



# Newsletter

## Events

February 15th – the Bolshoi Theatre presents the premiere of the opera [The Queen of Spades](#) by Pyotr Tchaikovsky

The chief conductor and artistic director of the State Academic Bolshoi Theatre Tugan Sokhiev and the artistic director of the Vakhtangov State Academic Theatre Rimas Tuminas (the latter staged Katerina Izmailova by Dmitri Shostakovich at the Bolshoi Theatre; the premiere took place on February 18th 2016) are working on the new stage version of the opera The Queen of Spades by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, libretto by Modest Tchaikovsky after the novel of the same name by Alexander Pushkin.



Sergei Radchenko (Herman)  
and Larisa Diadkova (The Countess)  
at the rehearsal of The Queen of Spades.  
Photo courtesy: Damir Yusupov

The premiere is scheduled to take place on February 15th on the Historic Stage.

Director, choreographer: Anželica Cholina. Set designer: Adomas Jacovskis. Costume designer: Maria Danilova. Lighting designer: Damir Ismagilov. Chief chorus master: Valery Borisov.

The casts will star: Yusif Eivazov, Oleg Dolgov and Sergei Radchenko (Herman), Anna Nechaeva, Evgenia Muravieva and Maria Lobanova (Liza), Gevorg Hakobyan and Yuri Syrov (Tomsky), Igor Golovatenko, Vassily Ladyuk and Aluda Todua (Prince Eletsy), Marat Gali and Roman Muravitsky (Chekalinsky), Nikolai Kazansky, Alexander Naumenko and Vyacheslav Pochapsky (Surin), Ivan Maximeyko, Stanislav Mostovoy and Taras Prisyazhnyuk (Chaplitsky), Nikolai Kazansky and Vladimir Komovich (Narumov), Larisa Diadkova and Irina Dolzhenko (The Countess), Anna Bondarevskaya and Victoria Karkacheva (Polina), Albina Latipova (Prilepa), Oxana Gorchakovskaya (Masha), Irina Dolzhenko and Elena Novak (Governess), Ivan Maximeyko and Igor Tsurcan (Master of Ceremonies).

The Queen of Spades was first staged on December 19th 1890 at the Mariinsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg. The Moscow premiere at the Bolshoi Theatre took place on November 4th 1891. The opera has been staged at the Bolshoi Theatre numerous times; in 1944 the set designer Vladimir Dmitriev and the stage director Leonid Baratrov created the legendary version of The Queen of Spades.

The most recent staging was created by Lev Dodin, Michail Jurowski and David Borovsky in 2015 and marked the 175th anniversary of Pyotr Tchaikovsky.

On January 27th the outstanding dancer and Bolshoi Theatre soloist in 1952-1977, a partner of Galina Ulanova and Maya Plisetskaya, a People's Artist of the USSR and the State Academic Bolshoi Theatre pedagogue and ballet master [Nikolai Fadeychev](#) celebrated his 85th birthday.

The Sleeping Beauty has been one of the most important productions in his creative career.

To mark the birthday of this legendary ballet artist of the 20th century the exhibition featuring the items from the collection of the Bolshoi Theatre's Museum opened in the New Stage Foyer. The exhibition features photographs taken throughout his career; this in memory of the brilliant roles that this "ethereal" dancer performed in different productions, staged at the Bolshoi Theatre.

The article about Nikolai Fadeychev titled Prince by Nature is available on the [Bolshoi's website](#).

January 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st – the opera [La Traviata](#) by Giuseppe Verdi on the Historic Stage.

The production staged by Francesca Zambello premiered on October 7th 2012 (in 2002 Zambello staged Turandot by Giacomo Puccini and in 2004 created the first production of the opera The Fiery Angel by Sergei Prokofiev at the Bolshoi Theatre). The music director – Laurent Campellone. Set designer – Peter John Davison.

This production of the opera, created at the Bolshoi, is the 11th. La Traviata was first brought on the stage in 1858 and has been per-



Nikolai Fadeychev as Prince Desire, Maya Plisetskaya as Princess Aurora. Photo: the Bolshoi Theatre's Museum

formed over 1500 times since then. The opera has been staged by Nikolai Savitsky (1858 and 1872), Andrey Petrovsky (1922), Vladimir Nardov (1933), Mikhail Kvaliashvili (1937), Nikolai Dombrovsky (1942), Boris Ivanov (1943), Evgeni Sokovnin (1944), Boris Pokrovsky (1953) and other stage directors. Vladimir Vasiliev has worked on this opera as both a director and a choreographer (1996).

The article [The Story of Violetta, Told by Herself](#) is available on the theatre's website; it tells about La Traviata by Verdi and its stagings at the State Academic Bolshoi Theatre.



Venera Gimadieva performed the role of Violetta on January 18th and 20th. Photo courtesy: Damir Yusupov

In the winter series of performances the casts starred Venera Gimadieva as Violetta on January 18th and 20th and Dinara Alieva in the same role on January 19th and 21st; on January 19th and 21st the part of Alfredo was performed by the Turkish tenor [Murat Karahan](#) (one of the most prominent classic singers of Turkey; he graduated from the faculty of music and performing arts at the Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey. He also studied at Academia di Santa Cecilia, Rome, with Prof. Bruno Cagli, since 2005, he has been a soloist of the ensemble of Ankara State Opera and Ballet, he has also worked as the General Director of Turkey's State Opera and Ballet Theatre since 2018); on January 18th and 20th this part was performed by [Arturo Chacón-Cruz](#) (this Mexican tenor performs at the most famous opera venues around the world; he made his debut at the Bolshoi with this role in 2012).

More information about the casts is available [here](#).

All performances were conducted by maestro Tugan Sokhiev.

January 28th – the performances of the opera [Manon Lescaut](#) by Giacomo Puccini, one of the best operas not only in this particular composer's legacy, but in the world's musical heritage and one of the most widely discussed premieres of last year's 241st theatre season (stage director – Adolph Shapiro, music director – Jader Bignamini) closed on the Historic Stage.

The world opera star Anna Netrebko performed the main role on January 28th and 25th. The performances also took place on January 24th and 26th.

On January 25th and 28th the cast also starred the singers that took part in the premiere performances on October 16th 2016: Yusif Eyvazov (Chevalier Des Grieux), Elchin Azizov (Lescaut), Alexander Naumenko (Geronte De Ravoire), Bogdan Volkov (Lamplighter), Marat Gali (Dancing Master), Valery Gilmanov (Sergeant), Vladimir Komovich (Naval Captain) and Yulia Mazurova (Singer). Giorgi Sturua performed the role of Edmond.

On January 24th and 26th the cast starred: Ainhua Arteta as Manon Lescaut, Murat Karahan as Chevalier Des Grieux, Alberto Gazale as Lescaut, Otar Kunchulia (January 24th) and Alexander Naumenko (January 26th) as Geronte De Ravoire, Bogdan Volkov as Lamplighter and Edmond, Marat Gali as Dancing Master, Valery Gilmanov as Sergeant, Vladimir Komovich as Naval Captain and Anna Bondarevskaya as Singer.

Valery Gilmanov made his debut in the role of Innkeeper and performed this role in all performances in January.

Anton Grishanin conducted the orchestra.

More information about the casts is available [here](#).

More information about the production's history is available on the theatre's [website](#).

The premiere of the opera on the theatre's official [YouTube channel](#).

[The report by the First Channel](#)



[Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvazov talk about the premiere of Manon Lescaut](#) (in the programme Sati. The Not Boring Classics on the TV channel Russia-Culture).



Giorgi Sturua as Edmond,  
Yusif Eyvazov as Chevalier Des Grieux,  
maestro Anton Grishanin and Anna Netrebko and Manon  
during the curtain calls after the performance of the opera  
Manon Lescaut by Giacomo Puccini on the Historic Stage.

Photo: [Anna Netrebko's Instagram page](#)

January 31st, February 1st, 2nd, 3rd (at noon and at 7 p.m.) and 4th (at 2 p.m.) – the ballet [The Sleeping Beauty](#) by Pyotr Tchaikovsky on the Historic Stage.

In the year of Russian ballet the Bolshoi Theatre continues to present to its audience masterpieces from its repertoire that are associated with the name of the great Russian choreographer Marius Petipa, whose 200th anniversary is celebrated on March 11th of this year.

This new choreographic version of The Sleeping Beauty by another outstanding choreographer Yuri Grigorovich (earlier he staged his other versions at the



Olga Smirnova and Denis Rodkin. The Sleeping Beauty,  
February 1st. Photo: Olga Smirnova's Instagram page

Bolshoi Theatre in 1963 and 1973) opened the parade of premieres on the Historic Stage on November 18th 2011, following the reconstruction of the theatre, and was an absolute triumph.

Sets and costumes by Ezio Frigerio and Franca Squarciapino. Music director – Vassily Sinaisky.

More information about the production is available on the theatre's [website](#).

Yuri Grigorovich considers the oeuvre of Pyotr Tchaikovsky and Marius Petipa to be an “encyclopedia of classic choreography”; since the first Moscow premiere, which took place in 1899, the ballet The Sleeping Beauty has been performed at the Bolshoi Theatre almost 600 times. All in all, seven versions of the ballet have been staged at the Bolshoi. The most recent version, famous for its “luxurious imperial style”, was created by Yuri Grigorovich especially to mark the opening of the Historic Stage after the reconstruction of the Bolshoi Theatre's main building.

For Yuri Grigorovich the choreographer this has been the fifth time he worked on the ballet that has been an integral part of his creative career: when he was a student of the Vaganova institute, he performed in children's scenes, then he danced all parts, from Mazurka to the Blue Bird. He learned about the traditions and received the knowledge about the subtlest details of this production first-hand, from Marius Petipa's assistant Alexander Shiryayev.

This is what Yuri Grigorovich said about his concept in one of his interviews ([TASS](#)): “It is rather strange, but every time I approach this ballet, the historical and theoretical aspects are of the least interest for me; I am mostly keen on the practical side of things, the particular way of thinking its creator had, the dance logic of the idea behind it, the inner connections and the perspective the authors of the ballet had in mind. In other words, I want to figure out how their ideas can be and should be put into life today, given the new kind of people both on the stage and in the audience, the new colours, the new materials and the new light, the new perception of the time on the stage and the new understanding of the fight between good and evil. These issues arise for a person that is working on The Sleeping Beauty beyond his will”.

The cast stars the major part of the Bolshoi Theatre's ballet company; several important debuts took place in the series of winter performances.

The cast starred:

January 31st – Xenia Zhiganshina as Princess Aurora, debut, Ruslan Skvortsov as Prince Desire, Yulia Stepanova as Lilac Fairy, Artem Ovcharenko as Blue Bird and Alexei Loparevich as Evil Fairy Carabosse.

February 1st – Svetlana Zakharova as Princess Aurora, Denis Rodkin as Prince Desire, Olga Marchenkova as Lilac Fairy, debut, Artemy Belyakov as Blue Bird and Denis Savin as Evil Fairy Carabosse.

February 2nd – Ekaterina Krysanova as Princess Aurora, Artem Ovcharenko as Prince Desire, Yulia

Grebenschikova as Lilac Fairy, Oscar Frame as Blue Bird, debut and Yuri Ostrovsky as Evil Fairy Carabosse, debut.

February 3rd, noon – Evgenia Obraztsova as Princess Aurora, Vyacheslav Lopatin as Prince Desire, debut, Maria Allash as Lilac Fairy, Denis Zakharov as Blue Bird, debut and Alexei Loparevich as Evil Fairy Carabosse.

February 3rd, 7 p.m. – Olga Smirnova as Princess Aurora, Semyon Chudin as Prince Desire, Alyona Kovalyova as Lilac Fairy, Andrei Bolotin as Blue Bird and Denis Savin as Evil Fairy Carabosse.

February 4th – Anna Nikulina as Princess Aurora, Jacopo Tissi as Prince Desire, debut, Ana Turazashvili as Lilac Fairy, debut, Artemy Belyakov as Blue Bird and Yuri Ostrovsky as Evil Fairy Carabosse.

Pavel Klinichev conducted the orchestra on January 31st, February 1st and February 3rd (matinee performance); Pavel Sorokin conducted on February 2nd, February 3rd (evening performance) and February 4th.

Casts are available [here](#).



Eugene Onegin by Pyotr Tchaikovsky.  
Kristina Kretova as Olga. Artem Ovcharenko as Lensky.  
Photo courtesy: Elena Fetisova

January 25th, 26th, 27th (at noon and at 7 p.m.) and 28th (at 2 p.m.) – the acclaimed masterpiece by John Cranko, the ballet [Onegin](#) to the music by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, was performed by the Bolshoi Ballet on the New Stage.

The ballet premiered on July 12th 2013 on the Historic Stage. Set and costumes by Jurgen Rose, choreographic supervision by Reid Anderson. Music director and conductor: Pavel Sorokin.

Due to the ballet being moved to the New Stage the ballet masters [Agneta Valcu](#) and [Victor Valcu](#) were invited to the Bolshoi Theatre.

The principals of the Hamburg Ballet Ivan Urban and Edvin Revazov came to the Bolshoi Theatre to take part in the rehearsals for the ballet [Anna Karenina](#),

choreographed by John Neumeier to the music by Pyotr Tchaikovsky Alfred Shnitke, Cat Stevens / Yusuf Islam. The dancers performed the roles of Karenin (Urban) and Vronsky ([Revazov](#)) at the ballet's world premiere that took place in Hamburg on July 2nd 2017.

The ballet Anna Karenina at the Bolshoi Theatre is a coproduction of the Bolshoi Theatre, the Hamburg Ballet and the National Ballet of Canada; the premiere is scheduled to take place on March 23rd 2018 on the Historic Stage. The permanent artistic director of the Hamburg Ballet John Neumeier is not only a choreographer, but also a costume designer (in cooperation with the Swiss fashion house A-K-R-I-S that has designed costumes for the main heroine), a set designer and the author of the lighting concept. Video and graphics by Kiran West. Music director: Anton Grishanin.

The video in English about the ballet Anna Karenina in Hamburg is available on the [YouTube channel](#).

The Bolshoi Theatre in cooperation with Pathé Live and Bel Air Media continues the fifth season of the project Bolshoi Ballet in Cinema that has gained incredible popularity all over the world. Now the Bolshoi Theatre's performances are available to audiences in different countries around the globe.

January 31st, February 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th (at 2 p.m.) – the second block of performances of the opera Le Nozze di Figaro by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, staged by Evgeny Pisarev, took place on the New Stage. The production premiered on April 25th 2015. Le Nozze di Figaro was nominated for The Golden Mask Award in the category Opera/Best Production. The opera was last performed in September.



Le Nozze di Figaro. Photo courtesy: Damir Yusupov

In the winter series of performances the cast starred: Alexander Vinogradov and Alexander Minoshvili as Figaro, Anna Aglatova and Olga Seliverstova as Susanna, Konstantin Shushakov and Andrei



Jilihovschi as Count, Ekaterina Morozova and Erika Grimaldi as Countess, Ekaterina Vorontsova (debut on January 31st) and Yulia Mazurova as Cherubino.

The music director of the production William Lacey conducted the orchestra.

More information about the casts for each performance is available on the [website](#).

On February 1st the comic opera by Mozart *Le Nozze di Figaro*, staged by Evgeny Pisarev, was performed as a part of the special programme Bolshoi for Youth, when tickets are sold at a discount; this initiative aims to attract more young members of the audience to the theatre. This is the second “winter” performance that the Bolshoi Theatre addressed for the youth in the season of 2017/2018: on January 10th viewers aged 16-25 had a chance to watch the comic opera by Gaetano Donizetti, staged by Timofey Kulyabin.

More information is available in the article *Le Nozze di Figaro* on February 1st 2018: age limit 16+, but 25- on the [Bolshoi's website](#).

On Sunday, January 21st, the live transmission of the ballet *Romeo and Juliet* choreographed by Alexei Ratmanský to the music by Sergei Prokofiev took place in the cinemas around the world. The performance was broadcast from the Bolshoi Theatre's New Stage and started at 6 p.m. Moscow time.

The ballet was also broadcast for viewers in Russia; the transmission was available on the [Bolshoi Theatre's channel](#).

Set design and costume design by Richard Hudson. Lighting by Jennifer Tipton. Music director – Pavel Klinichev.

The cast is available [here](#).



Ekaterina Krysanova and Vladislav Lantratov performed the main roles in the ballet *Romeo and Juliet* to the music by Sergei Prokofiev that was broadcast live on January 21st.

The video announcement of the transmission is available on the [Bolshoi's YouTube channel](#).

The performances of the ballet *Romeo and Juliet* to the music by Sergei Prokofiev took place on the New Stage on January 19th and 20th (at noon and at 7 p.m.) and on January 21st (at 6 p.m.). The ballet premiered at the Bolshoi Theatre on November 22nd 2017 and was praised by both the audience and critics. Prior to that the Bolshoi presented on its New Stage the version of *Romeo and Juliet* by Declan Donnellan and Radu Poklitaru (design by Nick Ormerod, premiered in 2003) and then – the production by Yuri Grigorovich (design by Simon Virsaladze). The production was created in 1970s and was then brought to the New Stage in 2010, when the Bolshoi's Historic building was being reconstructed.

Watch the video report on [YouTube channel](#) to learn about the premiere of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Bolshoi. Alexei Ratmanský talks about creating this production. The artistic director of the ballet company Makhar Vaziev together with Ekaterina Krysanova, Vladislav Lantratov and Igor Tsvirko, who performed the main roles, share their impressions about working with the choreographer.

To remind yourselves about the history of the ballet's creation we invite you to watch the recording of the programme *A Ticket to the Bolshoi* on the [TV Channel Russia-Culture](#), on air on December 17th 2017.



Makhar Vaziev  
in the video on YouTube Channel

The artistic director of the Bolshoi Ballet Makhar Vaziev and the Head of the Bolshoi's Press-Office Katerina Novikova, who usually presents transmissions from the Bolshoi Theatre, discuss the production in this new [video](#) for the YouTube channel.

The concert of the participants of the Bolshoi Theatre Young Artists Opera Program [Anthology of Russian Classical Romances](#). Russian City Romance Songs in the 19th – the Beginning of the 20th Century took place on January 25th at 7.30 p.m. (more information is available in the article *Hey, the Trio of Horses/The Soft Snow* on the [Bolshoi's website](#).)

Pieces for cello and piano were performed on Sunday, January 28th, in the concert [For Three Persons](#).

Arseny Beznosikov, Pyotr Kondrashin and Arseny Kotlyarevsky (cello), Alina Smirnova and Igor Kotlyarevsky (piano) took part in the concert. More information is available in the article Long Live the Cello! on the [Bolshoi's website](#).

Performances of the Bolshoi Orchestra's musicians, participants of the Bolshoi Theatre Young Artists Opera Program and guest artists continue at the Beethoven Hall.

January 31st – To the 220th [Anniversary of the Birth of Franz Schubert. Concert One](#).



Julius Schmid (1854–1935),  
A Schubert Evening in a Vienna Salon (Schubertabend), 1896

Starting from February 4th the recording of the ballet [Lady of the Camellias](#), choreographed by John Neumeier to the music by Frederic Chopin, is being transmitted at the cinemas in Russia and all over the world.

In 2018 the production by John Neumeier turns 40 years old; since the moment of its creation it has been an honour to take part in it for dancers of any company in the world.

John Neumeier staged his *Lady of the Camellias* in 1978 at the request of Marcia Haydee for the Stuttgart Ballet. The premiere of the Hamburg Ballet version (1981) took place at the Bolshoi Theatre on March 20th 2014.

The cast in the recording stars the Bolshoi's prima and a People's Artist of Russia Svetlana Zakharova as Marguerite Gautier and the principal of the Hamburg Ballet Edvin Revazov as Armand Duval.

The cast also stars: Anna Tikhomirova as Manon Lescaut, Semyon Chudin as Des Grieux, Kristina Kretova as Prudence, Mikhail Lobukhin as Gaston Rieux, Anna Antropova as Nanina, Andrei Merkuriev as Monsieur Duval, Daria Khokhlova as Olympia, Alexander Fadeychev as The Duke and Vyacheslav Lopatin as Count N.

The transmissions of the performance are a part of the project Bolshoi Ballet in Cinema that the Bolshoi Theatre is carrying out in cooperation with the companies Pathé Live and Bel Air Media. The *Taming of the Shrew* has been broadcast in cinemas since November 26th 2017.

The schedule of transmission of the 242nd season on the [Bolshoi Theatre's website](#).

[Lady of the Camellias in the cinemas in Moscow and in other cities of Russia](#)

The official video by Pathé Live about the 2018 transmission of the recording of *Lady of the Camellias* is available [here](#).

[The video about the transmission on TheatreHD official channel](#)

The complete list of cities and cinemas around the world at [bolshoiballetincinema.com](#).

In April the Bolshoi Theatre is planning to present two performances of the ballet *Lady of the Camellias* in Novosibirsk at the Fifth [Trans-Siberian Art Festival](#) directed by Vadim Repin.

The cast will star Svetlana Zakharova and Denis Rodkin. [TASS](#) and [FederalPress](#) report.

The Fifth Trans-Siberian Art Festival is taking place in Novosibirsk from March 9th till April 2nd 2018.



Denis Rodkin and Svetlana Zakharova  
are rehearsing the ballet *Anna Karenina* by John Neumeier.  
Photo courtesy: Damir Yusupov

The Bolshoi Theatre continues its cooperation with Mezzo, one of the world's leading resources that reports about and broadcasts theatre events. For several months, starting from January 27th, subscribers of the channels Mezzo Live HD, Mezzo Live HD world and Mezzo SD, as well as internet-users, have a chance to watch the Bolshoi's opera and ballet performances that are a part of the cycle, dedicated to this particular theatre.

The performances of the ballet [The Golden Age](#) to the music by Dmitri Shostakovich (choreographic version by Yuri Grigorovich) continue on February 2nd, 10th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 20th, 24th, 26th and 28th, as well as on March 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 16th. The cast stars: Nina Kaptsova, Ekaterina Krysanova, Ruslan Skvortsov, Mikhail Lobukhin and Vyacheslav Lopatin.

The ballet [Marco Spada](#), choreographed by Pierre Lacotte to the music by Daniel François Esprit Auber will be presented on February 1st, 10th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 19th, 24th, 26th and 28th, as well as March 1st, 2nd and 9th. The cast stars: David Hallberg, Evgenia Obraztsova, Olga Smirnova, Semyon Chudin and Igor Tsvirko.

The ballet [Swan Lake](#) (choreographic version by Yuri Grigorovich, music by Pyotr Tchaikovsky): March 27th, April 2nd, 7th and 20th. The cast stars: Svetlana Zakharova, Denis Rodkin and Artemy Belyakov.

Besides, there will be the transmission of the opera [Katerina Izmailova](#) by Dmitri Shostakovich, staged by Rimas Tuminas. The cast stars: Nadja Michael, John Daszak, Marat Gali, Taras Shtonda and Oxana Gorchakovskaya.

The announcement of the transmission of the opera Katerina Izmailova on Mezzo can be downloaded [here](#).

The detailed schedule and time-table for broadcasts of all performances are available on [Mezzo website](#).

The General Director of the Bolshoi Theatre Vladimir Urin and the General Director of the Savonlinna Opera Festival Jan Strandholm have decided to continue their cooperation. In the summer of 2017 the Bolshoi Theatre's guest performances in Finland were a huge success; the audience were presented with *Iolanta* and *Eugene Onegin* by Pyotr Tchaikovsky. In the beginning of next season the Savonlinna Opera Festival is going to pay a reciprocal visit to the Bolshoi. The opera *Otello* by Giuseppe Verdi will be presented on the New Stage. This production, staged by Nadine Duffaut, premiered at the Chorégies d'Orange Festival in France in 2015. The premiere in Savonlinna is scheduled to take place in July 2018 (this is a joined production of the French and the Finnish festivals); on September 14th and 15th the opera will be presented to the Bolshoi Theatre's audience.

The famous lyric and dramatic tenor Alexander Antonenko (born in Riga) will perform the part of *Otello* in Moscow.

The video about *Otello* by Savonlinna Opera Festival is available on the [Festival's page in YouTube](#).



The signing of the contract. Vladimir Urin and Jan Strandholm. Photo courtesy: Damir Yusupov

Following the initiative of Bolshoi Young Artists Opera Program artistic director Dmitry Vdovin the Bolshoi Theatre has started a joint project with the Paris Opera Academy. Five participants of the Bolshoi's programme, namely, Evgenia Asanova, Anastasia Barun, Marta Danusevich, Rauf Timergazin and Mikhail Korshunov, went to the Academy for an internship; at the end of their course they are going to perform at the Opera Bastille Amphitheatre. For three weeks the singers are going to have classes with the Academy's best pedagogues: Margaret Singer (singing), Muriel Corradini (French and Italian articulation) and Irène Kudela (the German language and the Czech language), Jean-Marc Bouget (working on the parts) and Joseph Alford (stage movement).

After they complete their internship, the singers will participate in the joint concert that is scheduled to take place at the Opera Bastille Amphitheatre on February 15th. The soloists of the Bolshoi Young Artists Opera Program will perform together with their colleagues, participants of the Opera de Paris Youth Program. The programme of the concert includes German and chamber music by Robert Schumann, Franz Schubert and Richard Strauss. Mikhail Korshunov will play the piano. The detailed programme of the concert is available [here](#).

From January 15th till March 15th 2018 the exhibition marking the 140th anniversary of the first production of the ballet *Swan Lake* is open at the Choral and Exhibition foyers of the Bolshoi Theatre's Historic Building. The exhibition features photographs and sketches of all productions that have been created at the Bolshoi



Theatre, as well as playbills of different years, costumes of Ekaterina Maximova, Maya Plisetskaya, Sergei Filin, Nikolay Tsiskaridze and other famous dancers.



Dancers' costumes. The ballet Swan Lake.  
Staging by Vladimir Vasiliev. Designer Marina Azizyan.  
Photo courtesy: Katerina Novikova

## Press analysis:

Russian mass media

The Russian mass media that report about culture focus their attention on the coming guest performances of the International Savonlinna Opera Festival that will take place at the Bolshoi Theatre in September 2018. The Savonlinna Opera Festival is the oldest opera festival in Finland that has been organised annually since 1912 in Eastern Finland, in the castle of St. Olaf.

**RIA Novosti** report. The Festival will bring only one production; the opera Otello will be presented on the Bolshoi's New Stage on September 14th and 15th 2018.

The artistic director of the Festival Jorma Silvasti said: "The guest performances at the Bolshoi Theatre are very important for us; this is a wonderful continuation of our long-lasting cooperation. We are

going to bring to Moscow our own set, production, soloists and choir. The last time the Festival performed at the Bolshoi was 10 years ago, therefore, our guest performances spark mutual interest".

The **TV Channel Culture** quotes Jorma Silvasti: "This invitation is a great way to continue our long-term cooperation with the Bolshoi Theatre, one of the most prominent music theatres in the world. It has been a long time since Otello was performed in Moscow, so it is only natural that the audience is so curious about our production".

The cast of the guest performances will star Carl Tanner as Otello, Marina Costa-Jackson as Desdemona and Elia Fabian as Iago. Alexander Vedernikov, the chief conductor of the Royal Danish Opera, will conduct the orchestra. As it is also mentioned on the website of the channel, the Bolshoi Theatre Children's Choir will also take part in the performance.



Otello by Giuseppe Verdi. The production of the Savonlinna Opera Festival and Chorgies d'Orange Festival

The following sources also announce that the Savonlinna Festival is going to present Otello at the Bolshoi Theatre:

**Teatral  
REGNUM**



[Rewizor.ru](http://Rewizor.ru)  
[ART1](http://ART1)  
[Fontanka.FI](http://Fontanka.FI)

On February 15th Yusif Eyvazov is going to perform the main role in the premiere performance of the opera *The Queen of Spades* by Pyotr Tchaikovsky at the Bolshoi Theatre. The production is staged by Rimas Tuminas. [Soyuz](http://Soyuz) source (special project of Rossiiskaya Gazeta) published an interview with the singer where he explains why he nearly refused to sing the part of Herman. Text by Vladimir Dudin. The source also announces that on February 10th Yusif Eyvazov and Anna Netrebko are going to perform at the Palace of the Republic in Minsk, Belarus.

Yusif Eyvazov: “After the premiere of *Andrea Chénier* in Milan I called the Bolshoi Theatre General Director Vladimir Urin and said: “I will not be able to sing the part of Herman, I will not have enough time to learn it. I have had such stress. Please, forgive me and have mercy upon me”. He told me: “Dear Yusif, I do understand you very well, I can imagine what you have gone through, but I cannot let you go. We have four performances of *The Queen of Spades* in a row and I cannot do with just one cast. Please, do not let me down! We will all help you”. So I just had to agree. I have to admit that I absolutely admire the stage director Rimas Tuminas; he is a real genius. I am happy that I have not refused, because for me every rehearsal with him is a master-class of a great person and pedagogue. He explains everything in such a simple way and everything becomes so easy! Now I am sure I will sing, and, perhaps, quite nicely, too”.

The portal [ClassicalMusicNews.ru](http://ClassicalMusicNews.ru) also publishes the article *Waiting for Herman* by Rossiiskaya Gazeta.

[Mass media](#) continue to report about the performance of the world opera stars. Having performed in the Bolshoi's *Manon Lescaut*, Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvazov are going to perform at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall in Moscow on February 7th. The online radio 101.ru reports: “The couple have already arrived in Moscow where they have performed at the Bolshoi Theatre. The National Philharmonic Orchestra of Russia conducted by Vladimir Spivakov is going to take part in the only joint concert. According to the producer Maxim Berin, who organises the concert, the programme will consist of two parts and include mostly Italian arias, for example, arias from operas by Puccini, Leoncavallo, Giordano and Verdi. The singers will perform virtuoso vocal pieces from the opera repertoire”.

Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvazov became the first guests of the programme *An Evening with Urgant* in the

year of 2018. The programme was on air at 11.15 p.m. on February 2nd ([First Channel](#)). The announcement was published by Komsomolskaya Pravda – Saint Petersburg.

The gala-concert *Icons of the Russian Ballet* is going to take place at the London Coliseum on February 25th. The programme will include a fragment from the ballet *Nureyev*, staged by Kirill Serebrennikov. The portals [Sobaka.ru](http://Sobaka.ru) and [Music Seasons](http://Music Seasons) report the news with the reference to the story by [RIA Novosti](http://RIA Novosti) that has been published earlier. The gala will star Ekaterina Krysanova, Artem Ovcharenko and Natalia Osipova, as well as ballet dancers of the most prominent theatres in the UK, Germany, France, Spain and Italy.

There will also be the world premiere of the ballet *Warrior of the Light* dedicated to Nicholas Roerich and performed by Mikhailovsky Theatre soloist Julian Mackay, his brother Nicholas and the sisters Maria Sascha and Nadia Khan.



Rudolph Nureyev. Photo courtesy: Derry Moore, 1985

[RIA Novosti](#) report that the Bolshoi Theatre General Director Vladimir Urin will not be able to cooperate with the director Kirill Serebrennikov. When asked whether it was planned to stage any other productions directed by Serebrennikov at the Bolshoi Theatre, Mr. Urin said: “It

is difficult for me to talk about it now. In order to make such decision I need to meet him and talk, but how can I meet him and talk in a situation like this?”.

[Kommersant-Weekend](#) has studied the programme of the Russian theatre festival The Golden Mask and has selected 30 of the best productions. The list also includes several performances that will be presented at the Bolshoi Theatre. Text by Tatiana Kuznetsova, Ilya Kukhareenko and Olga Fedyanina.

The opera [Billy Budd](#) by Benjamin Britten has been nominated in several categories: Opera/Best Production, Opera/Best Director (William Lacey), Opera/Best Actor (John Daszak for the role of Captain Vere, Gidon Saks for the role of John Claggart and Iurii Samoilov for the title role), Musical Theatre/Best Designer (Paul Stainberg), Musical Theatre/Best Costume Designer (Constance Hoffman). The last performances of this music drama by Benjamin Britten, staged by the Bolshoi in cooperation with the English National Opera and the Deutsche Oper Berlin, are scheduled to take place on the New Stage on February 21st, 23rd, 25th and 27th.



Billy Budd. Alexander Miminoshvili as Donald, Iurii Samoilov as Billy Budd, Robert Lloyd as Dansker and Marat Gali as Red Whiskers.

Photo courtesy: Damir Yuusopov

As a part of the festival programme the Ekaterinburg State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre will present the following productions on the Bolshoi Theatre's New Stage: March 14th – the ballet *The Naiad* and the *Fisherman* choreographed by Yuri Burlaka, March 16th – the ballet *The Snow Queen* choreographed by Vyacheslav Samodurov, March 18th – the opera *The Passenger* (stage director – Thaddeus Strassberger, conductor – Oliver von Dohnányi).

The magazine [Sapsan](#) (Russian Railways magazine that is available on the trains) announced the perfor-

mances of the ballet *Romeo and Juliet* by Alexei Ratmansky in its January issue (the performances took place on January 19th – 21st). Page 45.

Mass media continue to mention the name of the Bolshoi Theatre General Director Vladimir Urin in relation to the presidential campaign of 2018. Mr. Urin is a registered authorised representative of a presidential candidate; he was one of those present at the first meeting that Vladimir Putin organised as a presidential candidate. [RIA Novosti report](#)

[Rossiskaya Gazeta](#) published an interview with the ballerina Natalia Osipova (text by Leila Guchmazova). The material was published prior to the ballerina's performance as Marie in the ballet *The Nutcracker* that took place at the Stage Kremlin Palace. On February 1st the Perm Opera and Ballet Theatre named after Tchaikovsky presented its version of *The Nutcracker* that was staged before the New Year by the theatre's chief ballet master Alexey Miroshnichenko. Osipova talks about the peculiar features of this production by Miroshnichenko, her involvement with the Perm project, her solo performances and, of course, her connections with the Bolshoi Theatre.

— Is the role of Marie in *The Nutcracker* a childhood dream or a must-have for any ballerina?

Natalia Osipova: Well, I have never dreamed about dancing the role of Marie, and when I was not given a chance to dance it at the Bolshoi, I was never upset. Then I danced it at the Paris Opera in the choreographic version of Nureyev; at that time I rehearsed with a wonderful pedagogue Laurent Hilaire, who is now the artistic director of the ballet company at the Stanislavsky Music Theatre. It gives you goosebumps even when you are just watching it, and even more so when you are dancing it. Tchaikovsky strikes a chord with me. //

— Shall we expect to see you at the Bolshoi soon?

Natalia Osipova: There was an invitation from Vladimir Urin, but the performance did not take place, and this happened because of me. Perhaps, the situation will change, I mean, everyone is so nice to me, they have already sent me an official invitation to take part in the concert marking the anniversary of Marius Petipa that is to take place in the end of May.

— How about the production? Have you known the artistic director of the ballet company Makhar Vaziev for long?

Natalia Osipova: At the moment it is not working out, although we do get on really well. You see, I like to choose what to dance myself. At the Mariinsky I have chosen *A Legend of Love*, in Munich – *The Taming of the Shrew*. Then there will be *Manon Lescaut* at the Royal Opera House together with David Hallberg and *Giselle* that we have not danced together for about five years, and then the premiere of *Swan Lake* by Liam Scarlett.



**TASS** reports that Natalia Osipova is getting ready to dance in the ballet *A Legend of Love* by Yuri Grigorovich that is due to premiere at the Mariinsky Theatre on February 16th. The ballerina will then perform in several productions in London. The next time Osipova will perform in Moscow will be in May at the gala marking the 200th anniversary of Marius Petipa that is going to take place at the Bolshoi Theatre.



Natalia Osipova. Photo courtesy: Rick Guest

The opening of Russia-Japan bilateral year is going to take place at the Bolshoi Theatre on May 26th. The Special Envoy of the President of the Russian Federation for international culture cooperation Mikhail Shvydkoy announced this news on Wednesday, January 31st at the press conference about the coming guest performances of Kabuki theatre. **RIA Novosti** report. According to Mr. Shvydkoy, the programme of the bilateral year will be carried out from the end of May 2018 until May 2019.

**TASS** reports that the press conference took place at the Moscow Marriott Grand Hotel; the Japanese Ambassador to Russia Toyohisa Kozuki, the Deputy Minister of Culture of Russia Alexander Zhuravsky, the Head of the Department of Culture of Moscow Alexander Kibovsky, the General Director of Chekhov Festival Valery Shadrin and others took part in the press conference.

The review of the Moscow premiere of the opera *Cephalus and Procris* was published in the January issue of the newspaper *Igraem snachala/Play from the Beginning* (text by Alexander Matusevich). The opera was performed on the Bolshoi Theatre's New Stage on December 8th and 10th 2017 by the Catherine the Great Ensemble and the company Baroque Ballet Angiolini.

This is the reconstruction of the first Russian opera *Cephalus and Procris* by Francesco Domenico Araja (1755 r.), libretto by Alexander Sumarokov. The production premiered on October 4th 2016 at the Hermitage Theatre (Saint Petersburg) in the framework of the **EARLY MUSIC 19th International Festival**.

The electronic version of the newspaper's issue No.1 is available at the Bolshoi's Press Office.

## Press analysis:

### international mass media

The world's largest newspaper **New York Times** publishes a major article by Marina Harss about Alexei Ratmansk's *Romeo and Juliet* for the Bolshoi. "Now there is a new version, by the Russian-born choreographer Alexei Ratmansk, whose home base for the last decade has been New York. Mr. Grigorovich's was last performed in February on the Historic Stage. Mr. Ratmansk's had its premiere in November, on the New Stage. It is this more recent production that will be broadcast live worldwide on Sunday, as part of the Bolshoi Ballet in Cinema series." "Mr. Ratmansk's is poetic and human-scaled, focusing more on the young lovers' attraction than on the oppressive circumstances of 14th-century Verona. Personal suffering is emphasized over hatred and revenge. Mr. Grigorovich's ballets embody the hyper-dramatic performance style for which the Bolshoi was once famous (and to which many are still attached)." "Despite his history with the Bolshoi, Mr. Ratmansk had been away for seven years. It was Mr. Vaziev, hired two years after the acid attack, who brought Mr. Ratmansk back into the fold, commissioning him to stage his *Romeo and Juliet* for the company. The two have a long history — in the late 1990s, when Mr. Vaziev was the director of the Mariinsky Ballet in St. Petersburg, he was one of the first to commission a large work from Mr. Ratmansk.

International mass media sources, local newspapers and online publications announce upcoming transmissions of Bolshoi Ballet productions in local cinemas. Most announcements also include photographs of the Bolshoi Ballet.



Alexei Ratmansky is rehearsing  
with the Bolshoi Theatre's dancers.

Photo courtesy: Damir Yusupov, published by NYT

### [Broadway World announces Players Present Bolshoi Ballet's Romeo and Juliet Live From Moscow](#)

The Italian local news publication [Pisa Today](#) announces the screening of the upcoming Romeo and Juliet in cinemas and also gives the full lineup of upcoming productions of the Bolshoi Ballet in cinemas for the rest of the season.

The local USA newspaper [Worcester Telegram](#) (USA) announces "The Bolshoi Ballet of Moscow debuts a new staging of William Shakespeare's timeless Romeo and Juliet with a famous score by Sergei Prokofiev. Captured from a live premiere performance in Moscow earlier in the day, the production, choreographed by former Bolshoi Ballet artistic director Alexei Ratmansky, will be screened in U.S. movie theaters nationwide at 12:55 p.m. Sunday."

The local Irish newspaper [Galway Advertiser](#) (Ireland) publishes an article by Kernan Andrews who announced the live broadcast of Romeo and Juliet — from The Bolshoi to The Eye Cinema.

The following sources also announced the broadcasts of Romeo and Juliet:

[Vincenza Today](#) (Italy)

The specialised online news resource about the dance [Giornale della danza](#) (Italy)

[Frankfurter Neue Presse](#) (Germany)

[Main Ecno](#) (Germany)

[Henrico Citizen](#) (Virginia, USA)

[Savannah Morning News](#) (USA)

[Bend Oregon](#) (USA)

The local online UK news publication [Kent Online](#) (UK) publishes an article by Angela Cole who announces "Kent cinemas screen Bolshoi Ballet live from Russia, performing The Lady of the Camellias." "The internationally renowned Bolshoi Ballet will be beamed live from Moscow into the county's cinema screens this weekend. The company will perform The Lady of the Camellias, which will be broadcast direct on Sunday, February 4."

The following sources also announce upcoming screening of Bolshoi's Lady of Camellias in local cinemas:

[Free Press](#) (Wales, UK)

[Gainsborough Standard](#) (UK)

[The Times Picayune](#) (New Orleans, USA)

[Sortir a Paris](#) (France)

[Frankfurter Neue Presse](#) (Germany)

[Thüringer Allgemeine](#) (Germany)

[Espalha Factos](#) (Portugal)

[Gloucester Times](#) (Maine, USA)

[Bastia Oggi](#) (Italy)

[Sächsische Zeitung](#) (Germany)



A scene from the production.  
Mikhail Lobukhin as Gaston Rieux.

Photo courtesy: Elena Fetisova

The Finnish online news publication [Itä-Savo](#) (Finland) announces "The Savonlinna Opera Festival visits the Bolshoi Theatre in September — Othello is presented in Moscow".



“Verdi’s classical work *Othello* will be brought to Moscow, which is also seen in *Olavinlinna* in summer. — The visit is an important celebration for the Opera Festival and a great continuation of our long cooperation. Bolshoi is home to a Russian opera house and one of the world’s most famous opera houses. We export to Moscow our own production, soloists and choir. It has been a decade since the previous presentation of *Othello* in Bolshoi, and so the interest in our production was naturally born,” says Jorma Silvasti, Artistic Director of the Opera Festival.”

The Finnish online news publication [Kaleva](#) (Finland) also announces the tour.

The local English language Cyprus newspaper [Cyprus Mail](#) publishes an article by Maria Gregoriou who announces “The Bolshoi Ballet will once again dance a classic at K Cineplex theatres in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca and Paphos when John Neumeier’s masterpiece to the music by Frederic Chopin *The Lady of the Camellias* will be screened. “This story of love, passion and sacrifice is brought to life in rare beauty and emotional heights by the Bolshoi ballet, one of the most romantic pieces ever danced.”

[Vanguardia Liberal](#) (Columbia) also announced the transmission of the ballet *Lady of the Camellias*.

The online specialised publication about Russian ballet *Vaganova Today* written by Catherine Pawlick posts an article titled “[Masha and Vlad: Power Couple at the Bolshoi](#)” “It’s no secret to those in the know that Maria Alexandrova and Vladislav Lantratov (“Masha” and “Vlad” — as they at times affectionately refer to each other) are two lovebirds whose deep connection is visible both onstage and off. *VaganovaToday* sat down with the power couple to talk about their personal and professional lives, their insights about ballet, and their dreams for the future.” The interview also features the photographs of the dancers.

The online entertainment news publication [Broadway World](#) publishes a report by Alan Henry who reports “the Washington National Opera Announces 2018/19 Season.” This will include “WNO’s 2018-2019 season opens with Verdi’s tragic romance *La Traviata*, October 6- 21, in the Opera House.” “A star at Moscow’s Bolshoi Theatre who has been hailed as “the new voice of Russia,” Russian soprano Venera Gimadieva makes her WNO debut as the ill-fated Violetta, a role she has portrayed to great acclaim at the Royal Opera House in London, Opera National de Paris, La Fenice in Venice, and other important theaters around the world. In 2017, she was the toast of Santa Fe Opera for her riveting performance as the Queen of Shemakha in *The Golden Cockerel*.”



Maria Alexandrova and Vladislav Lantratov

© Charles Thompson

The online specialised Italian theatre news publication [Teatri Online](#) (Italy) publishes a report by Fabiana Raponi who writes on the success of the *Les Étoiles* gala at the Auditorium Parco della Musica. The author mentions the success of the Bolshoi Theatre’s Jacopo Tissi and Alyona Kovalyova. “The 2018 edition of *Les Étoiles* is once again sold out on the Roman dates of 27 and 28 January (with waiting lists at the ticket office) at the Sala Santa Cecilia at the Auditorium Parco della Musica, completely packed for the most anticipated international dance gala of the year.” /.../.

The February 2018 edition of the German monthly magazine about dance *Tanz* publishes a large article and review about the premiere of the ballet *Nureyev* that had its premiere at the Bolshoi Theatre on December 9.

The review says: “The ballet choreography also includes acting, fine art, solo and choir singing as well. Violin and harp playing is united on stage. Over 200 artists were involved in the production. The director who until further notice is under house arrest, is also responsible for the libretto and the set design. The result was not less than in all senses appealing, profound and

a visually spectacular overall work of art on the stage.”

The digital version of the magazine *Tanz* is available from the Bolshoi's Press-Office.



Artem Ovcharenko as Nureyev. Photo courtesy: Damir Yusupov

The February edition of the specialised dance magazine *Dancing Times* (UK) publishes articles about several interesting topics connected to Russian ballet.



Svetlana Zakharova and Roberto Bolle.  
La Dame aux camellias at La Scala. Photo from DT

DT publishes an overview of what is going on in dance in Italy by Graham Spicer. At La Scala “Svetla-

na Zakharova and Roberto Bolle led the first cast of *La Dame aux camellias*. They are the company's two étoiles, and both had danced these roles before. But not together. Much of the joy from watching these two superlative performers comes from admiring their physical perfection, their sublime lines, like two thoroughbreds prancing in front of an admiring jury.”

DT publishes an overview of what is going on in dance in France by Laura Cappelle. She writes about Jean Christophe Maillot's *Taming of the Shrew* “when he created *The Taming of the Shrew* for the Bolshoi Ballet in 2014 he said he would never stage it for his own company. But he has just staged it for Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo. “It remained a gamble: this *Shrew* was made for a brilliant generation of Bolshoi stars, including Ekaterina Krysanova, Vladislav Lantratov and Olga Smirnova and used their technical abilities to the full.” “With its dream Shostakovich score and theatrical range, *The Taming of the Shrew* stands as one of Maillot's finest achievements. Its world came alive in Monaco, and will hopefully reach a wider audience if Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo takes it on tour.”

There are no links to *Dancing Times* materials. Scanned copy of the magazine is available from the Bolshoi's Press-Office.

The German specialised classical music magazine *Sikorski* publishes in its January 2018 edition an article about the opera composer Mieczyslaw Weinberg. On 8 December 2019 is his 100th birthday.

The article writes about the life of Weinberg who was born in Warsaw. “It has taken some time for Mieczyslaw Weinberg who used to stand in the shadow of the great Dmitri Shostakovich to establish himself on an international basis.” “Today there are numerous new productions of the Weinberg operas *The Portrait*, *The Idiot* and *Lady Magnesia*.”



*The Idiot* at the Bolshoi Theatre. Bogdan Volkov as Prince Myshkin. Pyotr Migunov as Rogozhin.  
Photo courtesy: Damir Yusupov



The article reports about productions of *The Idiot* mentioning “This work is dedicated to Dmitri Shostakovich. The Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow performed the original version of *The Idiot* on 12 February 2017”.

Scanned copy of the magazine *Skorski* is available from the Bolshoi’s Press-Office.

The local Oman online English language news publication [Times of Oman](#) (Oman) publishes an article by Patricia Groves who announces *Pas De Deux* for *Fingers and Toes* “Vadim Repin and Svetlana Zakharova combine the grace of ballet and the inspiration of the violin with supreme artistry in soul-soaring performances. The music ranges from classic to contemporary, played by the superb Youth Chamber Orchestra Luigi Cherubini led by the multi-talented Vadim Repin while playing a 1733 violin by Stradivari. 7:00 pm on Wednesday and Thursday, the 7th and 8th of March.”

The February edition of the specialised dance magazine *Dance Europe* (UK) publishes articles about several interesting topics connected to Russian ballet. The DE announces the upcoming Russian Icons Gala 2018 on 25 February at the London Coliseum. The cast includes Maria Alexandrova, David Hallberg, Vladislav Lantratov, Artem OVcharenko, Anna Tikhomirova, Jacopo Tissi.

DE publishes an article by Amanda Jennings about Jean-Christophe Maillot’s *The Taming of the Shrew* in Monte Carlo. Maillot brings the production that was initially staged for the Bolshoi Ballet to Grimaldi Forum, where it is now performed by Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo. “Imagine you are a successful choreographer, artistic director of a well-respected ballet company and you are commissioned to make a full-length piece for the Bolshoi Ballet, based on *The Taming of the Shrew*. Would you be able to resist the temptation to push those wonderfully trained and perfectly honed bodies, just to see what they were capable of? Would you dissolve into ecstasies of self-indulgence, glorying in the glamour those bodies were able to bring to your steps?” The author says that Vladislav Lantratov and Olga Smirnova were hard acts to follow. “Most intriguing of all were the performances: how would Les Ballet de Monte Carlo fare in comparison with the original Bolshoi cast? Very well indeed as it turns out.”

Materials from *Dance Europe* are not available in digital form. The scanned copy of the magazine is available from the Bolshoi’s Press-Office.

## In brief

On February 1st the Central Bank of Russia released into circulation a commemorative silver coin

from the series Outstanding People of Russia; it is worth 2 rubles and depicts the ballet master Marius Petipa. The portals [Gold10.ru](#) and [onCoins.net](#) report. The coin marks the 200th anniversary of the ballet master Marius Petipa (March 11th 1818 – July 1st 1910). 3,000 coins were released into circulation.



The 2-ruble coin. The Bank of Russia.  
The ballet master Marius Petipa (1818-1910)

From March 7th till June 10th the exhibition *Two Centuries of Petipa* is going to take place at the Theatre Museum as a part of the special events marking the 200th anniversary of the outstanding ballet master Marius Petipa. The portal [Museums of Russia](#) announces. Centre national de la danse (France), which is an official partner of the Theatre Museum, has developed a virtual version of the Petipa exhibition that is available to viewers all over the globe.

On January 29th L’Opéra national de Paris announced its plans for the 2018/19 Season that will be an anniversary year. The Opera itself will celebrate its 350th anniversary; besides, there will be the 30th anniversary of its second stage, Opera Bastille. The plans were announced at the press conference by the Director General Stéphane Lissner, Musical Director Philippe Jordan and Director of Dance Aurélie Dupont. Maria Sidelnikova ([Kommersant](#)) shares the information about the coming season. The full version of the booklet is available from the Bolshoi’s Press-Office.

The opera premieres include *Les Troyens* by Hector Berlioz staged by Dmitri Tcherniakov at the [Opera Bastille](#) Music director – Philippe Jordan, costumes by Elena Zaitseva, light by Gleb Filshinsky. The performances are scheduled to take place from January 25th till February 12th 2019 (with the avant-premiere performance on January 22nd). Information about 2018/19 Season on Opera Garnier [website](#).

The concert marking the jubilee of Yevgeny Nesterenko took place on January 31st at the Astana Opera

Chamber Hall (Kazakhstan). The programme included pieces from the repertoire of the famous bass singer. The portal [Ob'ektiv.kz](#) announced the concert.

The material about the concert titled A Tribute to Maestro is available on [Astana Opera website](#).

On January 31st the Bolshoi Theatre's soloist and an Honoured Artist of Azerbaijan Dinara Alieva (soprano) performed at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall in Moscow. She presented the programme in memory of Dmitri Hvorostovsky. The information agency [Report](#) published an announcement.

The programme included arias from operas by Giuseppe Verdi (Un ballo in maschera, La forza del destino and Don Carlos) and Giacomo Puccini (Edgar, Manon Lescaut and Madama Butterfly). [TASS](#) also published the announcement.

Alexander Sladkovsky conducted the State Academic Symphony Orchestra of the Russian Federation (Svetlanov Symphony Orchestra).

The video recording of the concert and the playbill are available on the [Philharmonic website](#).



In memory of a great artist Dmitri Hvorostovsky.  
Arias from great operas. Dinara Alieva.  
January 31st © Report

The Krasnoyarsk State Opera and Ballet Theatre will be named after the opera singer Dmitri Hvorostovsky. [TASS](#) announced the news with the reference to the theatre's press-office. The official announcement was made at the press conference on February 2nd that marked the opening of the 9th International Festival Russian Opera. In memory of Dmitri Hvorostovsky. The Festival is taking place at the Krasnoyarsk Opera and Ballet Theatre from February 3rd till March 28th. Around 30 musicians and conductors from major theatres of Russia, Italy, France, Finland, Belgium, Austria, Slovakia, Serbia, Mexico, Latvia and Lithuania are tak-

ing part in the event. The news was also spread by the agency [Press-line](#) and the portal [ART1](#).

The management of Helikon-Opera has made a decision to eternalise the memory of Dmitri Hvorostovsky at his dressing room. Now there are photographs, playbills and a big picture of the world-famous baritone. [Culture News](#) report that the singer's colleagues, friends and relatives attended the opening ceremony of Dmitri Hvorostovsky's dressing room.



Photo courtesy: [MK.ru](#)

The Bolshoi Theatre's soloist Pyotr Migunov (bass) took part in the concert [Music Journey](#) with Fabio Mastrangelo. Italy. The event took place on January 31st at the Music Hall Theatre in Saint Petersburg. The source Petersburgskiy Dnevnik/Petersburg Diary reports. The orchestra North Symphony under the baton of Fabio Mastrangelo performed pieces by Giacomo Puccini, Giuseppe Verdi and Amilcare Ponchielli.

The 32nd issue of the magazine Theatre was published in January. The whole issue is dedicated to the



The January issue of Theatre magazine



project Platform and the Russian theatre in the time of President Dmitry Medvedev, as well as the social and political conditions that existed at the time when Platform was founded. Since the former heads of the project are being investigated for embezzlement together with Kirill Serebrennikov, Theatre collected reviews, playbills and photographs of the productions, lectures and concerts (around 100 events) that were presented at Platform in order to demonstrate what the state money was spent on. [Meduza](#) published the commentary by Marina Davydova, the magazine Theatre editor-in-chief, as well as a fragment of the article Platform and Unemotional Numbers that talks about budgets of different theatres in 2014.

## Debuts

### Manon Lescaut

January 24th – Valery Gilmanov as Innkeeper

### Onegin

January 26th – Alevtina Rudina as The Nurse

### The Sleeping Beauty

January 31st

Xenia Zhiganshina as Princess Aurora

Oscar Frame as a Page of Lilac Fairy's Suite

Alyona Kovalyova, Eleonora Sevenard and Oxana Sharova as Maids of Honour

Eleonora Sevenard as Fairy of Sapphires

Antonina Chapkina as Fairy of Gold

Elizaveta Kruteleva as Fairy of Silver

February 1st

Olga Marchenkova as Lilac Fairy

Antonina Chapkina as Fairy of Silver

Tatiana Lazareva in Peasant Dance

February 2nd

Oscar Frame as Blue Bird

Yuri Ostrovsky as Evil Fairy Carabosse

Maria Vinogradova as Princess Florine

Vladislav Kozlov as a Foreign Prince seeking Aurora's hand in marriage

Sergei Kuptsov and Mark Chino as Pages of Lilac Fairy's Suite

Eleonora Sevenard as Fairy of Generosity

Elizaveta Kruteleva as Fairy of Playfulness

Antonina Chapkina as Fairy of Audacity

Mariana Gomes as Little Red Riding Hood

Nikita Kapustin as Grey Wolf

February 3rd matinee performance (noon)

Vyacheslav Lopatin as Prince Desire



The Sleeping Beauty

Denis Zakharov (a student of the Bolshoi Ballet Academy, a student of Denis Medvedev, the winner of the Grand Prix at the 3rd All-Russian competition of young dancers Russian Ballet-2017) as Blue Bird

Anton Savichev and Erick Swolkin as Pages of Lilac Fairy's Suite

Tatiana Tiliguzova as Fairy of Carelessness

Victoria Yakusheva as a Maid of Honour

Maria Mishina as Fairy of Diamonds

Margarita Shrainer as Fairy of Sapphires

Elizaveta Kruteleva as Fairy of Gold

Maria Shuvalova as Little Red Riding Hood

Anna Lebedeva in a Peasant Dance

February 3rd evening performance (7 p.m.)

Alyona Kovalyova as Lilac Fairy

Daria Lovtsova as Fairy of Playfulness

February 4th

Jacopo Tissi as Prince Desire

Ana Turazashvili as Lilac Fairy

Eleonora Sevenard as Fairy of Diamonds

Alexandra Rakitina as White Pussycat

### Le Nozze di Figaro

January 31st

Mezzo-soprano [Ekaterina Vorontsova](#), the Bolshoi Opera's soloist since 2018 (a graduate of the Kazan State Conservatoire, class of Galina Lastovka; made her debut at the Bolshoi Theatre in November 2017 with the part of Dorabella in the opera *Così fan tutte* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart) as Cherubino

# Changes to the playbill

## Manon Lescaut

On January 24th and 26th the Turkish tenor Murat Karahan performed the role of Chevalier Des Grieux. Performances of Roberto Aronica were cancelled.

## Onegin

Ivan Alexeyev danced the part of Lensky instead of Semyon Chudin on January 25th and 27th (evening performance)

Anastasia Goryacheva danced the part of Tatiana instead of Evgenia Obraztsova on January 26th.

## The Sleeping Beauty

Olga Smirnova performed the role of Princess Aurora on February 1st. The performance of Svetlana Zakharova was cancelled.

February 3rd – the additional performance of the ballet took place on the Historic Stage at noon.

# Birthdays

**January 17th** – the Hamburg Ballet's principal Ivan Urban; it was for him that the outstanding choreographer John Neumeier created 15 ballets



Ivan Urban as Karenin, Anna Laudere as Anna. The world premiere of the ballet Anna Karenina by John Neumeier in Hamburg. © Kiran West

**January 18th** – the Bolshoi Theatre prima-ballerina Evgenia Obraztsova

**January 20th** – a ballet dancer, a pedagogue and a People's Artist of Russia Maria Bylova

**January 20th** – a stage director, the artistic director of the Vakhtangov State Academic Theatre Rimas Tuminas (in February 2016 he staged the opera Katerina Izmailova by Dmitri Shostakovich at the Bolshoi Theatre; he is currently working on the opera The Queen of Spades by Pyotr Tchaikovsky that is due to premiere on February 15th 2018)

**January 21st** – a dancer, a ballet master, a choreographer, a pedagogue and a People's Artist of the USSR Igor Moiseyev (1906-2007)

**January 21st** – a conductor, a pianist, a composer, a chorus master, a pedagogue and a People's Artist of the USSR Nikolai Golovanov (1891-1953)



Nikolai Golovanov

**January 21st** – a ballet dancer and a ballet pedagogue, an Honoured Artist of the RSFSR Vladimir Preobrazhensky (1912-1981)

**January 22nd** – the outstanding choreographer George Balanchine, the pioneer of the American ballet and modern neoclassical dance (1904 – 1983)

**January 23rd** – an opera director, a pedagogue, a professor and a People's Artists of the USSR Boris Pokrovsky (1912-2009), who staged 41 productions at the Bolshoi Theatre

**January 23rd** – Vladimir Bogorad (1938 – 2004), an outstanding Bolshoi Theatre soloist from 1962 till 1983, the concert master for the bassoon group at the Bolshoi Theatre. The conductor of the State Concert Agency and the Moscow Ballet on Ice since 1983; 80th birthday

**January 27th** – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

**January 27th** – Nikolai Fadeychev, the Bolshoi Theatre's ballet master and repetiteur, a People's Artist of the USSR – 85th birthday

**January 27th** – Mikhail Baryshnikov, a ballet dancer and an actor – 70th birthday

**January 28th** – Karl Valts, an outstanding theatre stage designer, an Honoured Artist of the USSR, who worked at the Bolshoi Theatre for 65 years (1846-1929)





Boris Pokrovsky

**February 2nd** – the Bolshoi Orchestra second violins concert master Kirill Filatov

**February 3rd** – the composer and conductor Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

**February 3rd** – the Bolshoi Theatre conductor Pavel Klinichev

**February 6th** – a ballet artist, a pedagogue and a People's Artist of RSFSR Yuri Kondratov (1921-1967)

**February 6th** – an opera singer (lyric and dramatic tenor) and a People's Artist of RSFSR Vladimir Petrov (1926-2011)

**February 6th** – the opera singer, the Bolshoi Theatre's "golden soprano" (1915-1948) and a People's Artist of USSR Xenia Derzhinskaya (1889-1951)

**February 6th** – the Bolshoi Ballet first soloist Vitaly Biktimirov

**February 7th** – the Bolshoi Ballet soloist and performance supervisor Irina Zibrova

**February 8th** – the Bolshoi Opera soloist Igor Tsukan

**February 9th** – the Bolshoi Ballet soloist Yulia Grebenshchikova

**January 28th** – the Bolshoi Ballet leading soloist Kristina Kretova

**January 29th** – the Bolshoi Theatre soloist and an Honoured Artist of Russia Alexei Loparevich

**January 29th** – the Bolshoi Opera soloist Ivan Maximyko

**January 30th** – an opera singer (lyric tenor) and pedagogue, the Bolshoi Theatre's soloist and a People's Artist of the RSFSR Anton Grigoriev (1926-2001)

**January 31st** – the Bolshoi Opera soloist Ekaterina Shcherbachenko

**January 31st** – the Bolshoi Ballet principal and an Honoured Artist of Russia Ruslan Skvortsov

**January 31st** – the Bolshoi guest conductor and an Honoured Artist of Russia Igor Dronov

**January 31st** – Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828) – 220th birthday

**February 1st** – Marina Kondratieva, one of the most lyrical ballerinas in the history of the Bolshoi Theatre (1951-1978), the Bolshoi Theatre's ballet master and répétiteur since 1988

**February 1st** – the Bolshoi Theatre's outstanding ballerina and a People's Artist of the USSR Ekaterina Maximova (1939-2009)

**February 1st** – the ballet dancer and the artistic director of Donetsk State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre – Vadim Pisarev

**February 2nd** – a conductor and a People's Artist of the USSR Ariy Pazovsky (1887-1953), the Bolshoi Theatre's artistic director and chief conductor from 1943 till 1948



Marina Kondratieva