

Masterpieces of World Classics: Russian Opera Soloists to Grace the Royal Opera House in Mumbai

The bond between India and Russia is deeply rooted in history, with diplomatic ties officially established on April 13, 1947. In 2022, the two nations marked the 75th anniversary of this enduring relationship, which has remained consistently strong. Cultural connections between India and Russia have a long-standing legacy.

Renowned Russian artist and philosopher Nicholas Roerich made India his home, settling in Himachal Pradesh, while literary giants like Leo Tolstoy and Alexander Pushkin significantly shaped Indian literature and intellectual thought. The Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre (JNCC) in Moscow collaborates closely with top Russian institutions, and many prominent universities in Russia offer courses in Indian languages. Indian cinema enjoys widespread popularity, with regular screenings across the country, while yoga has also gained immense traction. The 2024 International Day of Yoga in 2024 was celebrated in more than 60 regions throughout Russia.

Avid Learning, Royal Opera House, Mumbai, St. Petersburg Opera, Zazerkalie Theaters, The Government of St. Petersburg, Rossotrudnichestvo in India, and Embassy of Russia present **Masterpieces of World Classics - Concert by Soloists from the St. Petersburg Opera and Zazerkalie Theaters**, an unforgettable evening of timeless music.

Accompanied by brilliant pianists **Mariia Chernysheva** ("St. Petersburg Opera") and **Egor Prokopenv** ("Zazerkalie"), leading vocalists of the Russian opera scene, and laureates of international competitions **Mariia Bochmanova** (soprano) and **Soslan Gagiev** (tenor) from "St. Petersburg Opera," as well as **Olga Vasileva** (soprano) and **Ivan Vasilev** (baritone) from "Zazerkalie," will present romances, arias, and duets from the world's musical heritage. The program will feature works by S. Rachmaninov, P. I. Tchaikovsky, G. Bizet, G. Puccini, W.A. Mozart, and other great composers.

One of the core tenets of Avid Learning's programming philosophy is the belief in the power of cultural diplomacy to widen horizons and broaden minds. In this spirit, we have leveraged our local and international relationships to bring the best of international art, culture, and design to Mumbai to treat our city's audiences to global culture and talent. We have fostered meaningful collaborations with many consular representatives in this Maximum city.

We have forayed into a strategic relationship with The **Ministry of Culture in Russia** and the **Consulate General of Russia** in Mumbai with whom we partnered in the past to present the **Russian Film Days Festival** as well as the **Festival of Russian Culture in India** in 2022 celebrating **75 years of Indo-Russian diplomatic relations** with two spellbinding performances. It was followed by **Miracle - A Performance by St Petersburg State Theatre of Song and Dance** last year. We are delighted to continue this trajectory of presenting these exceptional productions on this stage.

Join us for a spellbinding evening of world-class music where the finest Russian operatic talents bring timeless classical masterpieces to life.

When: Saturday, 26th October 2024 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Where: Royal Opera House, Mumbai

Register: www.avidlearning.in

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About the Theaters

The St. Petersburg Chamber Opera Theater was founded in 1987 and is well-known in Russia and abroad. Its artistic director and founder, Yuri Alexandrov, People's Artist of the Russian Federation, is an acclaimed director who has staged performances at prestigious venues such as the Arena di Verona, the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, the Bolshoi Theater, and the Mariinsky Theater. In recent years, the theater has successfully toured France, Greece, Serbia, Finland, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Egypt, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, the UAE, and China.

The St. Petersburg State Children's Music Theater "Zazerkalye" was founded in 1987 by People's Artists of Russia, director Alexander Petrov and conductor Pavel Bubelnikov. Over the years, nearly 100 performances for audiences of all ages have been staged at "Zazerkalye." The theater's productions regularly receive awards from the most prestigious theater prizes and festivals (such as the "Golden Mask," "Golden Sofit," and others). Today, "Zazerkalye" is one of the best musical theaters in Russia, widely known both in the country and abroad, and beloved by audiences of all ages. "Zazerkalye" is a participant in many festivals, and has been warmly received by audiences in various cities across Russia (Moscow, Samara, Pskov, Novgorod, Orenburg, Novosibirsk, Omsk, Kostomuksha). It is also familiar to theatergoers in neighboring and distant countries (Tallinn, Riga, Minsk, Lübeck, Boston, Helsinki).