



## THE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# A Festival of Russian Dance

MIKHAIL GODENKO, Director

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 24, 1979, AT 8:30 HILL AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

## PROGRAM

### Treshchetka

Treshchetka is the first and most simple form of Russian folk instruments made of wood. In this number, treshchetkas are used to accompany the khrovod, or round dance.

THE ENSEMBLE

Adjarian Dance, "Gandagan"

KAFKAZ ENSEMBLE Soloist: LAURA NALBANDGIAN

#### Kuderushki

Based on a popular folk song about a girl for whom it is easier to make curls than to fetch water from the river.

THE KRASNAYARSK DANCE COMPANY OF SIBERIA

#### Yunost

A ceremonial dance. The girls weave wreaths and throw them into the water. The youth that finds a wreath will be the suitor.

THE YUNOST UKRAINIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE

#### Udaltsi

The dance tells of the bold men rafting on the river Enise, considered a romantic profession. The stern Enise, with its harsh temper, has built the characters of these men, trained them to work and fight.

MEN OF THE ENSEMBLE

#### Ukolodtsa

Girls at the well is a popular motif. At the well they get together, share secrets, arrange meetings, and trade news.

Women of the Ensemble

#### Na Rybalke

A fisherman is happily daydreaming. After pulling in his empty line, he realizes he has indeed caught his "golden" fish—a beautiful girl.

Krasnayarsk Soloists: V. Borison and E. Vinogradova

## Klumpakoes

A village dance with wooden shoes, performed at folk festivals.

LIETUVA FOLK SONG AND DANCE ENSEMBLE

### Lavonikha

The "Lavonikha" is one of the most popular Byelorussian folk dances. Even today it is an integral part of wedding festivities. Its contagious sparkling temperament and whirlwind movements join everyone to dance in a circle.

THE ENSEMBLE

## Northern Dance - Severny Tanets

## Meusuri

This dance tells of a young mountain boy who wants to kidnap a girl who loves another. A fight begins as the rivals draw sabers. The girl throws a white kerchief to stop the young men. The mountain boy, according to tradition, congratulates his opponent and the girl is taken away in a wedding entourage.

Soloists: LAURA AND VAGEN NALBANDGIAN, AND ZAURI TAKHADZE

## Gopak

One of the most popular dances from the Ukraine, complete with all possible virtuosic jumps and turns. The mood of this dance is one of competition, each dancer trying to outdo the others.

THE ENSEMBLE

Finale

THE ENSEMBLE

#### INTERMISSION

#### Vdol Po Peterskoi

This is danced to a famous Kersson folk melody. The dashing men and lovely women stroll along Peterskaya Street.

THE ENSEMBLE

## Uzbek Dance, "Kaltta-Yiin"

This dance tells of the pearls of Uzbekistan, Fergana. There, cotton, fruits, silks, and the girls are all slender and proud.

THE BAKHOR STATE FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE:
M. ERGASTEVA, G. DZHURAEVA, G. FAZYLDZHANOVA, U. SAIDOVA
Accompanied by K. Dadev on "Doire"

## Lebedushki

"On the river, the small river, the sun rises and the baby swans float by." These are the words of this folk song. The girls, in storylike costumes, move like swans on the smooth river. Two friends come to meet them, both in love with one beautiful girl. She makes her choice.

THE KRASNAYARSK DANCE COMPANY

## Tropeita

A youth dance performed in the southern parts of Moldavia at folk festivals.

THE ENSEMBLE

#### Na Mostochke

In May, the old city of Krasnayarsk when the snow began to melt, the streets were covered with streams of water. Small bridges were built, providing places for lovers to meet.

Soloist: L. DZBAK

## Armenian Drums and Caucausas Mountain Dance

A virtuostic performance by seven Armenian drummers leads into this thrilling Caucausas dance which features the male dancers "en pointe."

THE KAFKAZ DANCE ENSEMBLE

## Vdol Po Ulitse

In the village, men and women gather after work. There they play their balalaikas and large "combs." The dance is in couplets. The girls trade humorous and romantic stories after which they invite the spectators to Krasnayarsk to eat "pelemeni," ravioli.

THE ENSEMBLE

## Finale

This dance combines the characteristic movements of all these national dances.

THE ENTIRE ENSEMBLE

## About the Artists

A Festival of Russian Dance is one of the concluding events of the Russian Arts Festival currently taking place on The University of Michigan campus. Performing on stage this evening are ninety dancers and musicians representing some of the finest folk ensembles from seven of the fifteen republics of the Soviet Union: Byelorussia, Georgia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. Mikhail Godenko, gifted ballet master and artistic director of the Krasnayarsk Dance Company, is directing this company on its current 12-week tour of the United States.

One of the youngest and most popular folk dance companies, the **Krasnayarsk Dance Company of Siberia** won raves when it made its United States debut tour a few years ago. (The Company gave two performances in Ann Arbor in 1973.) The music and folk dance of Siberia has become the focus and pride of this company headed by Mikhail Godenko, who skillfully weaves throughout his dances themes from folk festivals, games, and social dancing. In addition to the United States, the Krasnayarsk has performed in Korea, Algeria, Yugoslavia, Germany, Peru, France, Guatemala, Venezuela, Czechoslovakia, and Panama.

The **Byelorussian State Dance Ensemble** was founded in 1959 by choreographer Alexander Opanasenko who, at that time, carefully selected his dancers at a special contest for amateur performers. Under his expert guidance they have since become virtuoso performers of folk dance, hailed all over the Soviet Union and on tours of Europe.

The Bakhor Dance Company was formed in Tashkent in 1955. Its name, "Bakhor," means "spring" in the Uzbek language and the company begins each performance with a dance symbolizing spring, youth, and beauty. Mukarram Turgunbayeva, an outstanding performer of Uzbek folk and modern dances, is the company's founder and choreographer. She is responsible for the company's large repertoire which includes ancient Uzbek dances and modern dances created on traditional themes—in short, a blend of old and new.

The Lietuva Folk Song and Dance Ensemble was founded in 1940 by the outstanding musician, Jonas Svedas, with the purpose of preserving and popularizing the creative art of the Lithuanian people. Juozas Lingis has been the ensemble's chief choreographer for twenty-five years, creating over one hundred and fifty dances reflecting the life and customs of the people. In 1962 Vladas Bartusevicius became artistic director of the ensemble, which now includes a chorus, a dance group, and an orchestra of folk instruments.

The Yunost Dance Ensemble was founded in 1964 in the city of Lvov in the Ukraine. Yunost (which means youth) has performed throughout the Soviet Union and elsewhere with tremendous success. In 1967 it was awarded the title of Laureate of the International Folk Festival in Italy and in 1973 was named Laureate at the Fifth World Festival of Youth and Students in Berlin.

The **Khora Moldavian Folk Dance Ensemble** is named after one of the most popular of Moldavian folk dances, the Khora, which is also the name of the place, in the countryside where holidays are celebrated. This company of forty young men and women has been applauded in its homeland as well as in Italy, Switzerland, France, Bulgaria, and Japan. Its director, Ion Bazatin, is a leading authority on folklore and a brilliant choreographer.

The **Kafkaz Dance Ensemble** was formed in 1962 by dancer/choreographer, Vagen Nalbandgian, to preserve the Caucasian folk arts. In choosing the dancers for the ensemble, Mr. Nalbandgian not only looked for brilliant dance techniques but insisted that each be able to play at least one Caucasian folk instrument. They perform throughout the Soviet Union and have won wide acclaim on tours of the United States, England, Libya, Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iran, Afganistan, Brazil, Poland, and Czechoslovakia.

# Benny Goodman and The University Symphony Orchestra

GUSTAV MEIER, Conductor

Fifth Annual Benefit Concert and Reception Friday, March 30, at 8:30, in Hill Auditorium

Weber: "Euryanthe" Overture

Weber: Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra, Op. 26

Rimsky-Korsakov: Capriccio espagnol

Barber: Adagio for Strings

Medley of Broadway Hits-Benny and the Orchestra

Following the concert there will be a festive reception to "Meet the Artists," held on the penthouse floor atop the new School of Dentistry Building. \$25 includes a main floor seat for the concert and a reception ticket (of which \$12 is tax-deductible). Concert tickets are \$9, main floor; \$8, first balcony; \$7 and \$5, second balcony.

Note: the performance of Gian Carlo Menotti's commissioned choral work, originally scheduled for this Benefit Concert, has been postponed in order to give the composer an extension of time to complete it for world première in our 1979–1980 season.

## Commemorative Album

In celebration of one hundred years of great music at The University of Michigan is this limited edition, two-record boxed set featuring two of the world's great conductors and the University Symphony Orchestra. Recorded in Hill Auditorium from the Benefit Concerts of 1976 and 1977 are Bartók's Divertimento for Strings conducted by Yehudi Menuhin, and Beethoven's Leonore Overture No. 3 and Symphony No. 5 conducted by Eugene Ormandy. The album is offered as a keepsake and collector's item for both personal collections and gift-giving, and will include a commemorative booklet of the history of music at The University of Michigan in the last century. The album may be ordered through May 1979 for delivery in early 1980; proceeds will be shared by the University Musical Society and School of Music Scholarship Fund. A reservation card may be obtained by calling 764-2538 or 764-6118.

## Ann Arbor May Festival, 1979

THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA and UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION

EUGENE ORMANDY and RICCARDO MUTI, Conductors

ALICIA DE LARROCHA, Pianist VICTORIA DE LOS ANGELES, Soprano

ALMA JEAN SMITH, Soprano ZURAB SOTKILAVA, Tenor

ALEXANDRINA MILCHEVA, Mezzo Soprano MARTTI TALVELA, Bass

Monday, April 23—de Larrocha and de los Angeles, in recital.

Wednesday, April 25—Ormandy and de los Angeles: Hindemith: "Mathis der Maler"; Ravel: Shéhérazade"; Prokofiev: Scythian Suite; Mozart: "Voi che sapete" from Marriage of Figaro; Rossini: "Una voce poco fa" from Barber of Seville; Wagner: "Dich teure Halle" from Tannhäuser.

Thursday, April 26-Muti: Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 3; Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5.

Friday, April 27—Muti and Larrocha, All-Beethoven: Symphony No. 6; Piano Concerto No. 3; Overture to Leonore No. 3.

Saturday, April 28-Ormandy, Choral Union, Soloists: Verdi: "Manzoni" Requiem.

Single tickets now on sale.

#### UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

Phones: 665-3717, 764-2538