

CLASSICAL ARTS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

INTERNATIONAL BALLET STARS



The Sleeping Beauty

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About show

Believe in magic again.

Experience The Sleeping Beauty, a timeless fairytale told through breathtaking choreography, Tchaikovsky's unforgettable score, and a truly magical stage design. Follow the journey of Princess Aurora – from her christening and the wicked curse of Carabosse to a century-long slumber and her awakening by true love's kiss. Every detail of this production is designed to enchant.

Featuring brand-new, hand-painted sets and over 200 exclusive costumes, the performance highlights the classical Petipa choreography in its purest form – presented by an international cast of world-renown ballet artists from Italy, Spain, Georgia, Ireland, Turkey, Brazil, Great Britain, Ukraine, Japan, Tajikistan, Moldova, and Kazakhstan.

Ballet in Two Acts with one intermission

Family-friendly – suitable for ages 3 and up

Music

Pyotr Tchaikovsky

Choreography

Marius Petipa
and Lev Ivanov

Act 1

59-minute

Intermission

20-minute

Act 2

51-minute



The Independent:

"Beautiful hand-painted sets and exquisitely rich costumes enhanced the performance of the classical choreography."

"The principal dancer who played Aurora showed herself to be up to the task, with incredibly strong balance and a gracious presentation."

"The most dynamic performance was that of the male lead who played the evil fairy Carabosse – as scary as the Wicked Witch of the West!"

With more than 10 years of experience presenting internationally acclaimed productions, Classical Arts Entertainment is proud to share this artistic journey with communities across North America.



Synopsis



Prologue

In the palace of King Florestan XIV, everyone is celebrating the christening of his daughter, Princess Aurora. Amidst the sweet sounds of harps and violins, the godmother, the Lilac Fairy, appears with her entourage. The kind fairies—Tenderness, Vividness, Generosity, Courage, and Serenity—bless the newborn with their gifts, granting Aurora the finest human qualities.

Suddenly, the master of ceremonies, Catalabutte, announces the arrival of the evil and powerful fairy Carabosse, who was not invited to the celebration. Furious at being excluded, Carabosse predicts that the young Aurora will one day prick her finger on a spindle and fall into an eternal sleep. The Lilac Fairy, however, calms the frightened parents and promises that the forces of good will prevail. She forces Carabosse to leave the palace. To protect Aurora, the King orders all spinning wheels and spindles to be banned throughout the kingdom, under penalty of death.



Act I

Scene 1

In the royal castle, a grand celebration is being prepared for Princess Aurora's 16th birthday. Guests arrive from all corners of the kingdom, including suitors vying for Aurora's hand.

In the midst of the festivities, an old woman in a dark robe appears, presenting Aurora with a spindle. The princess pricks her finger and immediately falls unconscious. The mysterious woman reveals herself to be the triumphant Carabosse, whose dark prophecy has come true.

The Lilac Fairy appears and assures everyone that Aurora will not die but will instead fall into a deep sleep. Only true love can break the spell. Using her magic, the Lilac Fairy places the entire kingdom under a sleeping enchantment, ensuring that Aurora will awaken at the right time.





Act II

Scene 1

A hundred years later, in a magical forest, Prince Desire is hunting with his entourage. The Lilac Fairy appears before the prince, revealing the image of the beautiful Aurora. The prince instantly recognizes her as the girl who has often appeared in his dreams. Enchanted, he begs the Lilac Fairy to help him find her.

Scene 2

Guided by the Lilac Fairy, Prince Desire transitions into the magical world of Aurora, where her kingdom lies hidden in an enchanted sleep. The evil Carabosse and her servants attempt to block his path and prevent him from reaching Aurora. Despite their efforts, the prince overcomes the obstacles and finds Aurora asleep in the castle.

Moved by her beauty, the prince gently kisses Aurora, breaking the spell. Carabosse and her dark magic are destroyed, and the entire kingdom awakens. Aurora and Prince Desire fall deeply in love. The prince asks the King and Queen for Aurora's hand in marriage, and they joyfully agree.

Epilogue

A magnificent wedding is held in the palace to celebrate the union of Aurora and Prince Desire. Among the guests are characters from beloved fairy tales, such as Princess Florina and the Bluebird, the White Cat and Puss-in-Boots, and Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf. The Fairies of Diamonds, Sapphires, Gold, and Silver present their blessings to the couple, and the Lilac Fairy bestows her final blessing for a long and happy life together.



Sleeping Beauty Composer



Pyotr I. Tchaikovsky

(1840-1893)

Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky was the author of some of the most popular themes in all of classical music. He founded no school, struck out no new paths or compositional methods, and sought few innovations in his works. Yet the power of his best music elevates it to classic status. It was Tchaikovsky's unique melodic charm that could, whether in his Piano Concerto No. 1 or in his ballet *The Nutcracker* or in his tragic last symphony, make the music sound familiar on first hearing.

Tchaikovsky was born into a family of five brothers and one sister. He began taking piano lessons at age four and showed remarkable talent, eventually surpassing his own teacher's abilities. By age nine, he exhibited severe nervous problems, not least because of his overly sensitive nature. The following year, he was sent to St. Petersburg to study at the School of Jurisprudence. The loss of his mother in **1854** dealt a crushing blow to the young Tchaikovsky. In **1859**, he took a position in the Ministry of Justice, but longed for a career in music, attending concerts and operas at every opportunity. He finally began study in harmony with Zaremba in **1861**, and enrolled at the St. Petersburg Conservatory the following year, eventually studying composition with Anton Rubinstein.

In **1866**, the composer relocated to Moscow, accepting a professorship of harmony at the new conservatory, and shortly afterward turned out his First Symphony, suffering, however, a nervous breakdown during its composition. His opera *The Voyevoda* came in **1867-1868** and he began another, *The Oprichnik*, in **1870**, completing it two years later.

In 1869 Tchaikovsky entered into a working relationship with composer Mily Balakirev, leader of *The Five*; the result was Tchaikovsky's first recognized masterpiece, the fantasy-overture *Romeo and Juliet*. Other works were appearing during this time, as well, including the First String Quartet (**1871**), the Second Symphony (**1873**), and the ballet *Swan Lake* (**1875**).

In **1876**, Tchaikovsky traveled to Paris with his brother, Modest, and then visited Bayreuth, where he met Liszt. By **1877**, Tchaikovsky was an established composer. This was the year of *Swan Lake*'s premiere and the time he began work on the Fourth Symphony (**1877-1878**). The period of subsidy by Mme von Meck was abundantly productive for Tchaikovsky with a spate of outstanding compositions, including the *Serenade for Strings* (**1881**), *1812 Overture* (**1882**), and the Fifth Symphony (1888). In both **1888** and **1889**, Tchaikovsky went on European tours as a conductor, meeting Brahms, Grieg, Dvřak, Gounod, and other notable musical figures. *Sleeping Beauty* was premiered in **1890**, and *The Nutcracker* in **1892**, both with success.

The Sleeping Beauty ballet is adapted from a 17th-century tale

The ballet is based on “The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood” by Charles Perrault, bringing this timeless story to the stage.

The Sleeping Beauty includes characters from other fairy tales

In the final act, you’ll see appearances by Puss in Boots, Little Red Riding Hood, and Cinderella, adding a delightful touch of whimsy to the performance

Lilac Fairy is a central character in The Sleeping Beauty

The Lilac Fairy symbolizes good and protects Princess Aurora throughout the story, showcasing beautiful choreography and a strong stage presence.

Did you know?



Tchaikovsky and Petipa collaborated on The Sleeping Beauty

The Imperial Theatre in St. Petersburg commissioned Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky to compose the score and Marius Petipa to choreograph. This was their first ballet together, leading to iconic works like The Nutcracker and the revival of Swan Lake.

The Sleeping Beauty premiered in 1890

The ballet debuted at the Imperial Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg on January 15, 1890. Initially, it wasn’t an immediate success but received more favorable critiques than Swan Lake. After Tchaikovsky’s death in 1893, the ballet’s popularity soared, with over 200 performances in the following decade.

The Sleeping Beauty has influenced many adaptations

This beloved ballet has inspired numerous film adaptations, including Disney’s animated classic Sleeping Beauty, which features Tchaikovsky’s iconic music



Shop the Classical Arts Collection & Take Home the Magic!

If you enjoyed the performance and would like to support our mission, we invite you to explore our exclusive merchandise collection, available in the Lobby. From elegant keepsakes to practical gifts—like dance-themed T-shirts, water bottles, bracelets, jewelry, and binoculars—every purchase helps us bring world-class ballet to communities across North America and engage the next generation of dancers from top ballet schools in our productions.

Enhance your experience and capture the moment: stop by for a photo with a professional ballerina from Classic Arts Entertainment in front of our stunning scenic backdrop. Take home a printed keepsake and lasting memories of this special evening.



About us

Classical Arts Entertainment has significantly impacted ballet enthusiasts across the United States and Canada with its decade of experience and rich history of over 20,000 shows.

The company's dedication to excellence is commendable, as evidenced by its meticulous approach to performance.

CAEI creates visually stunning productions that enchant and captivate audiences by combining timeless scores, impeccable dancing, hand-painted sets, and exquisite hand-crafted costumes. The choice of timeless scores ensures that the music accompanying the ballets resonates with audiences, evoking emotions and enhancing the overall experience.

Impeccable dancing is a crucial aspect of CAEI's performances. The company's dancers are undoubtedly skilled and trained to execute classical ballet's intricate and demanding choreography. Their talent and dedication bring the movements to life, conveying the grace, precision, and beauty that are trademarks of the art form.

In addition to the dancing, the hand-painted sets contribute to the overall visual splendor of CAEI's productions. These carefully crafted backdrops create immersive environments that transport the audience to different worlds, enhancing the storytelling and adding depth to the performances.

The exquisite hand-crafted costumes further elevate the productions. These meticulously designed and tailored garments enhance the visual appeal and contribute to the dancers' characterization. The costumes are vital in conveying the narrative and improving the aesthetic experience.

Through its attention to detail and commitment to excellence, CAEI brings the magic of classical ballet to life on stage. Its visually stunning productions, combined with the artistry and skill of its dancers, create an enchanting experience for audiences.



Our Team



Michael L Art

Founder and Producer
of Classical Arts
Entertainment, Inc & We
Dance Production, Inc

Michael Art, the founder of Classical Arts Entertainment, is a highly accomplished individual in the field of arts and entertainment. He graduated in 1991 from the Azerbaijan State Academy of Arts, which is a prestigious institution known for training specialists in various artistic disciplines such as design, painting, theater arts, graphics, fashion design, and advertising.

In 2014, Michael Art and his wife Lina established Classical Arts Entertainment with the aim of promoting the arts and showcasing talent from around the world. The agency primarily focuses on dance productions and has brought together renowned dance companies from different countries.

Classical Arts Entertainment has presented a wide range of ballet productions to audiences, featuring well-known classics like "The Nutcracker," "Swan Lake," "Sleeping Beauty," "Snow White," "Cinderella," "Giselle," and "Carmen," among others. These performances have showcased the mesmerizing talent and artistry of dancers from esteemed companies such as the Perm Opera and Ballet Theater and the Voronezh State Opera and Ballet Theater.

In addition to classical ballets, the agency has also collaborated with accomplished choreographers like Andrei Litvinov and Lyudmila Ivanova to introduce innovative and cutting-edge dance projects to audiences. By nurturing new talent and working with established companies, Classical Arts Entertainment has fostered an environment that promotes creativity and artistic growth.

The agency's success has extended beyond the United States, receiving international acclaim for its carefully crafted performances. Their tours have taken them to over 10,000 cities, and their shows have been watched by more than 20 million viewers worldwide. Through these performances, Classical Arts Entertainment has not only entertained audiences but also facilitated cultural exchanges and inspired people from different backgrounds.

Michael and Lina's unwavering dedication and passion for the arts have played a pivotal role in establishing Classical Arts Entertainment as a respected and renowned arts agency. Their commitment to curating exceptional dance projects has left a lasting impact on the world of performing arts, ensuring their legacy continues to flourish.



Principal dancers







Sergei Zdanschi

Principal Dancer

Biography

Sergei Zdanschi, born on January 11, 2000, in Chisinau, Moldova, has made a name for himself in ballet thanks to his powerful artistry and technical skills. He graduated from the Colegiul Național de Coregrafie in 2019, where he trained under the esteemed Andrey Litvinov, whose guidance helped shape Sergei's unique expression and precision in movement.

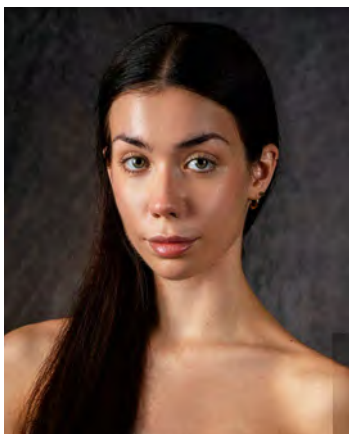
His professional career began in 2017 when he joined the ballet troupe at the Chisinau Theater. By 2019, Sergei's remarkable talent earned him the title of Leading Ballet Soloist in Dnipro, Ukraine, where he captivated audiences with his debut as Siegfried in Swan Lake. His performances have since taken him around the globe, with invitations to perform in countries including France, Germany, Spain, China, Italy, Sweden, and Switzerland, showcasing his passion and elegance to international audiences.

Awards

Recognized for his exceptional talent, Sergei has been a laureate of several prestigious ballet competitions:

- Riga Spring – Grand Prix Winner
- Vienna International Competition – 2nd Place
- Romania Crystal Swan – 1st Place
- Italy International Competition – 1st Place

With his refined technique and powerful stage presence, Sergei Zdanschi is a rising star who is celebrated for his deep artistic interpretation and dedication to the craft of ballet. Audiences worldwide eagerly await his next performance as he continues to captivate with each role he takes.



Ilona Baitler

Principal Dancer

Biography

Ilona Baitler was born in Ukraine, in the city of Dnipro, on January 27, 2002.

I'm a 4th year student at the Dnepropetrovsk Theater and Art College. Also, this year, I am graduating from the Dnepropetrovsk school of classical dance.

Teacher-Dubrovina E.A.

Since 2020, she has been admitted to the ballet troupe of the Classical Arts Entertainment in the position of the 2nd category.

As a company member and the combined ballet troupes, she was on tour in France, Germany, Switzerland, and Poland.

Awards

- "Thought -Stream" 2017 (Kiev) 2nd place
- "Thought -Stream" 2018 (Kiev) 2nd place
- Slobzhanske Kolo 2018 (Kharkov) 1st place
- "Best Fest" 2015 (Kharkov) 1st place
- "Ballet Seasons in Odessa" 2021 (Odessa) 1st place



Oleksii Kniazkov

Principal Dancer

Biography

Principal dancer of Kharkiv National Academic Opera and Ballet Theater named after N.V.Lysenko (Ukraine);

Born in Kramatorsk, Ukraine. Since childhood, Oleksii had a great passion for dance. He started his dancing path with ballroom dancing. He didn't miss a single class during his studies: "It was unthinkable for me to miss a single class, even when I was sick I could not imagine that I would miss my loved training. No matter how I felt physically I danced! I loved that so much! It was the best medicine for me!"

Education

In 2004-2008 Oleksii studied at the Choreographic School of Vadim Pisarev at the Donetsk State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre named after A.Solovyanenko (Ukraine).

In 2013 Oleksii graduated from Kharkiv State Academy of Culture, Contemporary Choreography Department (Ukraine);

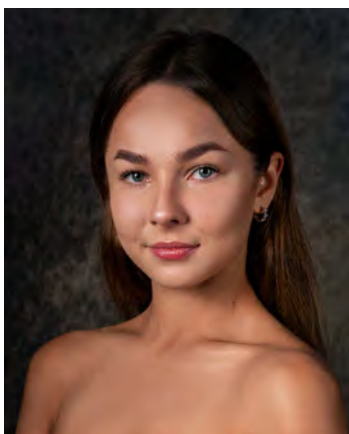
Danced with Kharkiv National Academic Opera and Ballet Theater named after N.V.Lysenko (Ukraine 2013-2022)

United Ukrainian Ballet company (The Netherlands 2022-2024)

Throughout his career, he danced with various projects at hundreds of theater venues in the USA, Canada, Australia, Singapore, Great Britain, Ireland, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Austria, Germany, Poland, Greece, Spain, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Israel, Japan, China, Taiwan, Mexico, etc.

Awards

- Grand Prix of International Dance Competition Hellas (Greece 2018)
- Best duet of Ukraine award (IBF BalletUA 2021)



Diana Stetsenko

Principal Dancer

Biography

Diana Stetsenko was born in Kyiv, Ukraine on April 17, 2001.

She began professionally studying ballet at the age of 7 at the School of Arts in Kyiv. At the age of 12, she entered the Kyiv State Choreographic School and graduated in 2019.

After graduation, she joined the Lviv National Opera. Since 2020, she began working at the National Opera of Ukraine.

In 2022, she received a contract with the Semperoper Dresden (Germany).

Since 2023, she joined the Grand Kyiv Ballet as a leading dancer.

Since 2025, she has been admitted to the ballet troupe of the Classical Arts Entertainment.

Finalist of the international classical and contemporary choreography competition "Mysul-Potok" (Kyiv, 2016) and the Grand Prix Kyiv International Ballet Festival (Kyiv, 2019).

She has toured in such countries as: Germany, Italy, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Latvia, Finland, Iceland, Estonia.

Repertoire:

"Forest Song" Mavka

"The Nutcracker" Clara, Chinese doll, Spanish doll

"The Snow Queen" Gerda

"Sleeping Beauty" Aurora

"Swan Lake" Odette, Little swans, Pas de trois, brides

"Don Quixote" Kitri's friends, Cupid, Street dancer

"Giselle" Myrtha, Peasant Pas de deux.

Soloists



**Kovalenko
Denis**



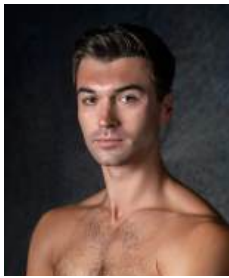
**Ide
Yumeko**



**Yelizarova
Olena**



**Zvonov
Dmytro**



**Nikulytsia
Krystyan**

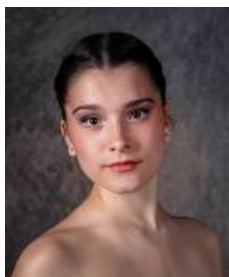


**Yoshino
Saki**

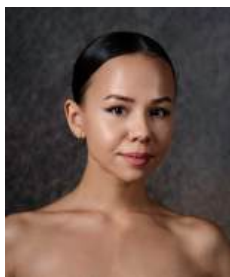


**Yatsyk
Yulian**

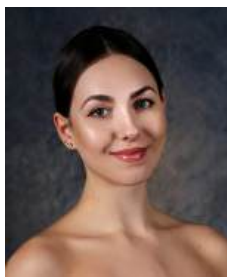
Company's members



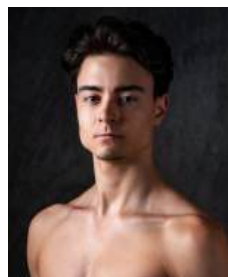
**Alipova
Yevhenia**



**Artikova
Elizaveta**



**Bivol
Luminita**



**Cebanu
Sava**



**Gunnhildor
Johanna**



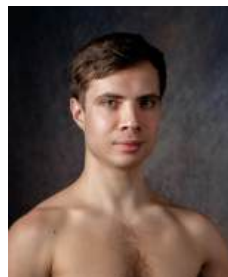
**Khujamberdiev
Akbar**



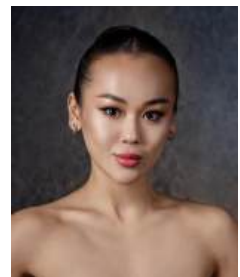
**Oliver
Milena**



**Pichuuhina
Marharyta**



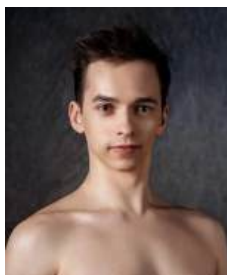
**Pisnia
Andrii**



**Ravshan Kyzy
Suimkhan**



Wall David



Yatsyk Yulian



Yoshino Saki



Since 2019 until present time, Classical Arts Entertainment has been working on engaging the studios all over the country with the We Dance Program.

The Program has grown into a 30+ Partner Studios that perform throughout the East Coast Tour every year. Classical Arts Entertainment casts student dancers ages 5-18 in ancillary roles performing alongside the professional ballet dancers. A wide variety of parts for young dancers is offered during the Grand National Tour 2025/2026, in such repertoire, as:

We Dance Program Director CAE's Vaganova-trained Professional Ballet Dancer, We Dance Program Director and Producer, Mr. Artem Yachmennikov, is integral to the success of the student dancers who perform beside the pros in the Nutcracker, Snow White & Seven Dwarfs, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty & Swan Lake! Mr. Artem was the first soloist with the world famous Bolshoi Theater in Moscow, a soloist at The Mariinsky Theater (Kirov) in St.Petersburg and a principal dancer at the Dutch National Ballet and San Francisco Ballet.

Under his attentive guidance the local Partner Studios of We Dance Program will audition and rehearse over 5000 local ballet students this coming season 25/26 through the troupe's cities on the Winter & Spring tours all over the United States, helping to prepare them for their successful performance alongside State Ballet Theatre of Ukraine's company of 55 professional ballet dancers!



Our shows

