

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
presents

Mariinsky Ballet

Valery Gergiev, Artistic & General Director of the Mariinsky Theatre
Yuri Fateev, Deputy Director of the Mariinsky Ballet

in

Marius Petipa's La Bayadère

October 17–22, 2017
In the Kennedy Center Opera House

(WASHINGTON)—Performing the classical masterpiece *La Bayadère* as part of the company's celebration of choreographer Marius Petipa's 200th anniversary of his birth, the acclaimed Mariinsky Ballet returns to the Kennedy Center for its 16th annual engagement for seven performances in the Opera House, October 17–22, 2017. Last performed at the Kennedy Center by the company in 2008 and set to Ludwig Minkus' score, this three-act version of *La Bayadère* tells the story of temple dancer (bayadère) Nikiya and her eternal love for Solor, a noble warrior. All performances will be accompanied by the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra.

Replete with forbidden love, shocking betrayal, and a spectral voyage to the afterlife, Petipa created *La Bayadère* for the Mariinsky Ballet more than 140 years ago. Radiating with vibrant sets and costumes, the production includes one of the most revered scenes in ballet, Act III's iconic "The Kingdom of the Shades," which includes a seemingly endless line of ghostly maidens in white, floating in perfect synchronicity across the stage. A beautiful evocation of the Romantic ideal in classical ballet and inspired by Gustav Doré's illustrations for Dante's

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Paradiso from *The Divine Comedy*, this ethereal scene is an idyllic showcase for the Mariinsky's renowned corps de ballet.

For more than 200 years, the St. Petersburg-based Mariinsky Ballet has consistently performed in the top tiers of artistic achievement. The company traces its heritage directly to the 1730's reign of Empress Anna, an advocate for the arts. In 1869, the position of principal ballet master was entrusted to Marius Petipa who markedly raised the professional standards of the company. This famous choreographer collaborated with the composers Pyotr Tchaikovsky and Alexander Glazunov on some of their greatest works, including *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, and *Raymonda*. As one of the great Imperial Theaters of Russia, the ballet and opera companies, along with the theater itself, were renamed during the Soviet era for S. M. Kirov, a Soviet statesman and political leader.

Funding Credits:

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International Programming at the Kennedy Center is made possible through the generosity of the Kennedy Center International Committee on the Arts.

Ticket Information

Tickets start at \$39. Tickets can be purchased at the Kennedy Center box office or by calling Instant Charge at (202) 467-4600. Patrons living outside the Washington metropolitan area may dial toll-free at (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquiries, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.

Performance Schedule & Principal Casting (subject to change)

Mariinsky Ballet

Valery Gergiev, Artistic Director of the Mariinsky Theatre

Yuri Fateev, Deputy Director of the Ballet Company

La Bayadère

Music by Ludwig Minkus

Choreography by Marius Petipa

Libretto by Marius Petipa and Sergei Khudekov

Set design by Mikhail Shishliannikov after (Adolf Kvapp, Konstantin Ivanov, Pyotr Lambin, and Orest Allegri)

Costumes by Yevgeny Ponomarev

Lighting Design by Mikhail Shishliannikov

with the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Nikiya: **Viktoria Tereshkina**

Solor: **Kimin Kim**

Gamzatti: **Anastasia Matvienko**

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Nikiya: **Oxana Skorik**

Solor: **Andrei Yermakov**

Gamzatti: **Anastasia Kolegova**

Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Nikiya: **Ekaterina Kondaurava**

Solor: **Timur Askerov**

Gamzatti: **Nadezhda Batoeva**

Friday, October 20, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Nikiya: **Viktoria Tereshkina**

Solor: **Kimin Kim**

Gamzatti: **Anastasia Matvienko**

Saturday, October 21, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

Nikiya: **Oxana Skorik**

Solor: **Andrei Yermakov**

Gamzatti: **Anastasia Kolegova**

Saturday, October 21, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Nikiya: **Ekaterina Kondaurava**

Solor: **Timur Askerov**

Gamzatti: **Nadezhda Batoeva**

Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

Nikiya: **Viktoria Tereshkina**

Solor: **Kimin Kim**

Gamzatti: **Anastasia Matvienko**

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PRESS CONTACTS:

Brittany Laeger
(202) 416-8445
balaeger@kennedy-center.org

GENERAL INFORMATION:

(202) 467-4600; (800) 444-1324