



MARIINSKY THEATRE

The Mariinsky II Opening Gala

LIVE HD TRANSMISSION FROM ST PETERSBURG
THURSDAY MAY 2, 2013





MARIINSKY THEATRE

Worldwide live transmission from The Mariinsky II (New stage of the Mariinsky Theatre)

Thursday May 2, 2013 | 8.00pm St Petersburg time

TV DIRECTOR Don Kent | **RUNNING TIME** 1 x 100' | **FORMAT** HD

Valery Gergiev

Artistic Director

...❖ The Opening Gala



THE MARIINSKY THEATRE FRONT VIEW

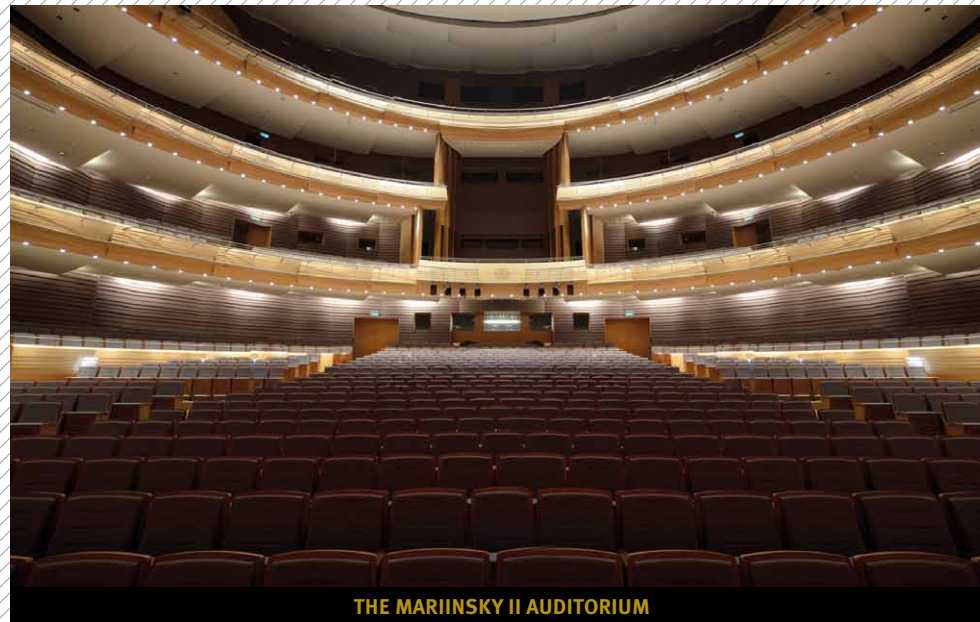
The Mariinsky Theatre, one of the largest and most acclaimed performing arts institutions in the world, under the leadership of Artistic and General Director Valery Gergiev will be inaugurated on May 2nd with the Opening Night Black Tie Gala Concert, featuring some of the Mariinsky's most notable vocalists and instrumentalists and the dynamic range of all of the Mariinsky Theatre's prestigious companies: the opera, orchestra, ballet, chorus, and youth ensembles (*see cast*).

The stage production presented by Vasily Barkhatov (*stage direction*), Danir Ismagilov (*lighting design*), Zinovy Margolin (*production design*), and Anna Matison (*video production*) will feature imagery that connects over two hundreds years of the Mariinsky's legendary past to its extraordinary expansion in modern times. Five hundreds students from the Vaganova Ballet Academy will perform excerpts from *Sleeping Beauty*, the Mariinsky Academy of Young Singers will be featured in a scene from Rossini's

Il viaggio a Reims, and the Cappella Boys' Chorus of St Petersburg and a Children's Chorus comprised of students from [St. Petersburg] local schools will sing Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* and Rachmaninoff's *The Angel*. This evening of multi generational performances at Mariinsky II will pay homage to the grand tradition of the Theatre and will celebrate the beginning of a new era.

“The opening of Mariinsky II is the moment to reaffirm the long and great heritage of this institution while celebrating a future in which we are able to create new works and innovative productions as never before,” stated Valery Gergiev, who is currently marking his 25th anniversary with the institution. “The programs for our inaugural festival are chosen to demonstrate the extraordinary range of our companies and our expanded complex, while reflecting both the history of the Mariinsky and the Theatre's engagement with today's audiences and with all phases of contemporary opera, ballet and orchestral music.”

...❖ Starring



THE MARIINSKY II AUDITORIUM

OPERA

Anna Netrebko
Olga Borodina
Sergei Semishkur
Placido Domingo
Alexei Markov
Yevgeny Nikitin
Ildar Abdrazakov
René Pape
Mikhail Petrenko

Soprano
Mezzo-soprano
Tenor
Baritone
Baritone
Bass-baritone
Bass
Bass
Bass

Academy of Young Singers
Children chorus and chorus
of the Mariinsky Theatre

BALLET

Diana Vishneva *Principal dancer*
Yekaterina Kondaurova *Principal dancer*
Ulyana Lopatkina *Principal dancer*
Vladimir Shklyarov *Principal dancer*

and soloists and corps de ballet
of the Mariinsky Theatre
Vaganova Ballet Academy

SOLOISTS

Denis Matsuev *Piano*
Leonidas Kavakos *Violin*
Yuri Bashmet *Viola*

ARTISTIC STAFF

Valery Gergiev *Artistic Director
and Conductor*
Vasily Barkhatov *Stage director*
Zinovy Margolin *Production designer*

... The Mariinsky II



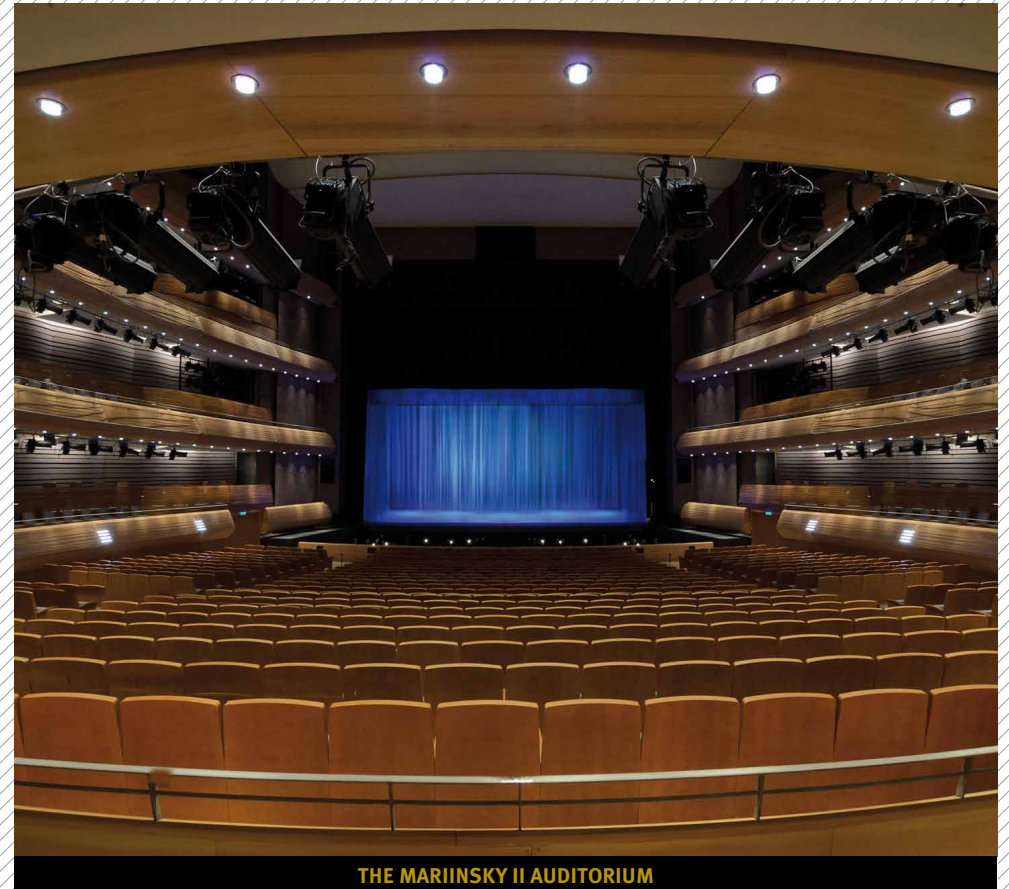
THE MARIINSKY II MAIN ENTRANCE

THE MARIINSKY COMPLEX

The new centerpiece of the Mariinsky cultural complex, Mariinsky II is designed to complement St Petersburg's beloved 19th century architecture and is situated on Dekabristov Street on the legendary Theatre Square.

Mariinsky II is connected to the historic stage of the Mariinsky Theatre, which opened in 1860, by a pedestrian bridge over the Kryukov Canal, joins the Concert Hall, inaugurated in 2006, and the Artistic Production Complex of the State Academic Mariinsky Theatre, established in 1874.

This expanded Mariinsky Cultural Complex will serve all of the Mariinsky companies, the Mariinsky Opera, Mariinsky Ballet, Mariinsky Orchestra, and the Mariinsky Theatre Chorus, and will enable each of them to offer the public a greatly increased schedule of presentations.



THE MARIINSKY II AUDITORIUM

MARIINSKY II ARCHITECTS AND DESIGN

Mariinsky II, one of the largest lyric arts facilities in the world funded by the Russian Government, is designed by the Toronto based firm of **Diamond Schmitt Architects** in conjunction with the Russian firm **KB VIPS**. Mariinsky II's state of the art facilities will enable the Mariinsky to present the most ambitious, technically demanding productions, beyond what is currently possible on the historic stage.

The 851,580 square foot Mariinsky II stands 7 stories tall with 3 underground levels. Mariinsky II features a main auditorium, a 200 seats rooftop amphitheatre, a third floor lobby amphitheatre, multiple rehearsal rooms for chorus, ballet and orchestra, dining and

production facilities for 2,500 staff, and approximately 567,720 square feet of backstage space. Technical highlights include a stage wagon system and over stage and under stage machinery that will allow multiple productions to be performed in repertoire. The main auditorium, designed in the tradition of 18th and 19th century opera houses, features a horseshoe configuration with three balconies, offering superb sightlines for approximately 2,000 operagoers.

The acoustic design by **Müller BBM** has created optimum conditions for opera performance. At about 18,000 cubic meters (635,400 cubic feet), the hall has an ideal volume comparable to the world's most renowned opera houses.

AWARDS

Valery Gergiev's many awards include the title of People's Artist of Russia, the Dmitri Shostakovich Award, the Polar Music Prize, Netherland's Knight of the Order of the Dutch Lion, Japan's Order of the Rising Sun and the French Order of the Legion of Honor.

BIOGRAPHY

Artistic and General Director of the Mariinsky Theatre, Principal Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra, Principal Conductor of the World Orchestra for Peace, Chair of the Organisational Committee of the International Tchaikovsky Competition, Honorary President of the Edinburgh International Festival and Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the St Petersburg State University.

Valery Gergiev graduated from the Leningrad State Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatoire in symphony conducting under Professor Ilya Musin. While still a student at the Conservatoire, he won the Herbert von Karajan Conducting Competition in Berlin and the All-Union Conducting Competition in Moscow and was invited to join the Kirov Theatre (now the Mariinsky).

At the age of thirty-five in 1988, Valery Gergiev was appointed Artistic Director of the Mariinsky Opera, and since 1996 he has been Artistic and General Director of the **Mariinsky Theatre** (Mariinsky Ballet, Opera and Orchestra ensembles). In 2006 the Concert Hall opened on the site of workshops that had burnt down. The new Mariinsky Theatre (Mariinsky II) is scheduled to open in May 2, 2013, alongside the historical Mariinsky Theatre.

STARS OF THE WHITE NIGHTS FESTIVAL

Gergiev has established and directs such international festivals as the *Stars of the White Nights Festival* (St Petersburg), the *Moscow Easter Festival* and the *Gergiev Festival* (the Netherlands).

Gergiev has led numerous composer cycles including Berlioz, Brahms, Dutilleux, Mahler, Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky in New York, London, Paris and other international cities and he has introduced audiences around the world to several rarely performed Russian operas.

For the first time in the history of Russia, Gergiev staged a production of Wagner's tetralogy *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in the original German, the Western European premiere of which in German and later Wagner's Ring was performed to in Moscow, South Korea, Japan, USA, Great Britain and Spain.

Valery Gergiev dedicates much attention to works by contemporary Russian composers such as Shchedrin, Tishchenko, Gubaidulina, Raskatov and Smelkov and other composers.



VALERY GERGIEV

RECORD OF ALL FIFTEEN OF SHOSTAKOVITCH'S SYMPHONIES

At the Concert Hall of the Mariinsky Theatre there are not only performances of operas and philharmonic programmes, but also recordings of works for the **Mariinsky label**, established on the initiative of Valery Gergiev in 2009. Recent releases include Shostakovich's and Tchaikovsky's Symphonies, Massenet's *Don Quixote*, Shchedrin's *Enchanted Wanderer* and Wagner's *Parsifal* to name only a few. Gergiev plans to record all fifteen of Shostakovich's symphonies in addition to Wagner's tetralogy *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (*Die Walküre*, released on 11 February 2013, has already received great public and critical acclaim).

Principal Conductor of the **London Symphony Orchestra** since 2007, Valery Gergiev performs with the LSO at the Barbican, the Proms and the Edinburgh Festival, as well as on extensive tours of Europe, North America and Asia.

He also collaborates with the **Metropolitan Opera, the Wiener Philharmoniker, the orchestra of La Scala and the New York, Munich and Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestras**. On 23 January 2013 the Munich City Council has voted unanimously to appoint Valery Gergiev Principal Conductor of the renowned Munich Philharmonic Orchestra. He will receive a contract until 2020 succeeding Lorin Maazel, whose contract expires in 2015.

In 2013 Gergiev became head of the **National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America**, founded on the initiative of Carnegie Hall in New York – the debut international tour includes concerts in Washington DC, Moscow, St. Petersburg and London with Joshua Bell as violin soloist. Working with young musicians is an important part of the maestro's activities, and he has collaborated with youth orchestras of the Schleswig-Holstein Festival, the Verbier Festival and the Pacific Music Festival Sapporo.

Vasily Barkhatov

STAGE DIRECTOR



VASILY BARKHATOV

BIOGRAPHY

Vasily Barkhatov was born in Moscow. In 2005 he graduated from the Russian Institute of Theatre Art (faculty of musical theatre, department of stage directing and acting in musical theatre, workshop of Rosetta Nemchinskaya).

He has staged productions of *The Diary of One Who Disappeared* at the Helikon Opera (both as Stage Director and Production Designer, 2004), the operatic duologue *The Music Director* (Salieri's *Prima la musica e poi le parole* and Mozart's *Der Schauspieldirektor* at the Rostov State Musical Theatre in 2004 as Stage Director and Production Designer), the play *The Brigands* at the Moscow Pushkin Drama

Theatre (2009), the musical *Les Parapluies de Cherbourg* at the Karambol theatre, *Die Fledermaus* at the Bolshoi Theatre (2010) and *Perfidy and Love* at the Comedian's Refuge theatre (2011).

At the Mariinsky Theatre he has staged Dmitry Shostakovich's operetta *Moscow, Cheryomushki* (as Stage Director and Production Designer, 2006) and the operas *Jenůfa* by Leoš Janáček (2007), *Benvenuto Cellini* by Hector Berlioz (2007), *Otello* by Giuseppe Verdi (2007), *The Brothers Karamazov* by Alexander Smelkov (2008) and *Dead Souls* by Rodion Shchedrin (2011).

Recipient of Russia's *Breakthrough* youth presidential award.

Don Kent

FILMMAKER

BIOGRAPHY

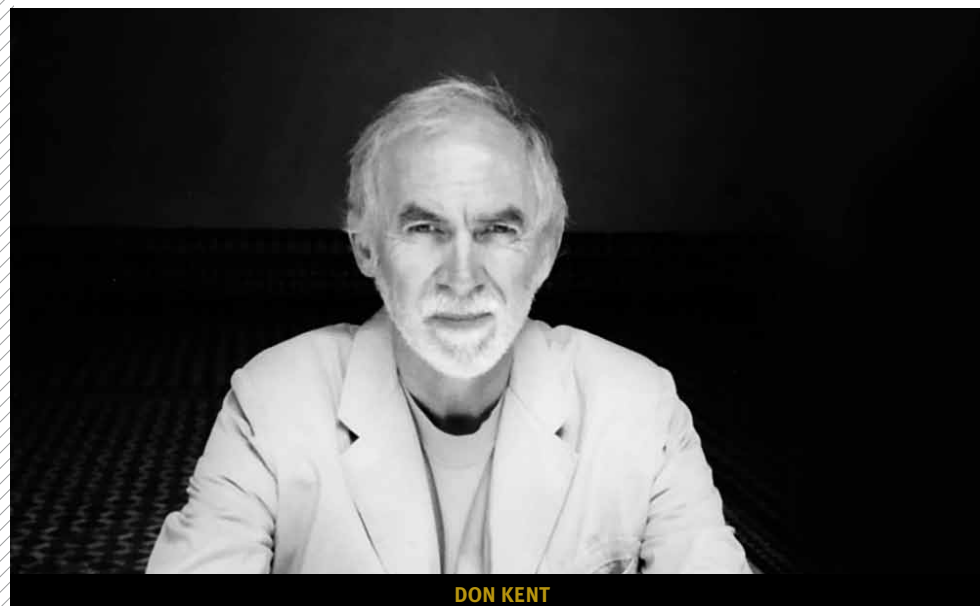
Don Kent is English by birth and makes television programmes, documentaries, and celebrity primetime talk shows. He is also an impassioned filmmaker who films the living arts: plays, operas, and dance. **"I don't like recorded or taped words which conjure up a cage. I always try to interpret, to convey something, a window"**. For him "filming is like poetry".

Don Kent has received some top awards such as the Sept d'Or from French television, Golden Prague, Diapason d'Or, the German Record Critic's Award, Orphée d'Or, Victoire de la Musique Classique, Grand Prix de la Sacem, FIPA d'argent in Biarritz, FIPA d'Or in Cannes.

In 2009, he recorded Metallica's last live video *French for One Night* in the Arena in Nimes and in 2001 he made *Ballad for a Queen*, a documentary about the monarchy and British society for Elizabeth II's diamond jubilee.

SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY

- **Arabella** | Richard Strauss Staatsoper Vienna | 2012 |
- **Jiri Kylian** | Documentary 2011 | Golden Prague Prize and Public Prize Cinedans Amsterdam |
- **La Traviata** | Aix en Provence Festival 2011 | Diapason d'Or |
- **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui** | Documentary 2010 | German record Critic's Award 2010 |
- **La Petite Renarde Rusée** | Leos Janacek | Staging : André Engel | Opéra Bastille 2009 |
- **Carmen** | Live from Staatsoper Berlin | Staging: Martin Kusej | 2006 |
- **La Traviata** | Aix en Provence Festival 2005 | Staging: Peter Mussbach | Golden Prague Prize |
- **L'Heure Espagnole & Gianni Schicchi** | Staging: Laurent Pelly | Palais Garnier 2004 | Sacem Prize |
- **Platée** | Staging: Laurent Pelly | Palais Garnier 2002 | Silver Fipa Prize, Choc de la Musique and Midem Classical DVD Prize |
- **Didon et Enée** | William Christie & Les Arts Florissants 1990 | Golden Prize at FIPA |



DON KENT



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