

Yury Grigorovich



The fate of Russian Ballet in the second half of the XX century is very closely tied with the name of Yury Grigorovich. He comes of a ballet family, graduated from the A. Vaganova Leningrad Ballet School. Then he joined the Kirov Opera and Ballet theatre (now Mariinsky Theater) where he was a soloist for 18 years. There he staged his first ballet productions: «The Stone Flower» (S. Prokofiev) and «Legend of Love» (A. Melikov). These masterpieces revealed his ballet master's gift.

In 1964 Yury Grigorovich became the chief choreographer of the Bolshoi Theatre. This was the time of establishing the leadership of the Russian Ballet Art worldwide. The Bolshoi Ballet Company with Grigorovich as its head made international tours more than 90 times.

In Moscow Grigorovich created ballets for the Bolshoi which won world recognition: «Nutcracker» (P. Tchaikovsky, 1966), «Spartacus» (A. Khachaturian, 1968), «Ivan the Terrible» (music by S. Prokofiev, 1975), «Angara» (A. Eshpay, 1976). «Romeo and Juliet» (S. Prokofiev, 1979), «The Golden Age» (D. Shostakovich, 1982). He also choreographed new versions of such masterpieces of the past as «The Sleeping Beauty» (1963,1973), «Swan Lake» (1969, 2001) by P. Tchaikovsky, «Raymonda» by A Glazunov (1984 2003), «La Bayadere» (1991), «Don Ouixote (1994) by L. Minkus, «Giselle» (1987) «Le Corsaire (1994) by A Adam. Yury Grigorovich also staged ballets at theaters in Stockholm, Rome, Paris, Copenhagen, Vienna, Milan, Helsinki, Ankara, Prague, Sofia, Genoa, Warsaw, Istanbul, and Seoul. He is the author of important ballet projects at Rome Coliseum, London Albert Hall, ancient Greek theatres, on San-Marco Square in Venice, on the Luzhniki stadium arena (Olympic Games, 1980).

For a long time Yury Grigorovich has been heading Jury Panels of International Ballet Competitions in Russia, Finland, USA, Switzerland, Japan, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Austria, and also for the BENOIS DE LA DANSE. Yury Grigorovich left the Bolshoi Theatre in 1995 and started working with various Russian and foreign companies.

Since 1996 he has been heading the Yury Grigorovich theatre of Classic Ballet in Krasnodar (Russia), which toured actively in Lebanon, Spain, Portugal, Japan, Italy, Turkey, USA, Germany, Great Britain.

He has founded a Yury Grigorovich International Competition «Young Ballet of the World», that takes place in Sochi every 2 years.

Now Yury Grigorovich is again a chief choreographer of the Bolshoi theatre and his ballets form its main repertoire.

He is a professor, academician. Awarded with State Prizes and World Prizes.