov (March 8); Lyubov — Nadezhda Serdyuk (March 7), Agunda Kulueva (March 8); Maria — Evgenia Muravieva (March 7), Anna Nechaeva (March 8);

Andrei — Dmitry Golovnin (March 7 and 8).

The concert version of the opera *Mazeppa* was supposed to be performed in March within the Bolshoi Choir and Orchestra tour in France — at the Halle aux Grains in Toulouse as part of the 2nd edition of Musicales Franco-Russes Festival and the programme Les Grands Interprètes on March 10; also on March 14 at Pierre Boulez Grand Hall of Paris Philharmonic within the programme Moscow Weekend. Sadly, following the French authorities' instruction to cancel all mass events for more than 1000 participants the Bolshoi tour in France (Paris and Toulouse) March 10-15 was cancelled.



The Bolshoi presented the concert version of *Mazeppa* by Tchaikovsky at the Historic Stage on March 7 and 8.  
Photo by Mikhail Logvinov and Damir Yusupov

March 7-9, the Chamber Stage — the premiere of the new staging of the children's opera [The Little Sweep](#) by Benjamin Britten Libretto by Eric Crozier.

The opera was first presented to the audience in Russian in 1979 at Moscow Chamber Music Theatre of Boris Pokrovsky as *Let's Make an Opera* (Stage Director — Arne Mikk, Conductor — Vladimir Agronsky).

The author of the new version, [Oleg Dolin](#) also acted as Stage Director and Set Designer.

‘Since it was my first experience in opera I thought it was important to move Benjamin Britten’s music forward, to make it leading us, waking up our fantasy, to create a somewhat British atmosphere yet heard through our Russian ear,’ the director of the new production Oleg Dolin says (TASS.) According to him, a child hears music more acutely than an adult. ‘We did our best to make the production serious, without any ingratiation. I think, it is good to take a young creature by the hand and lead them to an interesting place that they would find educational and not boring’.

The Little Sweep Creates Opera — [see more about Oleg Dolin's production.](#)

Next performances of the new production on May 30 and 31, matinee and evening.

Music Director — [Ayrat Kashaev](#)  
 Costume Designer — [Evgenia Panfilova](#)  
 Lighting Designer — [Narek Tumanyan](#)



[Photo from the premiere](#) by Pavel Rychkov

The opera is performed in Russian and in English.  
[Performance details](#)

On March 14 and 15 Escola do Teatro Bolshoi no Brasil marked its 20th anniversary with ballet performances — The Nutcracker (March 14) and Don Quixote (March 15.) [Escola do Teatro Bolshoi no Brasil](#) is the first and the only school the theatre has opened beyond Russia's borders.

For 20 years the school in Joinville has been replenishing the ranks of renowned ballet companies throughout the world. Some of its best graduates are dancing at the Bolshoi for several seasons already — [Erick Swolkin](#) (Graduated in 2008, tutors Alexander Pshenitsyn, Denis Nevidomy) and [Bruna Cantanhede Gaglianone](#) (graduated in 2009, tutor Galina Kravchenko). They took part in celebrations with today's students.

The Bolshoi deputy director Sergei Maksimenko took part in the formal celebration.

The idea of opening the Bolshoi School in South America belongs to the outstanding dancer [Alexander Bogatyryov](#) (1949-1998). The world ballet star [Vladimir Vasiliev](#) fulfilled his friend's idea together with the Mayor of Joinville and later governor and senator Luiz Henrique da Silveira.

National Artist of the USSR ballerina and tutor [Ekaterina Maximova](#) (1939-2009) took part in the opening of the ballet school in Joinville. In 2004 Vladimir Vasiliev and Ekaterina Maximova became an officer of the Ordem de Rio Branco awarded by the president of Brazil for diplomatic achievements.

[Galina Kravchenko](#) (1943-2018) — Alexander Bogatyryov' widow, former soloist of the Bolshoi Ballet (1964-1985) became the head master of the Escola do Teatro Bolshoi no Brasil and an Honourary Freeman of Join-

ville (2013.) Among Galina Kravchenko's graduates - the Bolshoi Ballet dancers [Mariana Gomes](#), the first Brazilian dancer to join the company (rehearses under Svetlana Adyrkhaeva).

Galina Kozlova, [Anna Russkikh](#), Lyudmila Sinelnikova, Nina Speranskaya, Dmitry Afanasiev, [Dmitry Rykhlov](#) (1973-2019), Larissa de Ahaucho, Sabrina Lermen, Carolina Mansur, Maria Spadari, Tatiana Trefvisoli, Emilio Martins, Jair Moraes, Alessandra Hilario and others who work or have worked as tutors-repetiteurs at Escola do Teatro Bolshoi no Brasil.

Pavel Kazaryan is the long-time headmaster of the school. The president of the School Council Dr Valdir Steglich is a doctor and the head of Injury Treatment and Orthopedics Center in Joinville.



## Events

March 3, 4, 5, 6, the Historic Stage — [Il Viaggio A Reims](#) by Gioacchino Rossini.



Il Viaggio A Reims by Gioacchino Rossini at the Historic Stage — March 3-6. Photo by Damir Yusupov



Conductor — Music Director Tugan Sokhiev (all days).

The opera is a co-production with Dutch National Opera (Amsterdam), Royal Danish Opera (Copenhagen) and Opera Australia (Sidney). The premiere of the production took place at the Dutch National Opera on January 20, 2015 and at the Bolshoi Theatre on December 12, 2018.

See more in the article [Coronation Will Be Held in Any Weather!](#)

[The details of guest stars' debut](#) performances on March 4 and 6 — Tuuli Takala (La Contessa di Folleville), Pietro Adaíni (Il Conte di Libenskof).

#### [Casts](#)

March 10 and 11, the Historic Stage — the ballet by to the music by Ludwig Minkus [Don Quixote](#), choreography by Marius Petipa, Alexander Gorsky, choreographic version of 2016 by Alexei Fadeyev.



Ivan Vasiliev as Basilio (photo by Ekaterina Vladimirova);  
Margarita Shrayner as Kitri  
(photo by Photenia Christophilopulu)



Igor Tsvirko as Basilio (photo/Instagram); Anna Nikulina  
as Kitri (photo from curtain calls after her debut  
in this role on January 12, 2018/ forum.balletfriends.ru)

The main roles of Kitri and Basilio:

March 10 — Anna Nikulina and Igor Tsvirko;

March 11 — Margarita Shrayner and Ivan Vasiliev.

Conductor — Pavel Klinichev (March 10), Alexei Bogorad (March 11).

#### [Casts](#)



March 10 and 11 - Don Quixote at the Historic Stage.  
Photo by Damir Yusupov

March 13, the Historic Stage — the opera [Attila](#) (1846) by Giuseppe Verdi, Bashkir State Opera and Ballet Theatre production — the directorial debut of Grammy and Golden Mask winner, opera singer Ildar Abdrazakov.

Music Director and Conductor — Artem Makarov

The premiere was on April 27, 2019.

Main roles performed by:

Attila: Ildar Abdrazakov

Odabella: Veronika Dzhioeva

Foresto: Vladimir Orfeyev

Ezio: Vasily Ladyuk

Leone: Artur Kaipkulov

Uldino: Aydar Khayrullin.

The choir, orchestra, ballet and children opera studio of Bashkir State Opera and Ballet Theatre took part in the performance.



Vasily Ladyuk as Ezio and Ildar Abdrazakov as Attila.  
Photo by Marina Mikhailova

The Bashkir Theatre's only tour at the Bolshoi took place 65 years ago, in 1955, within the Decade of Bashkir Art and Literature; the opera Salavat Yulaev was performed five times then. Later on, artists of the Bashkir

theatre performed only separate numbers on stage of the Bolshoi.

[Attila on Bashkir State Opera and Ballet Theatre website](#)

March 14 and 15, the Historic Stage — [Spartacus](#) by Aram Khachaturyan, in Yuri Grigorovich's version. The premiere took place on April 9, 1968. Set Designer — Simon Virsaladze.



Spartacus - the Bolshoi Ballet principal dancer Denis Rodkin (March 14, photo by Mikhail Logvinov) and the Bolshoi Ballet guest soloist Ivan Vasiliev (March 15, photo by Elena Fetisova)

Conductor — Alexey Bogorad. [Casts](#)

The production is to be presented within the Bolshoi Opera and Ballet tour at Ljubljana Festival in Slovenia on July 6 and 7, 2020. The tour programme includes a gala with the participation of opera, choir and ballet soloists (July 8) and The Queen of Spades by Tchaikovsky (July 9 and 10).

Also, Spartacus will be presented as part of the Bolshoi tour in Japan in November-December, 2020.

March 7 and 8, the New Stage — [Artifact Suite](#) by William Forsythe to music by Eva Crossman-Hecht and Johann Sebastian Bach.

The premiere at the Bolshoi was on November 20, 2018 — the ballet is nominated for the Golden Mask-2020 as The Best Production.

[Casts](#)

Conductor - Pavel Sorokin.

[Carmen Suite](#) by Alberto Alonso to music by Georges Bizet and Rodion Shchedrin .

[Casts](#)

Conductor — Anton Grishanin.

[The Bolshoi productions – nominated for the Golden Mask -2020](#)



The couple — Anastasia Stashkevich and Vyacheslav Lopatin, photo by Damir Yusupov from the premiere of Artifact Suite



Svetlana Zakharova and Denis Rodkin in Carmen Suite in the evening March 7 and matinee March 8. Photo by Mikhail Logvinov

March 11-14, the New Stage — performance series of [Dido and Aeneas](#) by Henry Purcell, the premiere of the 244 season (December 5-8, 2019.)



Aeneas — Jacques Imbrailo [Dido and Aeneas](#) by Purcell at the New Stage — December 11-14 Photo by Damir Yusupov



Libretto by Nahum Tate based on Book IV of Virgil's Aeneid.

[The new text of the Prologue by Maylis de Kerangal](#)

The opera is the third co-production by the Bolshoi and Aix-en-Provence International Opera Festival (France). The premiere was at the festival on July 7, 2018.

Conductor — [Christopher Moulds](#) (all days)

Director — [Vincent Huguet](#)

Set Designer — [Aur lie Maestre](#)

Costume Designer — [Caroline de Vivaise](#)

Lighting Designer — [Bertrand Coudere](#)

Chief Chorus Master — [Valery Borisov](#)

[The performance details](#)

Performance in English.

Debuts in the main role of Dido — Mariann Beata Killand (March 11, 12, 14, 15) and Daria Telyatnikova (March 13).

[See more](#)

[Casts](#)

Rehearsals of Dido and Aeneas at the Bolshoi — on the theatre [YouTube channel](#)



Vyacheslav Samodurov (above) and Anton Pimonov (below) at rehearsals of their new ballets.

Photo by Katerina Novikova

The Bolshoi continue to prepare the programme of one-act ballets Seasons/Dancemania/Made in Bolshoi. The premiere will be at the Bolshoi New Stage on March 26. Choreographers [Vyacheslav Samodurov](#) directs the

ballet [Dancemania](#); the music was specially created by the prominent modern Russian composer Yuri Krasavin.

Set Designer — Alexei Kondratiev.

Costume Designer — Anastasia Nefyodova.

Lighting Designer — Anton Pomorev.

Choreographer [Anton Pimonov](#) stages [Made in Bolshoi](#) to music by Anatoly Korolyov.

Set Designers — Nastya Travkina, Sergei Zhdanov.

Costume Designer — Tatiana Noginova.

Lighting Designer — Konstantin Binkin.



Artemy Belyakov with Anton Stikhin (lighting designer) and Anna Kostrikova (set and costume designer).

Photo/[Instagram](#)

The ballet to the music by Alexander Glazunov's [Les Saisons](#) (1900) is staged by the Bolshoi principal dancer [Artemy Belyakov](#) (in 2015 graduated with honours from the Bolshoi Ballet Academy, Ballet-Master Department, profile Choreographer's Art, professor Mikhail Lavrovsky).

Set and Costume Designer — Anna Kostrikova.

Conductor — Anton Grishanin.

March 12 and 14 — Bolshoi Theatre Young Artists Opera Program concert [Anthology of Russian Classical Romance. Sergei Rachmaninov. Part 3.](#)

[See more](#)

Piano — Lyubov Orfyonova, Alexander Shirokov, Valeria Prokofieva, Mikhail Korshunov.



Nikolai Zemlyanskikh performs a piece From Gospel of John at the concert on March 12. Piano — Lyubov Orfyonova and Valeria Prokofieva. Photo by Pavel Rychkov

The idea of the Anthology of Russian Classical Romance concert series belongs to Lyubov Orfyonova — concert-master, tutor consultant of the Bolshoi Youth Opera Program, Merited Artist of Russia, daughter of the Bolshoi Opera soloist, tenor [Anatoly Orfyonov](#).

[See more about the concert programme](#)

The concert The Flame of Love Abiding. A Vocal Cycle by Boris Akimov to poems by Ivan Turgenev was added to Beethoven Hall schedule on April 15. Love lyrics took a special part in the works by Turgenev. Boris Akimov took selected works by Turgenev as a base and created the vocal cycle. National Artist of the USSR Boris Akimov, a prominent dancer and tutor, has written music for many years already, holds musical-poetic evenings (besides his main job). He has issued a DVD of songs to lyrics by Sergei Esenin. [Tickets](#)



Ballet Master-Repetiteur Boris Akimov at the press conference timed to coincide with his 50th professional anniversary, 2016.  
Photo by Vladimir Astapkovich

The first 2020 edition of [Bolshoi Theatre magazine](#), dedicated to recent premieres — Giselle, Dido and Aeneas, Sadko, The YOP 10th anniversary — and other upcoming ones.



[Bolshoi Theatre 2020. Ed 1](#) (\*.pdf)

The Bolshoi Theatre will congratulate Novosibirsk Opera Ballet on their 75th anniversary — from April 4 to 10 there will be a [massive tour](#) of the opera and ballet companies of the Bolshoi with accompaniment of the orchestra in Novosibirsk. Novosibirsk Opera and Ballet Theatre was opened on May 12, 1945. Novosibirsk will host about 300 artists.

The tour will open on April 4 with an opera gala including the Bolshoi soloists Anna Aglatova, Agunda Kulaeva, Igor Golovatenko, Mikhail Kazakov.

Also the tour programme includes the ballet Ivan the Terrible by Sergei Prokofiev, choreography by Yuri Grigorovich, April 6 and 7.

On April 9 and 10 the tour will continue with performances of the ballet Onegin by John Cranko. Conductor for both ballets — Pavel Sorokin.

The New Stage foyer opened an exhibition timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of opera singer and National Artist of the USSR Ivan Krause (February 29,



1920 — December 26, 2003.) The outstanding bass sang at the Bolshoi in 1943-1970, having performed more than 40 roles in total. The talent of Ivan Krause did not limit itself to music, he also was a brilliant tutor. In his later years, he worked as a vocal consultant with the Bolshoi Opera. He took part in Tchaikovsky, Glinka, Rachmaninov and Chaliapin Music Competitions as a chairman, vice chairman and member of the jury. Being a member of the International Union of Music Professionals he took part in music competitions in France, Greece, Switzerland and Romania. The memory of the artist was preserved in his book *A Quarter of Century with the Bolshoi. Life, Work, Contemplations*. The exhibition at the Bolshoi will run till the end of April.



On March 27, the International Theatre Day, the Bolshoi will host the traditional awards ceremony of the Golden Mask special prize — For Outstanding Contributions to Development of Theatre Art.



Nikolai Fadeyev and Galina Ulanova in *Les Sylphides* ballet (postcard of 1962)

National Artist of the USSR, ballet master-repetiteur of the Bolshoi [Nikolai Fadeyev](#) is among of this year's laureates. The total number of the nominees for the prize For Outstanding Contributions to Development of Theatre Art is 14 persons.

The prize winners were announced at the meeting of the [RF Union of Theatre Professionals Secretariat](#) in the end of the previous year.

## Press analysis:

### Russian mass media

Main media covered the premiere performance of *Mazeppa* (concert version) at the Historic Stage on March 7 and 8.

[Rossia TV channel](#) broadcast a report on March 10 in the *Vesti-Moskva* programme: "A long awaited premiere at the Bolshoi — *Mazeppa* by Pyotr Tchaikovsky is there again. The grand production features almost all the choir and orchestra under the baton of the theatre's chief conductor Tugan Sokhiev."

[NEWSmuz.com](#): *Mazeppa* by Tchaikovsky performed at the Bolshoi. The article included the libretto and forms the conclusion that the concert performance of the opera has shown that the rich musical material of the opera is worth a full-scale stage production at the Bolshoi.

Media report about the premiere of *The Little Sweep* at the Pokrovsky Chamber Stage on March 7-9, mentioning that the public could for the first time hear the opera in the original. Also they quote the director Oleg Dolin about the production (this work at the Chamber Stage was his first experience with opera) and the opinion of the conductor Airat Kashaev concerning perception of Britten's music by children.

[TASS](#): "The conductor Airat Kashaev believes that Britten's music may seem difficult to perform and perceive yet, surprisingly, children learn and play it easily. 'First of all it is due to the composer's mastery, he knew quite well with whom and for whom he was working. An opera can be written specially for children and it does not mean it becomes primitive. A child sees lies more acutely, they feel it with their heart.' /.../ according to Kashaev, a foreign language in the opera will not be become a problem for young audience. /.../

Sets and costumes by Evgenia Panfilova play a special role in the production. She created memorable images of the hero's best friends. /.../ One of the three

performers of the role of the authoritative housekeeper Miss Baggott (Ekaterina Bolshakova) mentioned that the artist invented a unique image for each actress. ...”

#### Rossia-K TV channel March 6:

“Little actors look more like prisoners in those striped costumes. Their characters live in a special prison-like institution for children with superpowers. And their tutors are more like wardens. The production director Oleg Dolin ... seems to drag out all children’s fears and nightmares. /.../

Members of the Bolshoi Children’s Studio – which has existed since 1979 – perform in the opera together with professional singers. Leon Avtaev (11) has not studied music long yet he has only been in the studio for a year. It did not prevent him from getting the main part of Sam. /.../

The story is very English, a kind of scary tale with no happy end. Escaping one form of bondage children get into another kind of slavery – they become artists in a tent circus. And that shows the whole soul of Britten.”

#### ClassicalMusicNews.ru – republication

Also on the evening air – an interview with the director Oleg Dolin.



The Little Sweep at the Bolshoi / [Rossia-K](#)

The interview with the production director of the opera

The Little Sweep Oleg Dolin / [Rossia-K](#)

Music in Events programme about the premiere of Britten’s children’s opera at the chamber stage and the concert performance of Mazeppa by Tchaikovsky at the Historic Stage, March 7 on [Radio Rossii](#).

Also on the same programme a report about the opera Attila by Verdi in the version of the Bashkir Opera Ballet on March 13 at the Bolshoi Historic Stage; director and performer of the main role Ildar Abdrazakov.

Speaking about The Little Sweep “It is the second opera by Benjamin Britten for the conductor Airat Kashaev,” the online publication [Dialog Kultur](#) reports. “The Prodigal Son staged in 2013 was the first. I consider

Britten to be one of the most outstanding composers of the 20th century, I am lucky,” maestro says.”

“Children play the main roles in this opera,” Oleg Dolin says. “They worked along with adults. And I see how much they have grown up in this production. It was very interesting to work with them.”

“For Leon Avtaev (11) the part of Sam did not present any particular difficulties. He felt what to do in this or that moment. ‘My character is tender, sensitive, vulnerable. I have been to Pokrovsky Theatre many times. When my Dad showed me the casting ad I agreed to take part in it. And now I am Sam.’”



The premiere of the new staging of the children’s opera

[The Little Sweep](#) by Benjamin Britten took place at the Bolshoi Chamber Stage on March 7-9.

Photo by Pavel Rychkov

[Rossiiskaya Gazeta](#) publishes a review by Maria Babalova: “The Little Sweep is a creepy and a very English fairytale.” The critic thinks that the director Oleg Dolin emphasises the mystical, frightening subtext of Britten’s music too much. Next time the opera will be performed at the New Stage on May 30 and 31.



Photo from M.ART page on [Facebook](#)

On March 3 the Bolshoi Youth Opera Program has for the first time performed at the historic stage of



Tel Aviv Opera accompanied by Israeli Symphonic Orchestra of Rishon Le Zion within the festival of Russian culture M.ART (February 20-March 7); Conductor — Alexander Soloviev.

#### [Rossia K TV channel](#)

Sergei Pashkov: “The Bolshoi young singers who have already conquered European stages and won the most prestigious international competitions have for the first time appeared on the stage of Tel Aviv Opera. Gounod, Puccini and of course Tchaikovsky. From the very beginning the performance of The Bolshoi young voices in Tel Aviv, a city of music fans, was bound to be a success. This form of art works without words, although the lyrics of Lensky’s aria from Eugene Onegin many in the audience whispered together with the singer.”

On March 7 the head of the Bolshoi YOP Dmitry Vdovin was a guest of the weekly programme Telescope on [Kultura channel](#):

The organiser of M.ART Festival Sofia Kapkova said in her interview in [Teatral magazine](#) that, for her, the most important project of the next edition of the festival will be the Bolshoi season at the main venue of Israeli Opera on March 27 and 28, 2021. “We will present the ballet A Hero of Our Time by Kirill Serebrennikov in Tel Aviv.”

The Bolshoi tour in France was cancelled due to corona virus [TASS](#) announced on March 9, referring to the Bolshoi General Director Vladimir Urin:

“Our French partners called us and said that the Paris Philharmonic where the Bolshoi artists were supposed to perform was closing because its hall has up to 2400 seats. The Halle Aux Grains in Toulouse where we also were to perform hosts 2500 spectators. Everything is closed, performances, concerts and other massive events involving more than 1000 people are cancelled. We managed to call all participants of the supposed French tour, and today the Bolshoi has not left for Paris...” Video reports by:

[Rossia-K](#)

[RT in Russian](#)

[OTR](#)

[Mir24](#)

[Mir24](#)

[RenTV](#) and other channels.

Muzykalnoe Obozrenie gives special notice to the Bolshoi’s achievements in 2019. According to the publication. The best ballet production of the year was Giselle by Adolphe Adam staged by Alexei Ratmansk. The premiere was at the Historic Stage in November 2019. Conductor – Pavel Klinichev.

Muzykalnoe Obozrenie pronounced the 20th international Contemporary Dance Festival DanceInversion

(September 10 — November 3, 2019) to be the festival of the year. Artistic Director and Producer Irina Chernomurova.



[Muzykalnoe Obozrenie](#) announced the winners of its 2019 prize

[Kommersant](#) announced the performance of Dido and Aeneas at the Bolshoi New Stage (March 12-14): “This opera resembles love we discover in our youth. It is very cruel, strong and rushing,” French director Vincent Huguet said about the opera by Henry Purcell when presenting it at the International Opera Festival in Aix-en-Provence and then transferring it to the Bolshoi last December. Following the trend of modern European theatre the director moves the legend of passionate love, revenge and death to contemporary times. His Aeneas is no god, just a man, up to the average, and still he chooses duty: “The great man hath left Carthage”. Dido is possessive and vengeful, she does not care for children or propagation — only Aeneas matters, yet he leaves and she kills herself by drinking poison. The role of Dido is sung by a Norwegian mezzo soprano Marianne Beate Lielland, Aeneas — South-African baritone Jacques Imbraillo and his Moscow colleague Alexander Miminoshvili. Even if you do not resonate with the directors interpretation, the conductor, Christopher Moulds will never fail your expectations.”



Gayane Babajanyan as Sorceress, Dido and Aeneas.  
Photo by Damir Yusupov

[Metro](#) newspaper announces the upcoming tour of the Bolshoi in Novosibirsk. From April 4 to 10 the Bolshoi opera and ballet companies with the orchestra of the

country's main theatre will perform in Novosibirsk. About 300 artists will come from Moscow. "In this jubilee season the world's best ballet company and first-class opera stars come to congratulate us. We are happy to welcome our colleagues from the capital with their rich and interesting programme. In summer 2019, Novosibirsk Opera Ballet has successfully toured at the Bolshoi Historic Stage, and now wait for our Moscow guests with all out heart," the artistic director of Novosibirsk Opera Ballet Vladimir Kekhman said.

The opera *Attila* by Verdi in the version of the Bashkir Opera Ballet for the first time at the Bolshoi Historic Stage — [Rossiiskaya Gazeta](#).

[Colta.ru](#) mentions that the production of the Bashkir Opera Ballet *Attila* was included in the long list of Russian national theatre awards The Golden Mask, the performers were nominated for the national theatre award with Onegin.

[Orpheus](#)

[IA Bashinform](#)

[Moskovsky Komsomolets](#)

The Bolshoi is mentioned in media many times due to a memorial day — the premiere of *Swan Lake* by Pyotr Tchaikovsky took place at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow on March 4 — 143 years ago. The choreographer was Václav Reisinger. [SM-news.ru](#): How *Swan Lake* Happened To Glorify Russia

[Parlamentskaya Gazeta](#)

And more than 20 online publications ”.

A documentary Galina Ulanova. The Goddess's Earthly Life timed to coincide with the 110th anniversary of the birth of the great Russian ballerina was shown on [TV Centr](#) channel on March 8. From the announcement: "Until the last moment she kept living as if the eyes of thousands were watching only her. Out of earshot they called her Ice Queen, deep in her own mysterious world and not very keen to leave it for those who were not allowed in there. She spoke about herself: 'I am not great at all, it is just how my life and fate were going. I am an ordinary person and I want to stay myself.' And she stayed herself, taking all her secrets with her."

A soloist of Novosibirsk Opera, guest soloist of the Bolshoi and several foreign theatres Veronika Dzhioeva gave an interview to the Shostakovich Philharmonic [YouTube channel](#) as a part of the 20th International Winter Festival Arts' Square. Sankt-Peterburg TV Channel.

In their March-April edition the magazine *Ballet* publishes a number of articles related to the Bolshoi —

*Contemplations After The Premiere Of Giselle At The Bolshoi*, a few articles timed to coincide with Vladimir Vasiliev's birthday (the choreographer will celebrate his 80th birthday on April 18.) The magazine also publishes a big photo gallery — choreographic productions, ballet, sketches, the maestro's paintings. On the project *Modanse* by the Bolshoi prima Svetlana Zakharova (the programme includes two one-act ballets — *Comme un respiro* and *Gabriele Chanel*.)



The magazine [Ballet](#) publishes a few articles timed to coincide with Vladimir Vasiliev's upcoming 80th birthday on April 18

April 6, the Historic Stage — a gala Viva la Vita of Podari Zhizn Foundation.

[Expert](#) magazine "For one evening the world's best opera singers and ballet dancers will gather on the stage. They will be accompanied by the symphony orchestra under the baton of maestro Dmitri Korchak. The evening's director — Kirill Serebrennikov, hosts — Podari Zhizn co-founder Chulpan Khamatova and the foundation sponsor Rinal Mukhametov. Choreography part by Yuri Possokhov and Maxim Petrov. Ballerina Diana Vishneva will also take part in the concert. All money from ticket sales will go to the treatment of sick children — charges of Podari Zhizn Foundation. The Bolshoi lends them its Historic Stage for free."

## Press analysis:

international mass media

[France Musique](#) publishes an article by Guillaume Decalf who announces concert cancellations due to Corona Virus. "In Toulouse, Tugan Sokhiev's concert at





**Grands Interprètes, Toulouse**  
8 МИЛ. · 🌐

## info Annulation BOLCHOÏ

Madame, Monsieur,

Les directives du gouvernement concernant l'interdiction des rassemblements de 1000 personnes nous imposent l'annulation des concerts du 10, 11 et 12 mars de l'Orchestre et du Chœur du Théâtre Bolchoï de Russie.

Grands Interprètes vous remercie de vos messages de soutien face à cette situation inédite pour nous tous.

**Vous avez le choix entre : le report sur un autre concert de la saison, faire don de vos places au profit des Grands Interprètes en bénéficiant d'une déduction fiscale, ou le remboursement des billets**

**En cas de report :** merci de nous contacter par mail sur [contact@grandsinterpretes.com](mailto:contact@grandsinterpretes.com) pour nous faire connaître votre choix de concert.

**En cas de don :** merci de nous faire parvenir les billets du concert, un reçu fiscal vous sera envoyé (déduction fiscale de 66% du montant du don) exemple : un don de 50€ ➔ coût réel après réduction d'impôt : 17€

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Notre adresse : Les Grands Interprètes - 61 rue de la pomme - 31000 Toulouse.

Nous vous remercions de votre compréhension.

[Facebook](#) of Les Grands Interprètes programme on cancellation of concerts on March 10-12 in Toulouse

the Halle aux Grains, with the orchestra and choir of the Bolshoi Theatre as part of the Franco-Russian Musicales, scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, is cancelled.”

[La Depeche](#) (France) publishes an article by Jean-Marc Le Scouarnec about Corona virus cancellations “And to be saddened to see the Franco-Russian Musicales deprived of the appearance of the orchestra of the Bolshoi Theatre, conducted by Tugan Sokhiev, from March 10 to 12. The government’s decision to ban gatherings of more than 1,000 people to prevent the spread of the coronavirus is already starting to have an impact in the entertainment sector.”

[La Depeche](#), Jean-Marc Le Scouarnec. “Following the ban, from now until April 15, of gatherings of more than 1,000 spectators, the postponements and cancellations of shows continue.” Cancelled “the orchestra and the choir of the Bolshoi Theatre, which were to perform, from Tuesday to Thursday evening, as part of the Franco-Russian Musicales. Organiser of these concerts, the association Les Grands Interprètes has set up three compensation formulas: the transfer to another concert of the season, the reimbursement of seats or the donation of tickets to the Grands Interprètes, benefiting from a deduction fiscal.”

[Platea Magazine](#)  
[Actu.fr](#)  
[Olyrix](#)

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

The local newspaper [Grass Valley Union](#) (CA USA) announces the upcoming screening of Bolshoi’s Swan Lake in local cinemas

[Albany Times Union](#) (New York USA) announces the upcoming screening of Bolshoi’s Swan Lake in local cinemas

The March edition of the specialized dance magazine Dance Europe (DE) publishes several articles connected to Russian ballet.

DE publishes a brief news announcing the YAGP Stars of Today Meet Stars of Tomorrow gala at the David H Koch Theatre at Lincoln Centre on 16 April. Guest artists will include Diana Vishneva.

DE publishes brief news announcing that the planning 29th International Ballet Competition at Varna scheduled to take place in July 2020 has been cancelled due to lack of funds.

DE publishes brief news about Alexei Ratmanský’s new ballet Of Love and Rage for American Ballet Theatre, which premiered at the Segerstrom Centre for the Arts in California from 5-8 March. The ballet is set to music by Aram Khachaturian with arrangements by Philip Feeney.



A YouTube video with Alexei Ratmanský — for the premiere Of Love and Rage in ABT (March 5-8)

[The Los Angeles Times](#) publishes an article by Jordan Riefe about Alexei Ratmanský’s new ballet Of Love and Rage. “After 12 years as artist-in-residence at American Ballet Theatre, choreographer Alexei Ratmanský is making his first long-form ballet for the company: Of Love and Rage, which premieres Thursday (5 March) at Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa before

travelling to New York in June as part of ABT's 80th anniversary season." "With composer Aram Khachaturian's score, which consists mostly of selections from his second ballet, the 1941 *Gayane*." The article includes an interview with Ratmansky.

**Voice of OC** (CA USA) publishes a review by Laura Bleiberg of the premiere of Alexei Ratmansky's new production

[Of Love and Rage on ABT website](#)

The specialised dance publications **Pointe Magazine/Dance Magazine** (USA) publishes an article by Jennifer Stahl about David Hallberg's plans for the Australian Ballet when he takes over as Artistic Director there. In the article Hallberg mentions: "I'm not going to try to make The Australian Ballet into another company that I spent time with. Thankfully, there's only one Bolshoi Ballet, there's only one Royal Ballet, and there's only one Australian Ballet. I can't deny the tips I've picked up at the Bolshoi with coaches there or the Mariinsky or ABT."

The Spanish online specialised dance news publication **Danza and Danza** publishes the news that David Hallberg will take over as artistic director of the Australian Ballet in January 2021. ! Hallberg has not yet announced his future as a dancer. It is known that he has some commitments set in 2021 and that he will bid farewell to ABT in next year's spring season."



Kristina Mkhitarian. Photo from the singer's [Instagram](#)

The French online specialised opera news publication **Forum Opera** (France) publishes a Q&A by Laurent Bury with Russian opera star Kristina Mkhitarian "I would like to return to the Bolshoi, where I feel at home and where I sang about fifteen roles when I started. In

fact, when your career starts in the West, you sign contracts two or three years in advance, while in Bolshoi, they don't plan beyond a year. So when they make proposals to me, I must always refuse because I am already taken elsewhere. Nevertheless, I was able to do *Traviata* in Moscow last year, in a wonderful production by Francesca Zambello."

The English language Moscow based daily online news publication **Moscow Times** publishes an article titled "Planning Your Visit To Bolshoi Theatre. When living in Moscow, this is a must go. At least one time. The building is an incredible beauty in itself and has a unique grandeur. And the performances are at the top of world-class. Do not let high prices and the necessity to buy tickets long in advance scare you. Your experience will be worth it!" The article includes several large photos of the Bolshoi Theatre.



David Hallberg at the meeting with the Australian Ballet on March 5. The dancer's photo on [Instagram](#)

**AFP** (Agence France Presse) publishes a long article about the ballet shoe makers Grishko. (The article is republished in many international media including the Phnom Penh Post — Cambodia) "Founded in the chaos



of the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Grishko family business has emerged as one of the top ballet shoe makers in the world. When he launched the business, Russia's big theatres like the Bolshoi had their own in-house workshops making pointes. That tradition is now gone, but the expertise built up over centuries lives on in his company.

"I took the best of the tradition of Russian pointes, which have been made since the end of the 19th century. This tradition was passed on in the theatre workshops but practically disappeared after the fall of the Soviet Union" in 1991, says the Ukrainian-born Grishko."

## Briefly

The creators of the ballet *Paquita* from the Ekaterinburg Theatre of opera and ballet Pavel Gershenzon (author of the idea and coordinator), Vyacheslav Samodurov (choreographer and director of the show) and Yuri Krasavin (composer, author of the orchestral transcription) are amongst the winners of a prize for cultural works, given out by the government of the Russian Federation. Report by [Muzykalnoye Obozrenie](#).

[More about the performance](#)

[Oblastnoye teledidenye](#)



*Paquita. Pas de sept.* Play by Sergei Vikharev and Vyacheslav Samodurov. Ural Ballet (Ekaterinburg), 2018.  
Photo: Olga Kereluk

The pianist Boris Berezovsky has also been awarded a government prize, as well as workers of the State Institute of Art Studies, who worked on a 6 volume book — Telyakovsky. *Dnevnik direktora Imperatorskikh teatrov. 1913-1917.*

The 7th Trans-Siberian Festival, founded and led by Vadim Repin, will go on from March to October of

2020. On March 5, 6 and 7 there were concerts within the international cultural project Russian Seasons at the Palais de la musique et des Congrès at Strasbourg. The concerts served as a sort of prologue for the international forum. Events of the Russian forum will go on from March 20 until April 18 at Novosibirsk, Krasnoyarsk, Moscow, Saint-Petersburg and cities of the Novosibirsk Oblast and Krasnoyarsk Krai.

On March 21 Svetlana Zakharova, Denis Rodkin, Vyacheslav Lopatin, Denis Savin and Jacopo Tissi will present within the festival the programme called *Pas De Deux For Toes And Fingers* along with the Novosibirsk Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra. Vadim Repin will play the violin.



[The 7th Trans-Siberian Festival](#) will run on from March 27 until April 9 2020

[Magiya ritma. Zhivopis. Grafika](#) — an exhibition of the famous set designer and artist Boris Messerer opened on March 3 at the museum of Anna Akhmatova at the Fontanny Dom (St Petersburg). The exhibition covers the creative period of the artist starting from the end of the 1960s and ending with works made in 2020.

The Theatre Square in St Petersburg is being considered as the site for the [Dresden Opera Ball](#) in St Petersburg, which the city will welcome in September this year and which will celebrate 75 years since the end of World War II. TASS reports on the conclusion of a meeting between city governor Alexander Beglov and the president of the Dresden Ball Hans-Joachim Frey.

The XIX International Ballet Festival Mariinsky has opened at the Mariinsky Theatre. Aside from dance centered events viewers can expect creative meetings with the performers, autograph sessions and lectures from March 11 to March 22. "A wholly different page of the XIX festival will be dedicated to performances by Alexei

Ratmanský", writes TASS. "During the opening we saw a duet part from the ballet *Utracheniy Illusii*, performed by Diana Vishneva and premier dancer of the Bolshoi Theatre Vladislav Lantratov."

The first evening's programme also included one-act ballets *Concerto DSCH* and *Lunnii Piero* with an updated cast as well as fragments from the ballets *Cinderella* and *Konek-gorbunok*. Reports [Muzikalniy Klondaik](#), [Kultura Channel](#), [Sankt-Peterburg Channel](#) and more than 10 other media.



Diana Vishneva and Vladislav Lantratov in the duet from Alexei Ratmanský's *Utracheniy Illusii*

Among the premieres of the festival is Alexei Ratmanský's *Sem Sonat* with music by Domenico Scarlatti. Made in 2009 for the American Ballet Theatre, the performance will be shown in Russia for the first time on March 21.

The Ministry of Culture has released an official report titled *Kultura V Rossii 2012-2019*. The numbers are impressive, especially considering those given by other ministries and agencies, [Literaturnaya Gazeta](#). Average pay has risen in the branch by 3.2 percent, when compared to 2011. Over 900 facilities have been built, rebuilt or reconstructed, attendance in theatres has increased by 38%, in museums – by 1.7 times. The amount of people watching Russian cinema has risen by 76%.

April issue of the Japanese magazine *DANCE Shinshokan* published a poster of Bolshoi Theatre November-December tours that will be performed in Japan. A page of the magazine features a scene from *Swan Lake* with Olga Smirnova (who plays Odette), and Semyon Chudin (who plays prince Siegfried) in the main roles.

世界の頂点の輝き  
The Bolshoi Ballet  
ボリショイバレエ  
2020  
ボリショイ劇場管弦楽団  
舞踊監督：マハール・ガズノフ

誇り高き殿堂の  
“いま”を魅せる  
スミルノワ  
＆  
チュージン

会場：東京文化会館（丸の内線新大塚駅）

演目	日程・予定キャスト
「スパルタクス」(全3回12場)	11/26(木)18:30 ボリシキン・ペリノ・マハール・ガズノフ・コリアー 11/27(金)18:30 マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ
「白鳥の湖」(全24場)	11/28(土)18:00 スミルノワ・チュージン・マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ 11/29(日)18:00 スミルノワ・チュージン・マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ 12/1(火)18:00 スミルノワ・チュージン・マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ 12/2(水)18:00 スミルノワ・チュージン・マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ
「ボリショイのすべて ～プレミアム・エディション～」	12/3(木)18:30 スミルノワ・チュージン・マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ 12/4(金)18:30 スミルノワ・チュージン・マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ 12/6(日)17:30 スミルノワ・チュージン・マハール・ガズノフ・マハール・ガズノフ

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11/24(日) 日本橋ホール・大ホール「白鳥の湖」(全24場) 077-5223-7136  
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The magazine *DANCE Shinshokan* (Japan) published a poster of the Bolshoi Theatre tour that will take place from November 26 to December 6

As part of celebrating its 100 year anniversary the Salzburg Festival will host the meeting of the forum So-chinski Dialog. [Kommersant](#) reports on how relations were formed between the festival and Tsarist Russia, the Soviet Union and now modern Russia.



Svetlana Zakharova being photographed by Sasha Gusov. London 2013



The photographer Sasha Gusov, who has worked with the Bolshoi Theatre for many years, has become one of the heroes of the London magazine [Sloane Square](#) (March 2020, page 74 and 75).

Sasha Gusov explains, among other things, how his career had started. In 1992 he managed to get to the backstage of the Royal Albert Hall and, having introduced himself to Yuri Grigorovich the leader of the ballet troupe as a famous Russian photographer, got permission to take pictures of famous artists of the Bolshoi Theatre's ballet.

[Azer News](#) published an article by Laman Ismailova. "World famous opera stars Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvzaov will perform in Russia. The big concert of the world's stars will be hosted at Jupiter Concert Hall on October 30. Opera singers will share the stage with National Artist of Azerbaijan, soloist of the Bolshoi Theatre Elchin Azizov."

One of the biggest international musical fairs [Frankfurt Musikmesse](#), which was meant to be held on 2020 from April 1 to April 4 has been cancelled due to the spread of Coronavirus in Europe. Messe Frankfurt plans on also cancelling other music exhibitions.

## Social networks



Ekaterina Shipulina on [Instagram](#): "And here we are – the heroes of children's tales!", "Classical Dancers" with Vladislav Lantratov in the ballet by Dmitry Shostakovich [The Bright Stream](#) after the performance on March 5

"Today I saw the perfect Carmen Suite, and not due to one single part being done right, but because of the symbiosis of emotion, mastery and beauty that all came together to make the most perfect retelling of a familiar plot", writes Elena about a performance on March 8 on [Instagram](#).

"And yesterday it was perfect! Both the cast and performance", writes a commentator under the post.



Dmitry Dorokhov received warm wishes from his friends on his birthday, and then, the next day, on March 8, he was the one giving out the congratulations (along with Mikhail Kruchkov, Ivanov Alekseev and Maksim Surovy): "Congratulations, dear women!" /

[Facebook](#)



Olga Kulchinskaya on [Instagram](#)



“And you – have you managed to do the splits?” – Igor Tsvirko on [Instagram](#)

### [Vermeer in Facebook Georgiana Brandt](#)



Oleg Kuvaev's [Malenkaya pesenka](#) has become popular on the [web again](#)

## Debuts

### [Artifact Suite](#)

March 7 (12:00) Vera Borisenkova — The Other Person  
Klim Efimov — Two couples

### [Carmen Suite](#)

March 7 (12:00)  
Danila Khamzin first appeared as Torero

### [Dido and Aeneas](#)

March 11  
Norwegian mezzo soprano [Marianne Beate Kiel-](#)

[land](#) — first appeared at the Bolshoi as Dido (also in performances on March 12, 14 and 15.)

[Anastasia Lerman](#) (Bolshoi Opera trainee since April 2019) debuted as Belinda.

[Maria Barakova](#) — the Second Witch.

March 13

International competitions winner [Daria Telyatnikova](#) first appeared in the title role.

## Cast alterations

### [Artifact Suite](#)

March 8

Ksenia Zhiganshina and Klim Efimov replaced Olga Smirnova and Semyon Chudin.

### [Don Quixote](#)

March 10

Anna Nikulina appeared as Kitri instead of Olga Smirnova

March 11

Ivan Vasiliev appeared as Basilio instead of Vladislav Lantratov

### [Dido and Aeneas](#)

The role of Belinda sung by Anastasia Lerman (debut on March 11, also on March 13 and 15) and Guzel Sharipova (March 12, 14)

## Schedule alterations

March 11, Wednesday, Historic Stage — additional performance of [Don Quixote](#)

## Birthdays

**March 5** — ballet dancer, ballet-master and tutor, National Artist of the USSR Konstantin Sergeev (1910-1992) — 110th anniversary of his birth

**March 5** — ballet dancer, ballet master, choreographer Kasian Goleizovsky (1892-1970)

**March 6** — opera singer, National Artist of the USSR Nadezhda Obukhpva (1886-1961)



**March 9** — Bolshoi ballerina (working under contract), National Artist of Russia Maria Allash

**March 9** — ballerina Tamara Karsavina (1885-1978); danced at Mariinsky Theatre (1904-1918), from 1909 worked with Diaghilev's Ballets Russes. Performed together with Vaslav Nijinsky

**March 11** — great choreographer Marius Petipa (1818-1910)



Marius Petipa

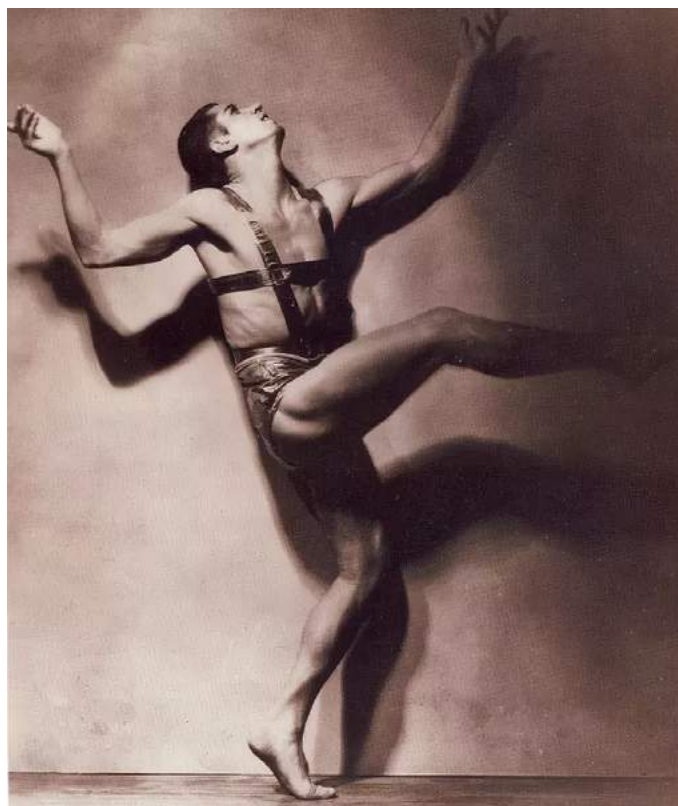
**March 12** — Bolshoi Ballet principal dancer Artemy Belyakov

**March 12** — Bolshoi ballet first soloist Daria Khokhlova



Artemy Belyakov and Daria Khokhlova during the Bolshoi tour in Australia in 2019

**March 12** — ballet dancer, ballet-master and tutor, National Artist of the USSR Vakhtang Chabukiani (1910-1992) — 110th anniversary of his birth



Vakhtang Chabukiani in a concert

**March 12** — Bolshoi conductor Alexei Bogorad

**March 12** — outstanding dancer, choreographer, ballet innovator Vaslav Nijinsky (1889-1950)

**March 13** — Bolshoi opera soloist, assistant of the chief conductor and music director of the theatre, National Artist of the USSR Makvala Kasrashvili



Makvala Kasrashvili

**March 13** — Bolshoi Ballet first soloist David Motta Soares

**March 14** — Bolshoi Ballet principal dancer Mikhail Lobukhin

**March 15** — theatre designer, painter, set designer, National Artist of the RF Boris Messerer Among his most well-know works is Carmen at the Bolshoi (also The Firebird, Petrushka, Egypt Nights, Les Sylphides, Armida's Pavillion.)



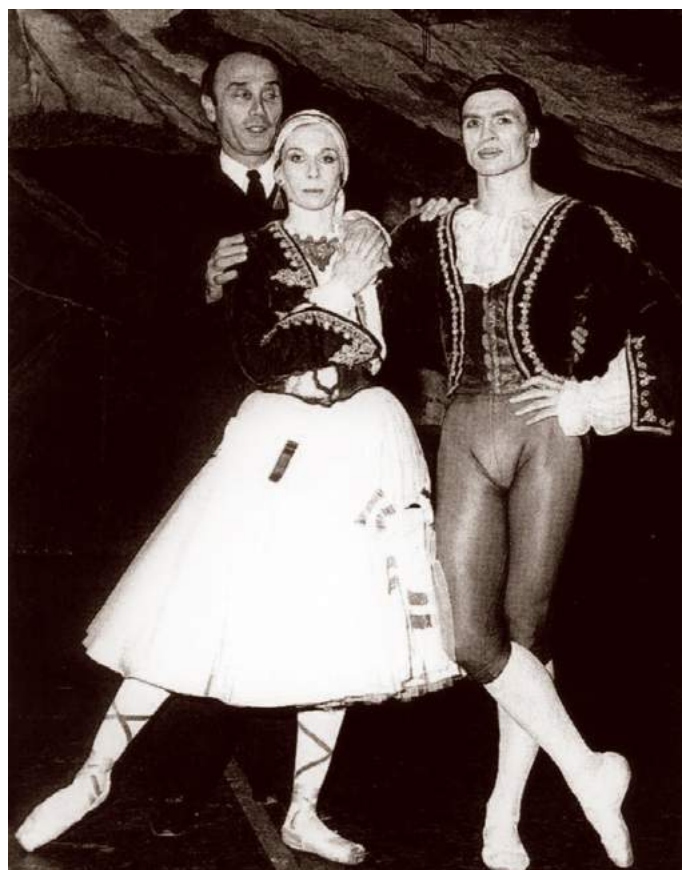
Boris Messerer

**March 17** — outstanding ballet dancer and choreographer Rudolf Nureyev (1938 —1993)

**March 18** — soloist of the Bolshoi opera Yuri Syrov

**March 18** — ballerina and tutor, l'etoile of the Paris Opera in 1972-1983 Ghislaine Thesmar The wife of the ballet master Pierre Lacotte.

**March 18** — French opera manager, former head of the Grand Théâtre de Genève and the Paris Opera Hugues Gall



Ghislaine Thesmar, Pierre Lacotte and Rudolf Nureyev

**March 19** — director general of the Bolshoi theatre, Merited Artist of Russia Vladimir Urin

**March 19** — ballerina, National Artist of Russia, artistic director of Georgia Opera Ballet Theatre named after Zakhari Paliashvili Nina Ananiashvili

**March 20** — on of the greatest pianists of the 20th century Svyatoslav Richter (1915-1997)