



Newsletter

On October 11 and 12 the Bolshoi performed on tour in Chelyabinsk at Mikhail Glinka State Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet with the ballet [The Bright Stream](#) by Shostakovich (choreography by Alexei Ratmansky, sets and costumes by Boris Messerer).

The Chelyabinsk tour is part of the federal programme Big Tour which resumes artistic contacts of the Bolshoi and Chelyabinsk theatres.

In June 2019 Chelyabinsk Opera Ballet was on tour in Moscow. [See details](#)

The Bright Stream ballet was successfully performed in London during the Bolshoi Ballet summer season at the Royal House Covent Garden. Before that, the production was presented in Paris, New York, Milano, Brisbane, Amsterdam, and Japan.

On November 1 and 2, 2019, Bolshoi Opera and Ballet soloists will perform the opera by Sergei Banevich [The Story Of Kai And Gerda](#) (Music Director – Anton Grishanin, Stage Director – Dmitry Belyanushkin, Set and Costume Designer – Valery Leventhal) at [Royal Opera House Muscat](#) in the capital of Oman.

On November 1, 2019 – a gala concert of the Bolshoi Opera and Orchestra soloists.

October 12 – soloists of the Bolshoi YOP which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year and La Scala Academy soloists performed with great success at Zaryadye Concert Hall in Moscow within the project of annual joint concerts of young opera artists-members of youth programmes of Milano and Moscow theatres.

The Bolshoi YOP students Maria Motolygina (soprano), Baria Barakova (mezzo soprano), Vadim Babichuk (tenor), Igor Korostylyov (bass) and Francesca Manzo (soprano), Katerina Piva (mezzo soprano), Ettore Lee (baritone) of La Scala Academy performed arioso, arias, duos and scenes from operas of Russian, Italian and French composers. The Tchaikovsky Grand Symphonic Orchestra played under the baton of Alvis Casellati (Italy).



The Bolshoi performed in Chelyabinsk at Mikhail Glinka State Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet. Photo by Katerina Novikova



Dmitry Vdovin and the Bolshoi YOP and La Scala Academy soloists after the concert at Zaryadye, Moscow, October 12.

Photo by Elena Gamanyuk/Facebook

The Moscow Institute of Italian Culture supported the concert. [The programme](#)

December 8, the Historic Stage — a Big Anniversary Concert of the YOP members and graduates including the world renowned singers Venera Gimadievaa, Nina Manisyan, Bogdan Volkov, Olga Kulchinskaya, Andrei Zhilikhovskiy, Vasilisa Berzhanskaya, and the winners of this year major opera contests Maria Barakova and Maria Motolygina, Andrei Kimach and Ilya Kutukhin, and others. The Bolshoi Orchestra, conductor — maestro Alexander Sladkovsky.

On March 3, 2020, the Bolshoi YOP members will represent Russian culture at the festival.

M. ART in Tel-Aviv.

On October 23 the Bolshoi will celebrate [World Ballet Day](#) taking part in World Ballet Day live for the 6th time together with the London Royal Ballet and the Australian Ballet.

Live screening will be available on the theatre official [Facebook page](#) and on the site [World Ballet Day live](#).

The programme for the audience includes one day in the life of the Bolshoi — Boris Akimov's class, rehearsals and interviews, meetings with Olga Smirnova, Artemy Belyakov, Igor Tsvirko, Anastasia Denisova, Alexandra Trikoz. The spectators will meet those working their first season at the theatre. The Bolshoi slot includes Moscow Ballet Academy, Perm Ballet and the Bolshoi School in Brazil.

The livestream is run by the head of the Bolshoi press office Katerina Novikova and reporter Mikhail Zelensky.

[The video trailer at the Bolshoi YouTube channel](#)



[World Ballet Day live](#)

On October 27, the ballet [Raymonda](#) by Alexander Glazunov at the Historic Stage will be shown within the project Bolshoi In Cinema 2019/20 — the Bolshoi together with Pathé Live and Bel Air Media continue livestreams and screenings of its ballets to cinemas all over the world.

Libretto by Yuri Grigorovich after scenario by Lidia Pashkova, based on medieval knight's legends. Production choreographer — Yuri Grigorovich (version of 2003.)

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

The broadcast starts at 18:00, Moscow time.

Olga Smirnova will appear in the title role. Artemy Belyakov — as Knight Jean de Brienne, Igor Tsvirko — as Abderakhman.

Casts

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

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



The ballet [Raymonda](#) by Alexander Glazunov will be livestreamed from the Historic Stage within the project Bolshoi In Cinema 2019/20 on October 27



Unmatched Odyssey to music by Max Richter recreates a wonderful world with distorted perspective, magic immobility in alienated reality.

Photo Rahi Rezvani

The 20th DanceInversion festival is well under way. October 23, 24 and 25, the New Stage — ballets by Nederlands Dans Theatre. The programme includes Blackout/Statement/Woke Up Blind/Unmatched Odyssey to music by Ólafur Arnalds/Owen Belton/Jeff Buckley/Max Richter. Choreographers: Paul Lightfoot and Sol Leon, Crystal Pite, Marco Goecke.

November 2 and 3 (together with Golden Mask festival) *Autobiography* by Jlin (Jerrilynn Patton), Wayne McGregor Company, Britain. Set design and production — Ben Cullen Williams.

November 2 and 3 at Moscow Academic Musical Theatre of Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko — Oscara by Iñaki Letamendia, Xabier Erkizia, Pablo Gisbert. Kukai Dantza/ Spain, Choreographer — Marcos Morau.



Autobiography by McGregor.
Photo by [DanceInversion](#)

Events

October 9, 10, 11, 12 (12:00 and 19:00) and 13, the Historic Stage — [Il Viaggio A Reims](#) by Gioachino Rossini.

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

Music Director — Tugan Sokhiev

Stage Director — [Damiano Michieletto](#)

[See more](#)



[Il Viaggio A Reims](#) by Rossini at the Historic Stage.
Curtain calls on October 9. Photo by Marat Gogaev

Conductor — maestro Tugan Sokhiev (all days).

[Casts](#)

[New performers, details](#)

The performances of October 9 and 10 were given within the [4th Russian Musical Theatres Festival Seeing the Music](#), held in Moscow from September 16 to November 11 supported by The Ministry of Culture of the RF and the President Grant Foundation. This year the festival runs full scale — 33 theatres show 43 productions at venues in the capital. [The festival schedule](#)

On October 29, the New Stage — Bashkir State Opera Ballet will present *Faust* by Charles Gounod staged by Georgy Isahakyan.

[TASS announces](#)

[Orpheus Radio](#)

October 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 (14:00), the Historic Stage — [Don Carlo](#) by Giuseppe Verdi, staged by [Adrian Noble](#).

[See more about the opera and its history at the Bolshoi](#)

The October series features a star opera cast. Ildar Abdrazakov as Philip II (October 16, 18); Nadya Krasteva (October 16, 18, 20) and Elena Zhidkova (October 17, 19) debut as Princess Eboli.

Main roles also performed by: [Rafał Siwek](#) as Philip II (October 17, 19, 20); Yusif Eyvazov (October 17, 19) and Oleg Dolgov (October 16, 18, 20) as Don Carlo; Igor Golovatenko (October 16, 18, 20) and Elchin Azizov as Rodrigo, Marquis of Posa; Anna Nechaeva (October 16, 18, 20) and [Veronika Dzhioeva](#) (October 17, 19) as Elisabeth of Valois. [Casts](#)

Conductor — [Dmitry Kryukov](#) (all days) (since 2019 — chief guest conductor of Bashkortostan National Symphonic Orchestra.)



Ildar Abdrazakov as Philip II. [Don Carlo](#) by Verdi at the Historic Stage. Photo by Evgeni Odinkov

October 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 — ballet by Alexander Glazunov *Raymonda*. Libretto by Yuri Grigorovich after

scenario by Lidia Pashkova, based on medieval knight's legends.

Choreographer — Yuri Grigorovich (version of 2003)

Scenes in choreography by Marius Petipa and Alexander Gorsky used

Designer — Simon Virsaladze

Music Director — Pavel Sorokin

Lighting Designer — Mikhail Sokolov

Assistant Choreographer — Natalia Bessmertnova

Casts

October 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, the New Stage — [Rusalka](#) by Antonín Dvořák.

Libretto by Jaroslav Kvapil based on folk legends.

The premiere took place on March 6, 2019.

Music Director — [Ainārs Rubiķis](#) (Latvia).

Director — [Timofei Kulyabin](#). It is his second production at the Bolshoi after Don Pasquale by Donizetti.

The director worked on the production with his old team: Set Designer [Oleg Golovko](#), Costume Designer [Galina Solodovnikova](#), Video Designer — [Alexander Lobanov](#).

Casts

Premiere details



Singers after the performance of Rusalka on October 10, the New Stage. Photo by Lydia Volnova-Toshich/[FB](#)

October 16 and 17, the New Stage — ballet [A Hero of Our Time](#) to the music by Ilya Demutsky.

Choreography — Yuri Possokhov

Conductor — Alexander Soloviev.

Casts

October 19 and 20 the New Stage — ballet [Onegin](#) by John Cranko to music by Tchaikovsky. The premiere was on July 12, 2013, at the Historic Stage. The performance is on the New Stage since January 25, 2018.

About the history of the ballet's creation

Conductors: October 19 — Alexei Bogorad, October 20 — Pavel Klinichev.

Casts



Artemy Belyakov as Lensky, Maria Vinogradova as Olga (photo by Dmitry Yusupov); [Onegin](#) by John Cranko at the New Stage

October 16 — a concert of the Bolshoi Orchestra artists [Quartet Night](#) in Beethoven Hall — Two Worlds — Two Masters.

Kristina Avanesyan (piano), Alexander Kalashkov, Diana Avanesyan (violin), Olga Zhmaeva (viola), Stepan Khudyakov (cello) performed chamber music by Johannes Brahms and Robert Schumann.

Details

October 19 — the Bolshoi Orchestra artists concert [Bassoon Plus](#)

Ensemble Bassoon Plus: Andrei Rudometkin (bassoon), Kirill Filatov (violin), Dmitri Novikov (violin), Alexei Yanenko (viola), Vyacheslav Chukhnov (cello), Dmitry Torbeev (bass guitar), Anton Mikhalevsky (percussion) and

Alexei Bazhalkin, Sergei Bobchenkov, Taras Sambir, Alexei Marutaev (contraforte), Anna Grishina (piano).

October 20 — concert [In Commemoration of Kirill Kondrashin 105th anniversary of his birth](#).



Kirill Kondrashin (1914-1981)

The Bolshoi Chamber orchestra performed Franz Schubert's Entr'acte from Rosamunde, Princess of Cyprus, Robert Schumann's Cello Concerto in A minor, op. 129 (cello — Pyotr Kondrashin) and Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 in A major, op. 92.

Conductor — Mikhail Tsinman.

In Commemoration of Valery Gavrilin 80th anniversary of his birth (August 17, 1939, Vologda — January 28, 1999, St Petersburg) — for two evenings his piano music and vocal compositions will be played at Beethoven Hall within Neither Yes, Nor No concert programme.

October 25 — [Part 1](#).

Ekaterina Shcherbachenko (soprano), Svetlana Shilova (mezzo-soprano), Boris Pinkhasovich (baritone), Alexei Goribol and Pavel Konovalov (piano) perform songs to lyrics of Russian poets, a vocal cycle for baritone and piano to lyrics by Heinrich Heine First German Notebook, a vocal cycle for soprano, mezzo-soprano and piano Evening/ Little Album, and Pieces from Sketches for piano for four hands.

October 31 — [Part 2](#).

Olesya Petrova (mezzo-soprano) and Pyotr Migunov (bass) will perform a vocal cycle for voice and piano to lyrics by Heinrich Heine Second German Notebook, a vocal cycle for mezzo-soprano and piano to folk lyrics Russian Notebook and collected romances.

Piano — Alexei Goribol.



Valery Gavrilin

October 11, 12, 13, Pokrovsky Chamber Stage — premiere performances of [La Périchole](#) by Jacques Offenbach continue.

The opera-buffo was first performed at the Bolshoi on June 20-22, 2019.

Stage Director and Set Designer — [Philipp Grigoryan](#)

Conductor of the premiere — [Philipp Chizhevsky](#)
Dramaturge — [Ilya Kukharensko](#)

Costume Designer — [Vlada Pomirkovanaya](#)

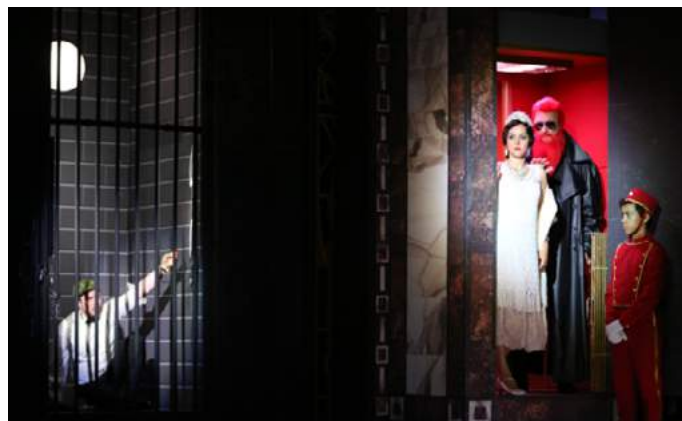
Choreographer — [Anna Abalikhina](#)

Lightning Designer — [Sergei Vasiliev](#)

[Casts](#)

[Details](#)

The video trailer for La Périchole premiere at the [Bolshoi YouTube channel](#).



La Périchole – Marianna Asvoynova,

Piquillo – Pyotr Melentyev,

Don Andrés de Ribeira – Alexei Morozov;

[opera-buffo by Offenbach](#) at the Chamber Stage.

Photo by Vladimir Mayorov

October 18 and 19, Pokrovsky Chamber Stage — “a merry drama” by Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) [Il Mondo Della Luna](#), libretto by Carlo Goldoni.

Stage Director — Olga Ivanova.

[Details](#)

Music Director — Vladimir Agronsky. [Casts](#)

October 20, the Chamber Stage — [Stabat Mater](#) by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi, to the text by Jacopone da Todi, and [La Voix Humaine](#) by Francis Poulenc, Libretto by Jean Cocteau.



Irina Kurmanova as Woman. Photo from the archive of Chamber Theatre of Boris Pokrovsky

Stage Director — Olga Ivanova.

Conductors of the premiere: Vladimir Agronsky, Ayrat Kashaev. Conductor — Alexey Vereshchagin.

Cast

Conductor of the premiere of the opera La Voix Humaine — Igor Gromov. [Irina Kurmanova](#) as Woman.

Conductors — Alexei Vereshchagin (Stabat Mater), Ayrat Kashaev (La Voix Humaine).

November 21, 2019, — the first ballet premiere of the season. Alexei Ratmansky stages [Giselle](#) by Adam. Libretto by Theophile Gautier and Jean-Henry Saint-Georges.

Choreography: Jean Coralli, Jules Perrot, Marius Petipa

Choreographer: Alexei Ratmansky

Set and Costume Designer: Robert Perdziola with the use of Alexandre Benois' sketches

Lighting Designer: Mark Stanely

Conductor: Pavel Klinichev

Assistant to Choreographer: Tatiana Ratmanska

Main roles rehearsed by Olga Smirnova, Anna Nikulina, Maria Vinogradova, Anastasia Denisova, Denis Rodkin, Artem Ovcharenko, Artemy Belyakov, Jacopo Tissi, etc. The premiere will be at the Historic Stage.



Choreographer Alexei Ratmansky and set and costume designer Robert Perdziola study a costume from the ballet [Giselle](#) at the rehearsal room of Yuri Grigorovich.

The premiere will be at the Historic Stage on November 21, 2019. Photo by Katerina Novikova

Two baroque operas will appear this year in the Bolshoi repertoire — Dido and Aeneas by Purcell at the New Stage (co-production with Aix-en-Provence Festival) and a virtually forgotten opera by composer Vasily Pashkevich Gostiny Dvor at the Chamber Stage.

The premiere of Vasily Pashkevich's comic opera in three acts [Gostiny Dvor](#) will be on November 29, 2019.

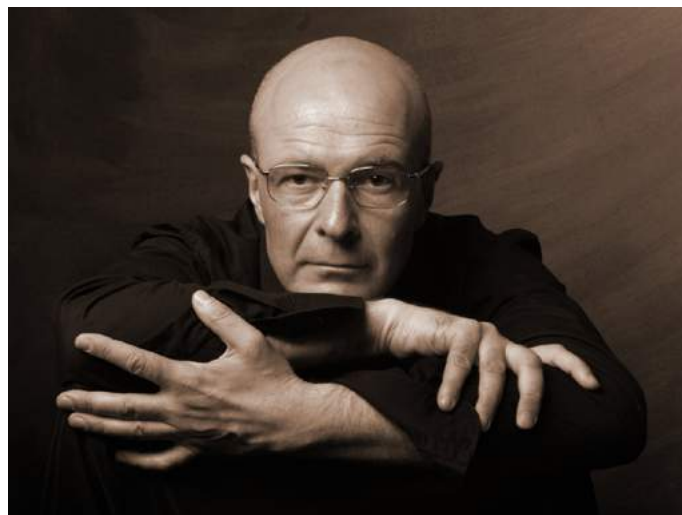
Conductor — [Philipp Chizhevsky](#)

Production Director — [Gleb Cherepanov](#)

Tugan Sokhiev puts it as follows: “For four years already, every season in the Bolshoi repertoire there appears a new baroque composition. Handel (Alcina, Rodelinda) — and that is a good tradition. You need to understand that all musical heritage that any opera repertoire is based on nowadays has its roots in baroque epoch. Great composers — Verdi, Puccini, Tchaikovsky — they all knew, cherished, understood the style and appreciated it. Why did we turn to Pashkevich? It was important for us to show that operas were created not only in Italy. Catherine the Great invited many of them to Russia. Many Italian composers lived and worked at the court in St Petersburg. Then appeared our Russian composer, Vasily Pashkevich who wrote his Russian comic opera Gostiny Dvor absolutely in traditional Italian Baroque style. We want to point out that Russian baroque existed too, and we need to be aware of it.”

[Azari Plisetsky](#), — ballet dancer, choreographer, world famous tutor, runs master-classes at the Bolshoi these days.

A unique Estonian pianist-concertmaster, rector of the Estonian Music Academy, jury member of international piano and vocal contests and participant of numerous international music festivals Ivari Ilja trains the Bolshoi YOP members from October 15.



Professor Ivari Ilja gives master-classes for the Bolshoi YOP members

Next year National Artist of the USSR, choreographer, director, actor, tutor, artist — Vladimir Vasiliev marks 60 years of his professional and artistic activities, and next year the Maestro also celebrates his 80th birthday.

In April the Bolshoi Theatre Museum will prepare a vast exhibition dedicated to the anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Vasiliev in the Historic Stage foyer.

Press analysis:

Russian mass media

The Bolshoi Director General Vladimir Urin — appears on the programme Sati. Cheerful Classics on [Ros-sia-Kultura](#) channel (Monday, October 14, 21:40; Wednesday, October 16, 15:40).

“Being a head is to see ahead,’ one of the most famous theatre directors in the world Vladimir Telyakovsky used to say about his job. My guest today,” the TV hostess says, “has been the head of the leading musical theatre of Russia for six years already. Today we speak about foresight, the art of leadership and many other things...”

The programme video recording (38’57”) is available on [YouTube](#)



Chief conductor and music director of the Bolshoi Tugan Sokhiev — appears on the programme [Kulturny Obmen](#) — aired on October 12, ORT TV channel.



“Chief conductor the Bolshoi Tugan Sokhiev speaks about modern opera and Russian musical heritage” / [ORT](#)

The Bolshoi Ballet prima Olga Smirnova — appears on the programme [Kulturny Obmen](#), air on Saturday, October 19 ORT TV channel.



Olga Smirnova. Photo by Alisa Aslanova

The Bolshoi Director General, presidium member of the Council for Culture and Art under the RF President, Vladimir Urin was the first guest of the [programme especially issued for the Year of Theatre](#).

The soloists of the Bolshoi YOP which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year and La Scala Academy soloists performed at Zaryadye Concert Hall in Moscow, [Rossiiskaya Gazeta](#) reports.



The Bolshoi YOP and La Scala Academy soloists performed at Zaryadye Hall. Photo by Lilia Olkhovskaya/RG

The YOP head Dmitry Vdovin told RG about common features of Russian and Italian singers and about their cultural connections.

“What famous maestros shared their experience with the Bolshoi YOP members?”

Dmitry Vdovin:

“Our singers in La Scala were taught by such prom-

inent experts as Mirella Freni, Renato Bruson, Luciana D'Intino, Luciana Serra, Vincenzo Scalerà. Maestro Alberto Zedda, Ernesto Palacio, Alessandro Amoretti and Giulio Zappa came to Moscow, to the Bolshoi. All this helps to improve not only professional but cultural level of our singers. When in Italy, our students visit theatres and museums, admire the architecture. It is an immense motivation for their artistic growth. /./”

The shortlist of the 5th Prize of Music Critics' Association from the season 2018/2019 was announced. It includes Dmitry Vdovin – for outstanding achievements in training of opera singers and due to the Bolshoi Youth Opera Program 10th anniversary, – [Muzykalnaya Zhizn](#) reports.

The shortlist is published on the Music Critics' Association [website](#) also.

The prize is awarded for achievements in the sphere of music and musical theatre art in the previous season. The prize winner will be announced before the end of October.

The prize short list is also published by [TASS](#) and other media.

The Bolshoi Ballet has toured in Chelyabinsk, [TASS](#) reports

[Radio Kultura](#) and dozens of media.



The Bolshoi Ballet dancers at The Bright Stream dress rehearsal on the stage of Chelyabinsk State Opera and Ballet Theatre. Photo by Andrei Golubev

DanseInversion Festival remains one of the main topics covered by media.

On Akram Khan Company performance:

[First Channel](#)

[Kultura channel](#)

[Muzykalnoe Obozrenie newspaper](#)

[Sputnik](#)

“It is important for me to tell a story and to speak about what is important today,” Akram Khan said at a meeting before the performance. “My Giselle (the pro-

duction was presented in Moscow within Chekov Festival) is about immigrants, and the one I am presenting today, Outwitting the Devil, is about how we power-craving people, longing to control Nature completely, end up destroying and devastating it... Outwitting the Devil is to defeat death, and what can we do for it? I wanted to address people with this question, to express my concern with what is going on.”

The head of a British organisation Westminster Forum on Russia Nicolas Cobb considers the Bolshoi summer tour as an example of cultural cooperation improving British-Russian relations, [TASS](#) reports.



The jury: dancer and choreographer Alexander Mogilyov; ballet dancer, vice-head of Sevastopol State Ballet Academy Sergei Polunin; choreographer Sofia Gaidukova; Russia-K presenter Mikhail Zelensky

[Kultura TV channel](#) announces the launch of a new project about children and youth dancing Big And Small. Presenter – the Bolshoi prima ballerina, l'etoile of La Scala ballet company Svetlana Zakharova.

[TASS](#): “The project will include both ensembles and solo performers who will choose their programmes themselves.” The agency emphasises the participation of Sergei Polunin in the project.

[Vesti. Sevastopol](#): “Russia-Kultura channel will make a TV project with Sergei Polunin.”

[Big And Small project details](#)



“The Dmitri Hvorostovsky Festival is held for the first time in his native city of Krasnoyarsk (October 16-

26). President Vladimir Putin sent the guests and participants of the festival a message of greetings,” [Kultura channel](#) reports.

[A&F](#): “Dmitri Hvorostovsky Festival will become an international event.”
and over 20 online publications.

Press analysis:

international mass media

International online publications announce the upcoming screenings of Bolshoi Ballet live performances in cinemas across the world. On October 27 the audience will see the live screening of the ballet *Raymonda*.

The online specialised entertainment news publication [Broadway World](#) reports: “*Raymonda* is a must-see of the Bolshoi Ballet, a work of living dance history showcasing the ballerina as the ultimate virtuoso. Being one of legendary choreographer Marius Petipa’s final works, he fully armed this ballet with beautiful court scenes, romantic corps de ballet dances, Hungarian czardas and a title role suited for the most outstanding ballerina.”

The Greek online news publication [Newpost.gr](#): “Impressive start to the successful satellite dance performances by the Bolshoi Theatre, with an exquisite international repertoire combining action and romance.”

The French newspaper [Le Telegramme](#) announces the upcoming screening of *Raymonda* in local cinemas

The Spanish online specialised dance news publication [Danza Ballet](#) announces the upcoming World Ballet Day on 23 October and publishes the full schedule for the day. “This year, the event focuses on the theme Everyone can dance (Every Body Can Dance). The hosts / organisers are the Royal Ballet of London, the Australian Ballet and the Bolshoi Ballet of Moscow.”

The online specialised entertainment news publication [Broadway World](#) reports: “Internationally renowned ballerina Svetlana Zakharova — the Bolshoi’s prima and the first and only Russian Etoile at Teatro alla Scala — is famous for thrilling audiences and critics all over the world with her formidable technique and her sparkling

dramatic interpretation of classical and contemporary roles.” “Zakharova returns to the London Coliseum this December with *Modanse*, a brand new double bill produced by MuzArts, the fast-growing performance art production company. Zakharova will be joined onstage by a star-studded cast of dancers from the Bolshoi Ballet including Mikhail Lobukhin, Vaycheslav Lopatin, Denis Savin, Jacopo Tissi, and Ana Turazashvili.”

The Italian daily newspaper [La Repubblica](#) announces events in Bologna *Amore/ Love*, Municipal Theatre, October 15. “At the Town Hall the tribute to Italy of a “world ballet superstar in harmony with the intimacies of the heart” is staged. We are talking about Svetlana Zakharova’s triptych *Amore*, a show that will close the 2019 dance season this evening.”

[Giornale della Danza](#) (Italy) publishes an article by Sara Zuccari who reports: “Zakharova engages in the contemporary repertoire entrusting internationally renowned choreographers with the three works that make up the triptych and filling the stage with soloists and principal dancers of the Bolshoi Ballet.

‘I realised that in myself the desire to meet new choreographers grows, to confront myself with styles unknown to me, without fear of experiments,’ says Svetlana Zakharova. ‘I like it and it even amuses me, showing myself different from how the public expects to find me, to reveal unexpected aspects of my stage personality. Certainly it is difficult and risky to experiment, but for a dancer nothing is more stimulating.’”



Svetlana Zakharova in *Amore*.
Photo by Batyr Annadurdyev

The Italian online specialised theatre news publication [Teatri Online](#) announces the performances of *Don Quixote* at the Rome Opera House with Evgenia Obraztsova. “The guests Evgenia Obraztsova, principal dancer of the Bolshoi Theatre, and Davide Dato, principal dancer at the Wiener Staatsoper (October 15th and

17th), among the major new Italian talents in the limelight on the international scene will dance in the main roles of Kitri and Basilio.”

The Italian online specialised dance news publication [Danza and Danza](#), also reports about performances of Don Quixote at the Rome Opera House with the Bolshoi ballerina Evgenia Obraztsova.

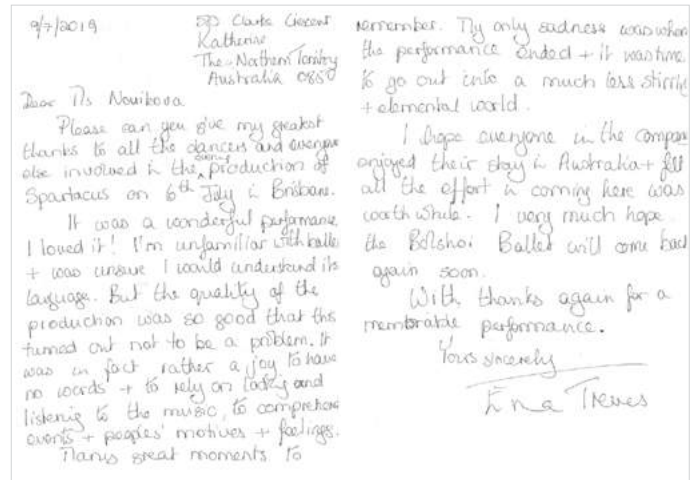
The local online Italian news publication [Vivere Pesaro](#) reports: “The final concert of the Master Masterclass students of Master Makvala Kasrashvili took place in Pesaro at the Tebaldi Del Monaco Opera Singing Academy, the international centre for vocal opera training. A soprano with an international career, principal soloist of the Bolshoi with recitals in the main theatres of the world.” “Since 2000 – Assistant to the Chief Conductor and Music Director of the Bolshoi Theater (Moscow). Professor of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory of Music in Moscow, the most important in Russia. Makvala Kasrashvili, holds prestigious master classes for young talents from various countries.”

The Spanish newspaper [La Vanguardia](#) announces: “Spanish baritone Pablo Ruiz debuts Thursday (10 October) at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow in *Il Viaggio A Reims* by Gioacchino Rossini. The Andalusian singer will play for the first time the role of Lord Sidney, under the musical direction of Tugan Sokhiev and the stage direction of Damiano Michieletto, with the Orchestra and Choir of the Bolshoi Theatre. The rest of the performances in which he appears will be on October 12 and 13.”

The local online Spanish news publication [HeulvaYA](#) also announces the debut. “Pablo Ruiz is a native of Huelva. He has studied at the Superior School of Singing in Madrid, at the Accademia of the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro (Italy) with Alberto Zedda, at the Accademia Chigiana of Siena with Renato Bruson and at the Opera Estudio de Tenerife with Giulio Zappa.”

The French newspaper [La Depeche](#) (France) publishes an article by Jean-Marc Le Scouarnec who reports: “Launched by the Philharmonie de Paris in 2010, the Demos project has enabled the creation of 40 children’s orchestras throughout France. Toulouse is the new one on the list.” “Toulouse Métropole and the City of Toulouse launch today (10 October) the creation of their orchestra” “The launch of the operation in Haute-Garonne is considered an ‘important moment’, also showing the close links between the Toulouse orchestra led by Tugan Sokhiev and Laurent Bayle, general director of the City of Music and Philharmonie.”

Briefly



A fan of Bolshoi Ballet sent a rhapsodic letter to the Bolshoi press office expressing her gratitude for Bolshoi dancers’ performance in Brisbane, Australia, this summer

Director and artistic head of Moscow theatre Gogol Centre Kirill Serebrennikov was awarded the highest rank of Commander of the French Order of Arts and Letters. Sylvie Bermann, the Ambassador of France in Russia, held the award ceremony on Monday, October 14, in her residence, TASS reports.

“You represent culture of today and tomorrow. It is your contribution to cultural links between our countries that France hugely appreciates you for,” the Ambassador said upon conferring the decoration on Serebrennikov.

[Radio Liberty](#)

[Polit.ru](#)

[Govorit Moskva](#)

and over 30 online publications.

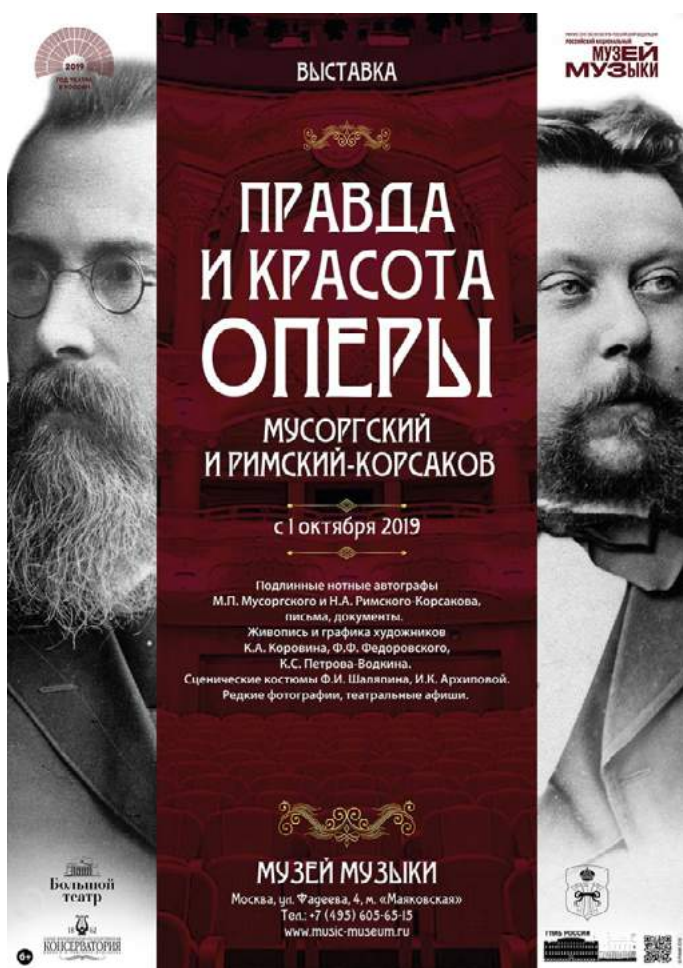


Kirill Serebrennikov and the Ambassador of France in Russia Sylvie Bermann.
Photo by Kirill Kudryavtsev/[AP](#)

On October 19 Ekaterina Krysanova and the Bolshoi guest dancer Ivan Vasiliev performed in Don Quixote at Sofia Opera. Conductor — Pavel Klinichev. The trailer announcing the Bolshoi dancers' guest performance is available on Sofia Opera [official YouTube channel](#).

On October 10 a formal opening of the exhibition Truth and Beauty of Opera: Mussorgsky and Rimsky-Korsakov took place in [Russian National Museum of Music](#) (Moscow, Fadeeva Str. 4). The exhibition was timed to Modest Mussorgsky's 180th anniversary and Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov 175th anniversary.

Over 200 items from the museum funds are exhibited there, including Mussorgsky's original manuscript of the score of the opera Boris Godunov, set sketches by Kuzma Petrov-Vodkin, Konstantin Korovin, Fyodor Fedorovsky, theatre costumes of Fyodor Chalyapin and Irina Arkhipova, theatre posters and stock photos.



[Truth and Beauty of Opera. Mussorgsky and Rimsky-Korsakov](#) — a special exhibition project of the Russian National Museum of Music. Each of its five sections is dedicated to one of Mussorgsky's operas edited by Rimsky-Korsakov

Budapest, too, hosts the exhibition Truth and Beauty of Opera. Mussorgsky and Rimsky-Korsakov, [Kultura channel](#) reports.

[The 8th Moscow Biennial of Modern Art](#) opens of October 31. Teatr magazine mentions director Dmitri Tcherniakov's becoming the curator of the main biennial project and quotes the director's words about his debut in this role: "It is my first experience of curator's work in such a big project. It connected many things in my life since the visual image is a very important aspect of what I do and what I love in theatre. Because it is my chief motivation. As I am always saying, I am all for expansion of borders between enclosed spheres of art seldom interested in each other. What is creative work, anyway? Speaking definitively, it is the creation of something new, and that is what we all do, each in our own way and in various genres."

In an interview with [Kommersant newspaper](#) (October 4) Dmitri Tcherniakov: spoke about the novelty of the curator's experience for a director: "...I am not the only one, after all. There is still Alexander Sokurov who did an exhibition project for Venice, there is Jan Fabre with his exhibitions, there is Robert Wilson who often takes part in various exhibitions, too. As for me, the point is that in the 1990s when I started my career I worked only in dramatic theatre and never even considered transferring to opera. Given that I studied music and experienced periods of passionate operamania. Then I went to work at opera theatre, after all, and it enraptured me up to the hilt yet it was after that transfer that I understood that people from various fields of art are locked up in their guilds, actually. And they have little interest in each other. Let's take even those who like theatre yet some other branch of it — say, drama or contemporary dance. They feel opera as a kind of Koshchei realm, they don't understand, so to say, how it works, how it fits together. It has always seemed like narrow-mindedness to me. And I have always been for blurring the borders as far as it lies within me."

[Kultura newspaper](#) publishes an interview with director Rimas Tuminas "I always wanted to be free yet had to be the first." Vakhtangov Theatre toured successfully for two weeks at Theatre Marigny in Champs Elysees in Paris.

An evening with the National Artist of the USSR in honour of the 80th anniversary of the birth of Ekaterina Maximova and presentation of the film Katya. A Letter From The Past were held in Kaliningrad cathedral church, [Kultura RF](#) reports.

The Perm Opera Ballet started accepting applications to the [Maximova Ballet Competition Arabesque](#) that will be held at the theatre from April 24 to May 5, 2020.

Two age groups of young ballet dancers and ballet school students from Russia and other countries will take part in the competition. The ballet Anyuta by Vladimir Vasiliev will be premiered on the festival's opening day at by Perm Opera Ballet. The mMaitre, artistic director and chairman of the jury turns 80 in 2020.

perm.kp.ru



A fan of Bolshoi Ballet sent a rhapsodic letter to the Bolshoi press office expressing her gratitude for Bolshoi dancers' performance in Brisbane, Australia, this summer

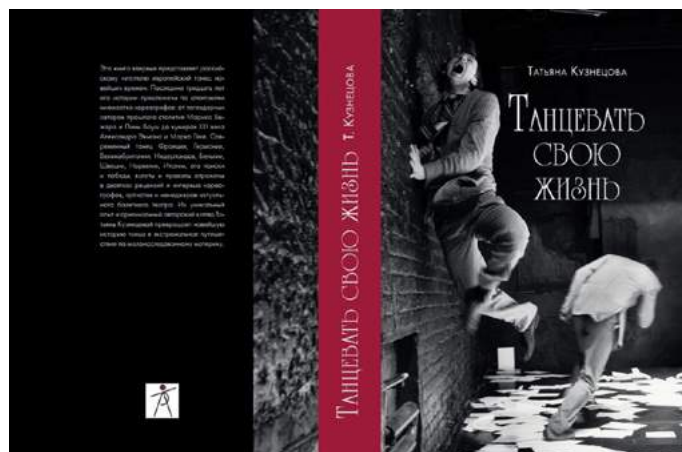
The highlight of Context Festival. Diana Vishneva — an evening with young choreographers. There the competition finalists present their works created especially for the festival.

[Kultura channel](#)

At Bakhrushin Museum Tatiana Kuznetsova presented a new book based on previously published reviews — [Dance Your Life](#) — about foreign ballets seen in Russia and abroad.

“This book first presents European dance of contemporary times to Russian readers. The last 30 years of its history are followed in productions of many choreographers — from legendary 20th century creators Maurice Bejart and Pina Bausch to idols of the 21th century Alexander Ekman and Marco Goecke,” the annotation states.

The exhibition of Evgeni Umnov at Multimedia Art Museum within the Soviet Photo Classics programme closed on October 20. It was titled [Selection. For the 100th Birthday Anniversary](#).



Tatiana Kuznetsova. [Dance Your Life](#). Moscow: Artist. Director. Theatre, 2019. — 558 pages, illustrated. — ISBN 9785873341344

Sol Hurok, American impresario and organiser of the USSR artists' tours in the USA, rated highly the photos of dancers of the Bolshoi Theatre of the USSR and Moiseev Ensemble taken by Umnov (Ogonyok magazine photo-reporter in 1950-1975), — [Rosfoto website](#) mentions.

The museum continues to November 17, 2019, the exhibition [World Ballet Stars In the Focus Of Legendary Serge Lidot. 1930s–1980s](#)



[Evgeni Umnov](#). Swans. Ballerinas of Bolshoi Theatre of the USSR at the diner of the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. 1963. — [Serge Lidot](#). Zizi Jeanmaire. Casino de Paris. 1975 — Photo exhibitions at MMAM

[Festival Diaghilev P.S.](#) marks the anniversary of Diaghilev's Ballets Russes. In the year of 110th anniversary of the company's creation and the 90th anniversary of death of the impresario the festival fills its programme with new versions of Diaghilev's productions. One of the most interesting is Les Noces by Tatiana Baganova (November 22, Bryantsev Youth Theatre). Festival Diaghilev P.S. will end with Memory by the legendary couple of choreographer Mats Ek and his muse Ana Laguna (December 1, Eifman Children Dance Theatre.) Duets The Axe and Memory dance over simple songs — wood

chopping and a long life spent together. Ek (74) and Laguna (64) are still amazing on stage. Memory looks like not an “evening of reminiscence” about the life past but like a manifestation of the boundless capabilities the dancers.

calendar.fontanka.ru



[International Art Festival Diaghilev P.S.](#)

Will be in St Petersburg
from November 14 to December 1, 2019

Teodor Currentzis' orchestra MusicAeterna is now registered in St-etersburg House of Radio, Sobaka.ru reports.

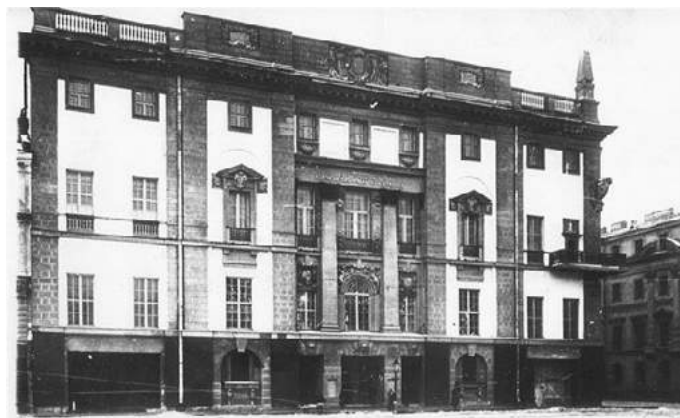
Pianist Alexei Goribol talked to his old friend and the conductor's general manager Mark De Monie, who studied at the conservatory in the beginning of 1990s:

“Since recently both Valery Gergiev and Yuri Temirkanov, and now Vladislav Chernushenko as well, give your orchestra an opportunity to perform at Mariinsky Concert Hall, the Philharmonic Grand Hall and the Capella. Do you know their reaction to Teodor's transfer to St Petersburg, and what it was?”

“It was the warmest welcome. They accept Teodor sincerely as a colleague who has long proven his consistency as a musician and shown that he is all in for an uncompromising life in art. Everybody sees that he comes here not to make competition but to enrich and stimulate St Petersburg musical life. It has to be mentioned that Valery Gergiev's attitude to Teodor is very warm, and it is very important to the latter — he never wanted to burst onto the territory with insolence or force. We took certain steps, conducted negotiations and came here as welcomed guests. After all, you do know that they all — Gergiev, Temirkanov, Chernushenko as

well as Currentzis — are the Conservatory graduates of different years but pupils of the same outstanding master, Ilya Musin.”

[See more](#)



August Gathering's own house
(built in 1912-14, architects — Kosyakov brothers) —
the House of Radio. Photo/Citywalls.ru

On October 10-20 the Open Club Gallery held an exhibition [Old.Neat.Sergei Bakhrin](#). Book illustrations of different years by Sergei Bakhrin were presented there: to How To Draw A Bird by Jaques Prevert, to books by Thomas Mann, Chaucer and other authors.

“Our work in illustration is maybe a happy tribute of moments of joy, to childhood. For many centuries, illustrations substitute as a time machine for children and all common people. They helped to soar over the mundane. Pictures in a book — like trains — took [readers] to distant countries and introduced them to remarkable people, once and for all. Memories of them still take us to other worlds,” Sergei Bakhrin says.



Sergei Bakhrin

Sad news

On October 17 the unique ballerina, the founder and mainstay of Cuban ballet Alicia Alonso age passed away aged 99.



Alicia Alonso as Giselle, American Ballet Theatre, November 2, 1943.

Photo by Maurice Seymour, National Museum of Dance

Bolshoi Theatre mourns the passing of the great ballerina. A letter of condolence was sent to the Cuban theatre.

Dear friends and colleagues,

Please accept our deepest regrets upon the demise of the outstanding ballerina, the unique and inimitable Alicia Alonso.

One of the brightest stars of her era, she became an epoch herself and she inspired audiences worldwide with the art of ballet.

The Cuban ballet, its style and glory, and its very existence would not be possible without creative energy of Alicia Alonso.

She has had an impossibly exciting and long life which she gave completely to the art of dance.

We were lucky to have known her.

Her memory lives on forever in our hearts.

Vladimir Urin
Makhar Vaziev
Azari Plisetsky
Svetlana Zakharova and the team of the Bolshoi Theatre of Russia

Debuts

Don Carlo

October 16. [Nadia Krasteva](#) as Princess Eboli (also October 18 and 20). Anna Khapko as Tibo.

October 17. [Elena Zhidkova](#) as Princess Eboli (also October 19). Konstantin Artemiev as Herold

Cast alterations

A Hero of Our Time

October 16. Vyacheslav Lopatin replaces Alexander Volchkov as Pechorin (Part 3 Princess Mary.)

Onegin

October 19 (19:00). Ruslan Skvortsov replaces Alexander Volchkov in the title role.

October 20. Ivan Alexeyev replaces Semyon Chudin as Lensky.

Birthdays



Sofia Golovkina. Photo by E.Neiman

13 October — ballerina, ballet-mistress, tutor, National Artist of the USSR Sofia Golovkina (1915-2004). The

principal of the Moscow Ballet School (since 1987 – the Moscow Choreography Institute, since 1995 – the Moscow Academy of Choreography) 1960-2001.

14 October – ballerina (1965-1988) and ballet mistress of the Bolshoi (since 1995), National Artist of Russia Tatiana Golikova (1945-2012)



Tatiana Golikova as Mekhmene Bany in The Legend Of Love.
Photo from the Bolshoi Theatre Museum

15 October – the Bolshoi ballet company ballet mistress, National Artist of Russia Nina Semizorova



Nina Semizorova in Giselle by Adolphe Adam

16 October – Bolshoi Ballet prima (working under contract), Merited Artist of Russia Nina Kaptsova



Nina Kaptsova. Photo by Niv Novak / La Personne

16 October – Leonid Desyatnikov, Merited Artist of Russia, composer, the Bolshoi music director 2009-2010.



Leonid Desyatnikov

16 October – singer (baritone), National Artist of Russia Dmitri Hvorostovsky (1962-2017). Two years later on this day a monument to him was opened at Novodevichy Cemetery.

16 October – Andrejs Žagars (1958-2019), actor, opera director, TV presenter, director of Latvia National Opera (1996-2013)

17 October — Bolshoi opera soloist (baritone), Merited Artist of Russia Igor Golovatenko



Igor Golovatenko

17 October — Bolshoi ballet first soloist Margarita Shrayner



Margarita Shrayner, First variation in "Raymonda's dreams" scene. Photo by Damir Yusupov

19 October — Bolshoi Opera soloist (baritone), Merited Artist of Russia Andrei Grigoriev

19 October — Yulia Stepanova, Bolshoi principal dancer

October 21 — chief conductor and music director of the Bolshoi, National Artist of North Osetia-Alania Tugan Sokhiev

21 October — Bolshoi Opera soloist, Merited Artist of Russia Vyacheslav Pochapsky

22 October — Bolshoi Opera soloist, Merited Artist of Russia Roman Muravitsky



Tugan Sokhiev

23 October — Bolshoi Opera soloist, National Artist of Russia Irina Dolzhenko



Irina Dolzhenko as Florea Bervoix, La Traviata by Verdi. Photo by Damir Yusupov

23 October — the Bolshoi Opera soloist Vladimir Kormovich

23 October — an outstanding conductor, composer, the Bolshoi chief conductor in 1953-1962, National Artist of the USSR Alexander Melik-Pashaev (1905-1964)

24 October — Roman Abramovich, member of the Bolshoi Board of Trustees

25 October — opera diva (soprano), the Bolshoi Opera soloist in 1952-1974, mentor, National Artist of the USSR Galina Vishnevskaya (1926 -2012)

25 October — Bolshoi Ballet soloist Anastasia Vinokur

Digest has been compiled by The Bolshoi Theatre Press Office | Photos: Damir Yusupov and Mikhail Logvinov | Design layout: Ekaterina Volkova

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