

PLAYBILL

THE UNITED EUROPEAN BALLET COMPANY

CLASSICAL ARTS ENTERTAINMENT
PRESENTS

SWAN LAKE



AN ENDURING
MASTERPIECE BY
PYOTR TCHAIKOVSKY,
WHERE THE BEAUTY
OF DANCE SPEAKS
THE LANGUAGE
OF THE HEART

PRINCIPAL DANCER
SERGEY ZDANSKIY
ILONA BAYTLER



A MESSAGE FROM

CLASSICAL ARTS ENTERTAINMENT



While we are delighted to celebrate another exciting chapter for Classical Arts Entertainment, we are proud to announce our upcoming National Tour for the 2026/2027 season, bringing world-class ballet to audiences across the United States and Canada.

We're deeply grateful to our audiences for their continued support and love throughout the years. Because of you, we're able to expand our reach and bring the beauty of classical ballet to new cities and communities each season.

Looking ahead, we're also excited to share that a new production of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* is currently in development and planned for the 2027/2028 touring season. This vibrant and family-friendly ballet will feature new sets, beautiful costumes, and a fresh artistic vision, continuing our commitment to creating unforgettable theatrical experiences.

Our mission remains the same: to preserve the magic and majesty of the classical repertoire while showcasing the extraordinary talent of our international company of dancers. Bringing together artists from across Europe and beyond, we're proud to present performances that reflect both tradition and innovation.

Even during challenging times around the world, we continue to stand by our belief that the show must go on. Through passion, dedication, and artistry, our performers bring each production to life on stage, creating powerful and inspiring moments for audiences everywhere.

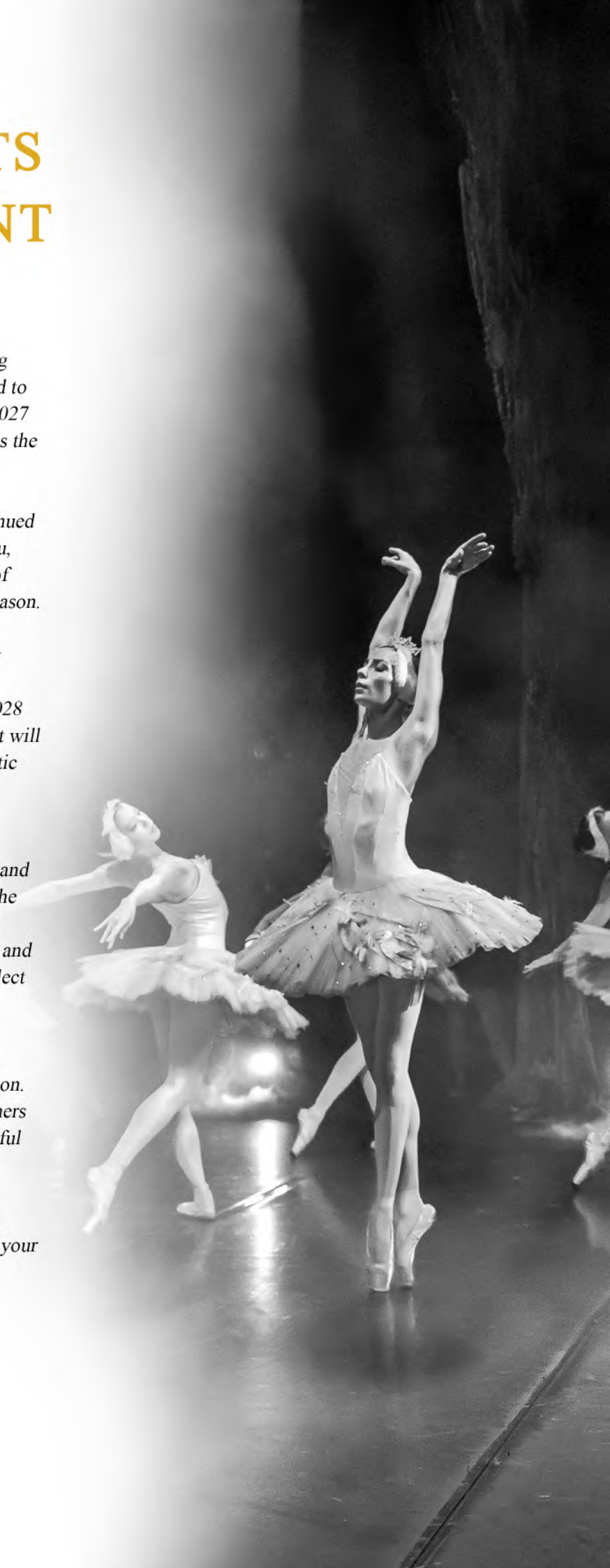
We look forward to welcoming you to the theater and sharing these unforgettable experiences with you and your loved ones.

Respectfully,

Classical Arts Entertainment, Inc.

Michael Art

Michael Art



ABOUT THE SHOW

MUSIC:
PYOTR TCHAIKOVSKY

CHOREOGRAPHY:
MARIUS PETIPA AND LEV IVANOV

AKT 1
62-MINUTE

INTERMISSION
20-MINUTE

ACT 2
46-MINUTE

Timeless.
Majestic.
Unforgettable.

STEP INTO THE WORLD OF **SWAN LAKE** – A STORY OF LOVE, MAGIC, AND TRIUMPH, BROUGHT TO LIFE THROUGH THE POWERFUL CHOREOGRAPHY OF MARIUS PETIPA AND LEV IVANOV, SET TO TCHAIKOVSKY'S ICONIC SCORE.

THIS PRODUCTION FEATURES ALL-NEW, HAND-PAINTED SETS AND OVER 200 CUSTOM-DESIGNED SCENERY ELEMENTS, TRANSFORMING THE STAGE INTO A DREAMLIKE LANDSCAPE.

WITH WORLD-RENOWN BALLET ARTISTS FROM ITALY, SPAIN, GEORGIA, IRELAND, TURKEY, BRAZIL, GREAT BRITAIN, UKRAINE, JAPAN, TAJIKISTAN, MOLDOVA, AND KAZAKHSTAN, THIS PERFORMANCE EMBODIES THE SPIRIT OF INTERNATIONAL ARTISTRY AND EXCELLENCE.

EVERY SCENE – FROM THE POETIC "DANCE OF THE LITTLE SWANS" TO ODILE'S DAZZLING 32 FOUETTÉ TURNS – IS A CELEBRATION OF CLASSICAL BALLET IN ITS MOST PURE AND EXPRESSIVE FORM.

BALLET IN TWO ACTS



ONE INTERMISSION



FAMILY-FRIENDLY
SUITABLE FOR
AGES 5 AND UP



The New York Times:

The Daily New York Times

INTERNATIONAL EDITION | TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019



“

The magic of *Swan Lake* transcends generations.

“

Odile perfectly executed the iconic 32 fouetté turns - one of the most anticipated and difficult scenes.

“

Swan Lake continues to inspire dancers and patrons of the arts to appreciate a performance that never loses its sparkle.



With more than 12 years of experience presenting internationally acclaimed productions, Classical Arts Entertainment is proud to share this artistic journey with communities across North America.



SWAN LAKE

ACT I

LOVE. ENCHANTMENT. DESTINY.

SYNOPSIS

PROLOGUE

The wicked magician Rothbart has put a curse on the beautiful maiden Odette and her friends, turning the girls into swans during the day – they are only human at night. Only a boundless true love can release them from the curse.

SCENE 1

In the garden in front of the castle, Prince Siegfried celebrates his coming-of-age party. The guests, ladies-in-waiting, and the prince's best friend, Benno, all rejoice. A hilarious Jester entertains everyone by dancing.

The reigning Queen, the mother of the prince, informs everyone that during the next day's ball Siegfried must choose a fiancée. Prince Siegfried is disappointed as he has not met a girl who he could love. It is growing dark. The guests leave the garden. Alone, Siegfried sees a flock of white swans flying high in sky, spurring him to hunt. Taking a crossbow, the prince goes into the forest.

SCENE 2

At the lakeside, Siegfried sees a white swan and draws his bow to shoot. Suddenly the swan transforms into Odette. Her beauty charms the Siegfried. Odette tells the prince of the curse. Siegfried professes his love and vows his devotion. The evil magician sees Odette and Siegfried together and decides to trick the prince into breaking his vows to Odette.





ACT II

BETRAYAL. STORM. REDEMPTION



SCENE 3

The ball has begun, but Siegfried is uninterested in any of the noblewomen dancing there. Baron von Rothbart and his daughter, Odile, arrive. Siegfried thinks Odile looks like Odette, but Benno does not agree. Siegfried asks Odile to dance and, enchanted by her, agrees to marry her. At that moment, Rothbart reveals himself as the evil magician, Odile laughs, and a white swan wearing a crown appears in the window. Siegfried runs out of the castle.

SCENE 4

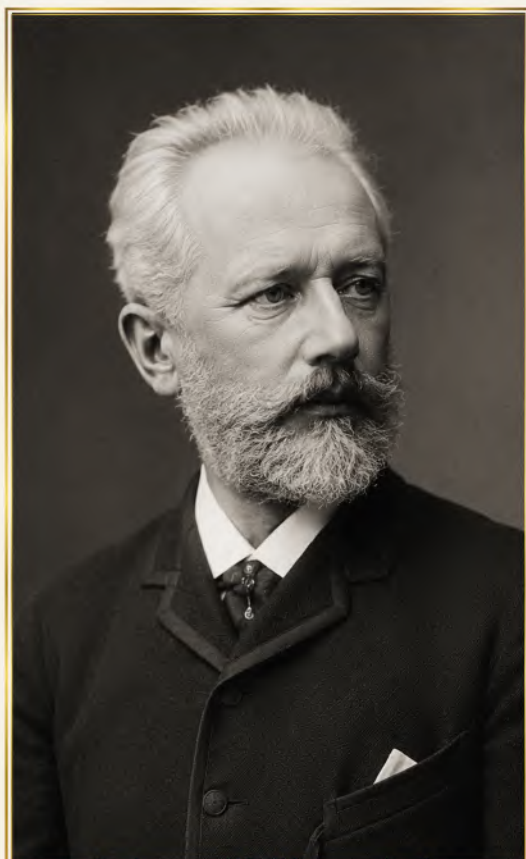
At the lakeside, Odette tells her friends about Siegfried's betrayal. Their hope to become free is lost forever. The curse of the evil magician has triumphed. The prince searches for Odette to beg for her forgiveness: he was convinced that Odile was actually Odette, and thought he was promising to marry her. Siegfried battles through a terrible storm Rothbart has created; and begins to fight him. Odette protects her beloved Prince from a deathblow, unwittingly breaking the curse with her love. The loving couple gladly meet the rays of the rising sun; Odette and her friends are human again.





PYOTR I. TCHAIKOVSKY

1840 - 1893



MUSIC IS
THE EMOTIONAL SHORTHAND
OF HUMANITY



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 Zarembo 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 fantasyoverture *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.



- 1875 -

SWAN LAKE

A timeless tale
of love and magic.



- 1890 -

SLEEPING BEAUTY

A world of
fairy tales and
grandeur.



- 1892 -

THE NUTCRACKER

A holiday classic
filled with wonder
and joy.



- 1893 -

SYMPHONY NO. 6

A profound and
haunting farewell.





DID YOU KNOW?

Timeless music, breathtaking choreography, and a hauntingly beautiful story - Swan Lake is more than a ballet. It's a legend.



01

SWAN LAKE WAS THE FIRST BALLET OF PYOTR TCHAIKOVSKY?

Written in 1876, it's a kaleidoscope of melodies, dancing, and folklore motifs. This is one of the most frequently staged ballets worldwide and paved the way for the legendary The Nutcracker and Sleeping Beauty.

02

SWAN LAKE GREW OUT OF A HOME PERFORMANCE?

Tchaikovsky's family staged an amateur performance, with the composer himself directing and choreographing. This homegrown fairy tale about a swan evolved into the masterpiece we know today.

03

SWAN LAKE BECAME ICONIC AFTER TCHAIKOVSKY'S DEATH?

In 1895, Marius Petipa's staging at St. Petersburg's Mariinsky Theater became canonical, marking the ascension of Russian ballet to global fame.

04

THE DANCE OF THE LITTLE SWANS IS THE MOST FAMOUS DANCE IN THE WORLD?

Even if you've never seen Swan Lake, you've likely heard its music and seen excerpts of this iconic dance, a highlight of Russian ballet and a favorite for parodies.

05

THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT ENDINGS TO SWAN LAKE?

Depending on the production, the story can end tragically or happily. Over the years, choreographers have created different versions, making Swan Lake one of the most adaptable ballets in history.



BY THE NUMBERS



1876

Year the ballet was composed



1895

Year of the iconic Petipa staging



~32

Dancers in the corps de ballet



~3HRS

Total runtime of the ballet



>100

Countries where it is performed

“

A ballet of romance, legend, and timeless beauty-
Swan Lake continues to captivate the world.

”

ABOUT US

THE ART. THE LEGACY. THE MAGIC.



20+ YEARS
of bringing world-class
ballet to North America



100,000+
performances
across the United States
and Canada



**STANDING OVATIONS.
SEASON AFTER SEASON.**
The admiration of
ballet lovers nationwide.

**CLASSICAL
ARTS
ENTERTAINMENT**

*Bringing timeless ballet to audiences
across North America.*

ABOUT US



WORLD-CLASS PRODUCTIONS

We unite the world's most powerful ballet companies and celebrated star dancers, from renowned international ensembles to distinguished State Theatres.



EXCELLENCE ON STAGE

We offer audiences a rare opportunity to experience classical ballet at its highest artistic level, presented with elegance, scale, and uncompromising quality.



EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

Through partnerships with ballet students and local schools, we inspire young artists and communities to connect with the beauty, discipline, and inspiration of ballet.



OUR MISSION

To create unforgettable ballet experiences and bring the magic of this timeless art form to audiences across North America, honoring tradition and inspiring new generations.



LET'S GET ACQUAINTED

Classical Arts Entertainment, Inc. works hand in hand to bring the world's strongest ballet companies to audiences across the United States and Canada. Every year, our productions fill theaters to capacity, earning standing ovations and heartfelt appreciation in every city we visit.

This season, we are proud to present an extraordinary cast, uniting artists from around the world - with Principal Dancers from Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan leading the way.

PRINCIPAL DANCERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

With unmatched dedication to their craft, these world-class dancers bring to life the timeless masterpieces of ***Swan Lake***, ***The Nutcracker***, ***The Sleeping Beauty***, and ***Snow White*** and the ***Seven Dwarfs***.

Their artistry combines impeccable technique, emotional depth, and cultural richness - creating a breathtaking experience that unites generations of ballet lovers and introduces new audiences to the beauty of this art form.

We cannot wait to share this season's journey with you and to welcome our beloved audiences back into the magic of classical ballet.

UNITING TALENT FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Spain • Italy • United Kingdom • United States • Moldova • Romania • Kyrgyzstan • Japan
Turkey • Armenia • Brazil • Poland • Tajikistan • Belarus • and beyond



ABOUT US

IMPRESARIO
MICHAEL L ART

FOUNDER & PRODUCER
CLASSICAL ARTS ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

Michael Art is the founder and producer of Classical Arts Entertainment, Inc. and We Dance Production, Inc. A graduate of the Azerbaijan State Academy of Arts (1991), he has dedicated his career to promoting ballet and performing arts internationally.

In 2014, together with his wife Lina, he founded Classical Arts Entertainment with the mission of bringing world-class dance productions to audiences across the globe. Under his leadership, the company has presented acclaimed classical ballets including Swan Lake, The Nutcracker, Sleeping Beauty, Giselle, and Carmen.

The organization collaborates with leading ballet theaters, choreographers, and international artists, creating productions that combine artistic excellence with cultural exchange. Through extensive international touring, their performances have reached millions of viewers worldwide. Known for his artistic vision and commitment to excellence, Michael Art has helped create opportunities for dancers and creative teams from different countries to perform on international stages. His productions are recognized for their high artistic standards, elegant presentation, and dedication to preserving the traditions of classical ballet while introducing contemporary creative approaches.

Michael Art is recognized for his contribution to the development and promotion of classical dance, supporting both established performers and emerging talent while continuing to expand the global presence of ballet arts.

Michael L. Art



Classical Arts Entertainment, Inc. have brought world-class ballet to audiences across the United States and Canada for over a decade, producing more than 100,000 performances.

Each season, our productions fill theaters to capacity, earning standing ovations and the admiration of ballet lovers nationwide.

This season, we are proud to present an extraordinary cast, uniting artists from around the world - with Principal Dancers from Ukraine and Kazakhstan



10+

YEARS OF

EXCELLENCE



20M+

AUDIENCES

WORLDWIDE



10,000+

CITIES

VISITED

PRINCIPAL DANCER



**SERGEI
ZDANSCHI**

Trained at the National College of Choreography in Chişinău under renowned ballet teacher Andrey Litvinov, Sergei Zdanschi began his professional career with the National Opera and Ballet Theatre of Moldova while still a student, quickly gaining recognition for his strong technique and expressive stage presence.

He later performed as a Leading Ballet Soloist in Dnipro, Ukraine, where he debuted as Prince Siegfried in Swan Lake, establishing himself as a promising classical dancer. Sergei has toured internationally across Europe and Asia, appearing on stages in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, and China. His repertoire includes leading roles in Swan Lake, The Nutcracker, The Sleeping Beauty, and other classical ballets.

Today, Sergei Zdanschi performs as a Principal Dancer with Classical Arts Entertainment.



**ILONA
BAITLER**

Trained at the Dnepropetrovsk Theater and Art College and the Dnepropetrovsk School of Classical Dance, Ilona Baitler quickly gained recognition for her strong classical technique, musicality, and expressive stage presence.

In 2020, she joined Classical Arts Entertainment, becoming one of the company's leading artists and performing extensively across Europe, including France, Germany, Switzerland, and Poland. Her repertoire includes principal and soloist roles such as Odette/Odile in Swan Lake, Aurora in The Sleeping Beauty, Clara in The Nutcracker, Kitri in Don Quixote, and Mavka in The Forest Song.

Ilona is also a prize winner of several international ballet competitions in Ukraine. Today, she performs internationally as a Principal Dancer, captivating audiences with her elegance, refined technique, and dramatic interpretation of classical roles.



**KANAT
NADURBEK**

Trained at the Bishkek Choreographic School under renowned teacher Uran Sarbagyshev, Kanat Nadyrbek Uulu began his professional career with the Kyrgyz National Opera and Ballet Theatre named after Abdylas Malydyaev.

Early in his career, he toured extensively across Europe and Asia, performing in nearly forty countries, and later worked with Universal Ballet in Seoul, South Korea.

In 2016, Kanat joined the Primorsky Stage of the Mariinsky Theatre in Vladivostok as a soloist and was promoted to Principal Dancer in 2018, becoming the first Kyrgyz dancer in history to achieve this rank at the Mariinsky Theatre.

His repertoire includes leading roles in Swan Lake, Giselle, The Sleeping Beauty, Romeo and Juliet, and Le Corsaire. In 2019, he was awarded the honorary title of Honored Artist of the Kyrgyz Republic.



**RAVSHAN KYZY
SUIUMKAN**

Ravshan Kyzy Suiumkan is an internationally active classical ballet dancer recognized for her expressive stage presence, refined technique, and versatility across both lyrical and virtuoso repertoire.

She received her professional ballet training in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, specializing in classical technique, pointe work, and pas de deux. Following her graduation, she performed internationally with touring ballet companies across Europe and the United Kingdom.

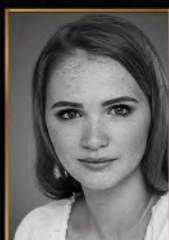
Her repertoire includes principal roles in Swan Lake, The Sleeping Beauty, The Nutcracker, and Cinderella.

Ravshan has appeared in numerous international ballet productions and festivals and is the recipient of awards from competitions in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Germany, and France. Today, she continues to perform internationally as a principal and soloist artist.

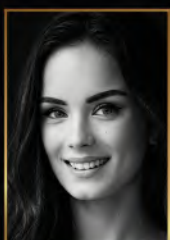
FIRST SOLOISTS



YUMEKO
IDE



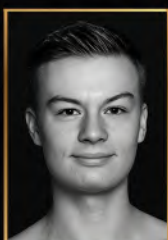
LIBBY
RIMMER



VYALETA
HERASIMOVICH



EDGAR
SAMVELYAN



FINLAY
WATSON



MARIIA
VASIUK

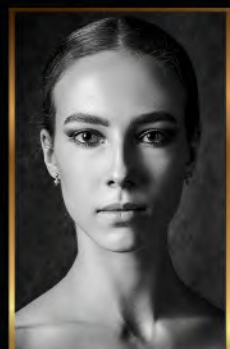


ANNA
DE MURI



TAISIA
SHEVCHENKO

CORPS DE BALLET



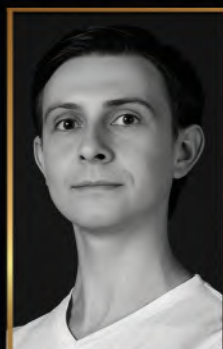
MILENA
BROWN



IVAN
KOVALENKO



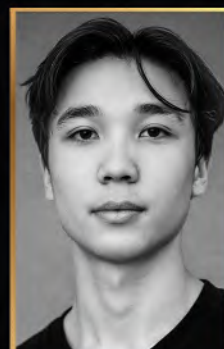
KELEMEDENOVA
AIGERIM



STANISLAV
VIDLOHA



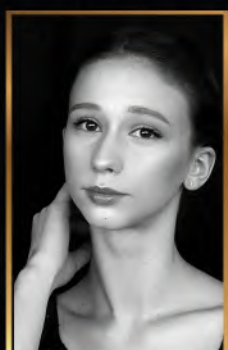
LAYLA
PROIETTI BOVI



ZHAKSHYLYK
DAMIRBEKO



KSENIIA
KHAVRENKO



ZLATA
MINCHINA



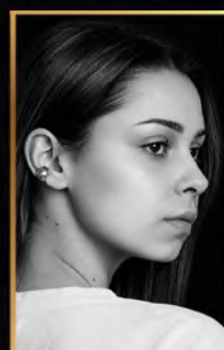
SHERZAT
SATAROV



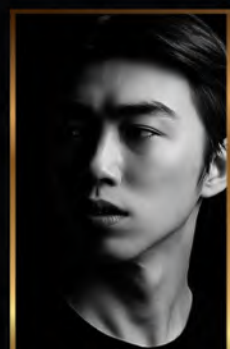
VALERIA
PARTOLINA



ZHAKSHYLYK
DAMIRBEKOV



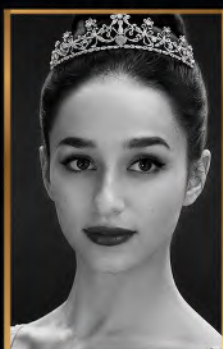
DARIA
FILONENKO



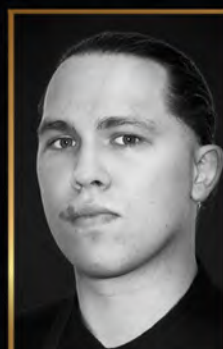
ERLAN
JLDOSHEBEKO



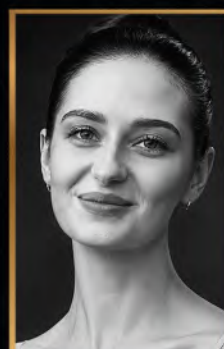
SHYNGYS
TOLEGEN



KRUPSHCHENOK
SOFIA



ALEKSANDR
ARTEMINKOV



ANASTASIA
BUNDINA



ZHAKSHYLYK
DAMIRBEKOV

I **LOVE** TO DANCE PROGRAM



SHARING THE STAGE. INSPIRING THE FUTURE.

Since 2018 until present time, The United European Ballet Company has been working on engaging the studios all over the country with the **I Love to 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 2026/2027, in such repertoire, as: Classical arts entertainment I Love to Dance Program Director and Producer, Michael Art, plays a central role in supporting and developing young dancers who share the stage with professional artists in productions including **The Nutcracker**, **Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs**, **Cinderella**, **Sleeping Beauty**, and **Swan Lake**.

Under his direction and creative leadership, **I Love to Dance** partner studios audition and rehearse thousands of local ballet students in tour cities each season. During the 2026 to 2027 Winter and Spring tours across the United States, more than 5000 students are expected to participate, gaining meaningful stage experience and professional-level preparation.

The **I Love to Dance** program is designed to prepare young performers for confident, high-quality appearances alongside an international company of professional ballet artists, offering practical production experience, artistic growth, and memorable opportunities on major theater stages.

WHAT STUDENTS GAIN



PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Appear on professional stages in full-scale productions.



ARTISTIC GROWTH

Develop technique, confidence, and stage presence.



PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Work alongside international ballet artists and directors.



LASTING MEMORIES

Build friendships and create unforgettable experiences.



GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Become part of an international family united by the joy of dance.



30+
PARTNER STUDIOS



5000+
YOUNG DANCERS



2019
PROGRAM FOUNDED



2026-2027
GRAND NATIONAL TOUR



OUR MISSION

To nurture the next generation of dancers by creating inspiring opportunities that build confidence, celebrate artistry, and connect young performers with the magic of the stage.

“ Every child deserves the chance to feel like a professional artist. ”

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.



• FEATURED COLLECTION •



DANCE-THEMED
T-SHIRTS



WATER
BOTTLES



BRACELETS &
JEWELRY



BINOCULARS



EXCLUSIVE
KEEPSAKES



CAPTURE THE MOMENT

Meet a Professional Ballerina

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.

THE MAGIC CONTINUES...

CLASSICAL ARTS ENTERTAINMENT



MEET OUR CREW



YELIZAVETA KOPNINA
Lighting Designer



ANDREII MOISEI
Sound and Technical Specialist



TATIANA ARMSTRONG
Makeup Specialist



VITALII ZAHYNAILO
Art Photographer of the Ballet Tour



OLGA KHALKEVICH
Official Photographer of the Ballet Tour



VASILY NEMCHINOV
Stage Manager



HERSHEL WESTON
Technical Director



TO BECOME A HOST STUDIO, CONTACT US NOW!



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INSTAGRAM