

for ballet lovers only

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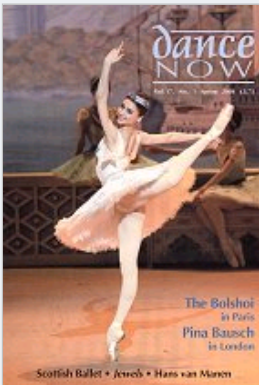
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This site is dedicated to the two major Russian ballet companies, [Bolshoi](#) and [Kirov-Mariinsky](#). Its main purpose is to present some unique artists of the reputed Russian School, of past and present, admired by ballet lovers all over the world.

The Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow and the Kirov (now again the Mariinsky) Theatre in St. Petersburg, both world renowned opera houses, also take an exceptional place in the history of dance. Bolshoi and Kirov Ballet each embody a schooling, a style, a savoir-faire, and a performing tradition of unrivalled richness, going back as early as the 18th century. Generations of their dancers have been fascinating and entrancing audiences with their artistry (Pavlova, Nijinsky, Nureyev, Baryshnikov, Plisetskaya, Makarova are household names even for non-balletomanes), and continue to do so.

The photography and the articles on For Ballet Lovers Only are mostly original. Even if this site is always under construction and items are added frequently, it is neither our goal nor our ambition to provide an exhaustive survey of both companies. Although the emphasis is primarily on the artists of today, a site about two of the world's most important traditional companies is unthinkable without paying attention to their past. The first steps toward a historical section have therefore been made. This section has been made possible with the help of Geoff Whitlock, whose historical biographies and general knowledge of Russian ballet form an invaluable asset to this site.

The [Schedules and tours](#) section focuses on current eye-catching events and developments in both companies. Information about the foreign tours of the Bolshoi and the Mariinsky is posted there as soon as possible.

[Specials](#) consists of photo galleries focusing on a theme or event. In [DVDs and Books](#) you will find a choice of current DVD releases and interesting dance books.

You can navigate through the site by clicking on the links at the top of this page. We hope you enjoy your visit. Should you have any burning questions, suggestions, or comments about this site and its content, please send us an [e-mail](#), or sign the [For Ballet Lovers Only Guestbook](#).

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