St. Petersburg’s historic Mariinsky Ballet makes rare appearance at BAM, Jan 15—25

Repertory of full-length classics and contemporary ballets represents three centuries of Russian ballet

Added performances of Cinderella on Jan 20 and Chopin: Dances for Piano on Jan 25

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BAM and the Mariinsky Theatre present

Mariinsky Ballet
Musical direction by Valery Gergiev

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House (30 Lafayette Ave)
Jan 15—25
Tickets start at $30

Swan Lake (Jan 15 at 7pm†, Jan 16, 21—23 at 7:30pm)
Music by Pyotr Tchaikovsky
Choreography by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov (1895)
Revised choreography and stage direction by Konstantin Sergeyev (1950)
†Premium Package: $350 (includes center orchestra seating and post-show champagne reception with Valery Gergiev)

Cinderella (Jan 17 at 7:30pm, Jan 18 at 3pm, Jan 20 at 7:30PM)
Music by Sergei Prokofiev
Choreography by Alexei Ratmansky (2002)

Chopin: Dances for Piano (Jan 24 at 7:30pm & Jan 25 at 3pm)
Music by Frédéric Chopin
Choreography by Michel Fokine, Jerome Robbins, and Benjamin Millepied

Chopiniana (Chopin/Fokine) (1908)
In the Night (Chopin/Robbins) (1970)
Without (Chopin/Millepied) (2011)

Brooklyn, NY/December 11, 2014—Responsible for producing some of the dance world’s most influential artists—Pavlova, Nijinsky, Balanchine, Nureyev, Baryshnikov—the Mariinsky Ballet and Orchestra make a rare appearance at BAM January 15 through 25 with a series of full-length classics and contemporary ballets. Representing three centuries of Russian ballet, the residency opens with two full-length works—the Tchaikovsky classic Swan Lake, choreographed by Petipa and Ivanov, revised by Sergeyev; and Prokofiev’s Cinderella from contemporary ballet choreographer Alexei Ratmansky. The company
Swan Lake may be the ultimate symbol of ballet as an art form. First staged at the Mariinsky Theater in 1895, this Tchaikovsky classic is a cornerstone of the company’s repertory. The 1950 staging by Konstantin Sergeyev remains faithful to Petipa and Ivanov’s original choreography but features a happy ending—a remnant of Soviet-era heroics. The Los Angeles Times says, “Swan Lake, in the hands of the Mariinsky Ballet, is an experience of classicism that few can duplicate.”

In 2002, the Mariinsky Ballet premiered a new version of Prokofiev’s Cinderella by little-known choreographer Alexei Ratmansky. He has since become one of the world’s most influential ballet-makers. Set in the lean years of the 1930s with modernist cityscape sets by Ilya Utkin and Yevgeny Monakhov, Ratmansky places a giant, skeletal clock at the center of the action—a gently swinging reminder of the race against time at the core of this classic fairytale: Cinderella’s midnight flee from the ball and the Prince’s pursuit of his bride.

The three choreographers represented in Chopin: Dances for Piano drew their inspiration from the leading Romantic era composer known for his virtuosic compositions for piano. Michel Fokine’s Chopiniana is credited as the first-ever plotless ballet. A corps of ballerinas in long tulle skirts come alive and encircle the young man onstage like a romantic vision, only to fade as swiftly and freeze once again in their opening tableau. In the Night is Jerome Robbins’ depiction of the varying stages of romantic love portrayed by three different couples and set to four of Chopin’s nocturnes. Lost love is at the core of Benjamin Millepied’s Without, where five couples explore the darker side of Chopin’s music.

Artistic and General Director Valery Gergiev will conduct the Mariinsky Orchestra on January 15, 17, 18, and 20.

**About the Mariinsky Ballet**

The Mariinsky Ballet is closely connected to the development of Russian choreographic art that began more than two and a half centuries ago. Foreign dance masters played an important role in the early establishment and evolution of Russian ballet. By the end of the 18th century, Franz Hilverding, Gasparo Angiolini, Giuseppe Canziani, and Charles le Picq were all working in St. Petersburg. As far back as the 1790s, however, the first Russian ballet teacher, Ivan Valberkh, came to the fore. The history of St. Petersburg ballet in the 19th century was associated with the activities of Charles Didelot, Jules Perrot, and Arthur Saint-Léon. In 1869, the position of principal ballet master was entrusted to Marius Petipa, who raised the professional standards of the company. His collaborations with composers Pyotr Tchaikovsky and Alexander Glazunov—The Sleeping Beauty, Swan Lake, and Raymonda—would yield some of the ballet world’s most prominent works. At the turn of the 19th century, the Mariinsky Ballet produced such great dancers as Anna Pavlova, Mathilde Kschessinska, Tamara Karsavina, Olga Preobrazhenskaya, Olga Spesivtseva, Vaslav Nijinsky, and Nikolai and Sergei Legat.

The years following the Russian Revolution ushered in difficult times for the Mariinsky Theatre. Almost all its leading artists abandoned the company. Nevertheless, the classical repertoire was retained and in 1922, Fyodor Lopukhov, a daring innovator and brilliant connoisseur of the past, became head of the company—enriching its repertoire with new productions. Ballet in the 1930’s was largely influenced by dramatic theater and this was reflected in such productions as
Rostislav Zakharov’s *The Fountain of Bakhchisarai*, Vakhtang Chabukiani’s *The Heart of the Hills*, and Leonid Lavrovsky’s *Romeo and Juliet*. The 1960s saw *Spartacus* and *Choreographic Miniatures* by Leonid Yakobson, as well as productions of *The Stone Flower* and *The Legend of Love* by Yuri Grigorovich, and *The Coast of Hope* and *The Leningrad Symphony* by Igor Belsky. *La Sylphide* and *Napoli* by August Bournonville appeared in the repertoire towards the end of the 1970s, as well as the revival of choreography by Perrot, Saint-Léon, and Coralli. The present-day repertoire of the Mariinsky Ballet includes, along with Petipa’s legacy, ballets staged by Michel Fokine, George Balanchine, Frederic Ashton, William Forsythe, Alexei Ratmansky, Angelin Preljocaj, and Wayne McGregor. Since 2001, the Mariinsky Theatre has hosted the annual International Ballet Festival *Mariinsky* featuring some of the greatest soloists from leading ballet companies around the world.

For press information contact Joe Guttridge at jguttridge@bam.org or 718.636.4129 x4

**PRINCIPAL CASTING:**

**Swan Lake**
Jan 15 ODETTE/ODILE: Viktoria Tereshkina, PRINCE SIEGFRIED: Vladimir Shklyarov
Jan 16 ODETTE/ODILE: Ulyana Lopatkina, PRINCE SIEGFRIED: Yevgeny Ivanchenko
Jan 21 ODETTE/ODILE: Yekaterina Kondaurova, PRINCE SIEGFRIED: Timur Askerov
Jan 22 ODETTE/ODILE: Oxana Skorik, PRINCE SIEGFRIED: Xander Parish
Jan 23 ODETTE/ODILE Viktoriya Tereshkina, PRINCE SIEGFRIED: Vladimir Shklyarov

**Cinderella**
Jan 17 CINDERELLA: Diana Vishneva, PRINCE: Konstantin Zverev;
STEPMOTHER: Yekaterina Kondaurova
Jan 18 CINDERELLA: Anastasia Matvienko, PRINCE: Alexander Sergeyev,
STEPMOTHER: Daria Pavlenko
Jan 20 TBA

**Chopin: Dances for Piano**
Jan 24 & 25

**Chopiniana**
Oxana Skorik, Timur Askerov
Piano soloist: Alexandra Zhilina

**In the Night**
Anastasia Matvienko, Filipp Stepin (Jan 25: Vladimir Shklyarov), Yekaterina Kondaurova,
Yevgeny Ivanchenko, Viktoria Tereshkina (Jan 25: Ulyana Lopatkina), Yuri Smekalov (Jan 25: Andrey Yermakov)
Piano soloist: Liudmila Sveshnikova

**Without**
Anastasia Matvienko, Konstantin Zverev, Kristina Shapran, Andrei Yermakov,
Nadezhda Batoeva (Jan 25: Yana Selina), Filipp Stepin, Tatiana Tiliguzova, Ernest Latypov,
Margarita Frolova, Xander Parish
Piano soloist: Philipp Kopachevsky
Credits
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General Information
BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming.
BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of live music for BAMcafé Live on Friday and Saturday nights with a bar menu available starting at 6pm.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater) D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM
Car: Commercial parking lots are located adjacent to BAM

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

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