



*International
Presentations of
Music & Dance*

THE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Massenkoff Russian Folk Festival

starring

NIKOLAI MASSENKOFF, *Basso*

Balalaika Ensemble and Folk Ballet

(Soloists from Perfiloff Dancers)

NIKOLAI MASSENKOFF, *Director*

OLEG GOLDSHTEIN, *Musical Director*

VLADIMIR PERFILOFF, *Director*, Perfiloff Dancers

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 29, 1980, AT 8:30

HILL AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

P R O G R A M

Old Russia

Vyesna (Spring)

Spring is welcomed in every country and especially in Russia, after a long winter. This instrumental arrangement was prepared by Darcy Methenitis, flutist of the Ensemble.

Rooskay Sveeta (Russian Suite)

The choreography by Perfiloff is based on two folk tunes: a very slow lyric melody in minor is employed for the first half of the dance, followed by a lively tune "Polyanka" which brings the men on stage.

Dvyenadtsat Razboyneekov (Twelve Thieves)

Once upon a time in old Russia lived the "Twelve Thieves." Their leader, a brave man, was Ataman Koodiar. Many innocent people were sacrificed and much blood was shed until one day God awakened the conscience of Ataman Koodiar and changed his ways. A very old Monk in a Monastery named Pyetyereem, whose previous name was Koodiar, tells us this tale.

Nad Palyamee (Over the Fields)

The clean fields sparkle as the half moon, bird-like, flies over them sending sparks into the air.

Karabeineek (The Peddler)

This song describes a peddler selling his goods at the fair until he meets a dark-eyed beauty. The story, however, ends here.

Tanyets (Dance)

The melodies engaged for this dance are "Shtoto Zvon" and "Svyetyet Myesyats." Featured dancers are Kiril Uher and Maria Uher.

Polyoushko Polye

This instrumental selection is better known as "Meadowland."

Song Medley from the Early 40's

Jdee Saldata (Wait for Your Soldier)

"I will never forget the beautiful sunset on the Volga . . . you promised to wait for my return . . ."

Tyomnaya Noch (Dark is the Night)

"All is quiet except for occasional whistling of the bullets that pierce the night air. . . . I am alive with hope to be with you again. . . ."

Doroghee (Roads)

The uncertainty of a soldier's life is projected as he crosses many roads while thinking of his loved ones.

Katyousha (Katie)

This song is about the girl back home who is waiting for her soldier.

Balalaika Slow and Fast

The two melodies are "Kahk Paidoo Ya Na Bystroyou Ryechkoo" and "Kamareenskaya." The balalaika is accompanied by the Ensemble, comprised of bayan, domra, flute, guitar and bass balalaika. The musical arrangement is by Alexander Ilyitch Eppler who is featured on the balalaika. Mr. Eppler received his musical education in Bulgaria.

Maldavanskaya Sveeta (Maldavian Dance Suite)

Three dances choreographed by Vladimir Perfiloff.

Vdol'po Peetyerskoy (Along the Peetyerskaya)

Peetyerskaya was the main street in the Old Petersburg where Troikas were dashing and vodka poured by the bucket . . . those were the days . . . Oi!

INTERMISSION

Kvadree' (Quadrille)

"Russian City Quadrille." This humorous dance pokes fun at the customs and traditions of pre-revolutionary Russia.

Rivers

Ei Oochnyem (Volga Boatmen)

An internationally-known melody about the "Mother River, Volga."

Ol' Man River

From the great American musical "Showboat" by Jerome Kern.

Bayan Solo

The bayan is a "push-button" accordion. It features Oleg Goldshtein, who received his musical education in Moldavia.

Balalaika Solo

Variations for balalaika on the song "Karabeinek" by Ditel, featuring Alexander Ilyitch Eppler.

Maldavanka (Moldavian Melody)

Moldavian Melody features flutist Darcy Methenitis and Oleg Goldshtein performing on the bayan.

Domra Solo

The domra, although similar to the mandolin, has a richer tone and employs single strings. The soloist, Ilya Tsarfin, received his musical education in Kiev.

A Medley of Well-Known Songs

Pod Maskovniya Vyechera (Moscow Nights)

"You can hear a song coming from afar, balalaikas filling the air . . . over golden domes, through the dim-lit homes. . . ."

Dvye Geetary (Two Guitars)

"Let's hear that familiar tune again and again. . . ." Featured guitarist is Andrei Alexeeff.

Ochee Chyorniya (Dark Eyes)

"Your eyes are dark, passionate, adorable and beautiful. I love them and fear them. . . ."

Dorogoi Dlinnoyou (On a Long Road)

Originally, this song was composed by Certinsky in the early 19th century and in our time became better known as "Those Were the Days."

Ukrainskaya Sveeta (Ukrainian Suite)

Gopak or Hopak, choreographed by Vladimir Perfiloff, is a favorite around the world for its fast tempo and exhibition manner of dancing

About the Artists

The **Massenkoff Russian Folk Festival** was created by Nikolai Massenkoff as an expression of a lifelong love for his Russian heritage and its tradition of music and dance. Composed of Russian immigrants from the "White Russian" community, the California-based group has garnered acclaim from New York to California, and from Canada to the Caribbean. In addition to concert appearances, they have performed on the nationally-televised programs of the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Muscular Dystrophy Telethon, the Dinah Shore Show, and a Westinghouse Special.

Nikolai Massenkoff, born in Northern China of a Russian gypsy mother and a Mongolian father, began his involvement with the music of Russia in Shanghai where he was a seven-year-old soloist in the choir of a Russian church. Schooled in classical music—his teachers included Tito Gobbi, Alexander Kipnis, and George London—he has applied his talent and training to the interpretation of both the classics and the traditional Russian music he has sung and played since childhood. His versatility has led to performances with the symphony orchestras of Baltimore, London (Ontario), Honolulu, and San Francisco, and in July 1978 he performed for audiences in Moscow, Leningrad, and Sochi, on the Black Sea. His singing led one Moscow critic to say "we could listen forever to his interpretation of our native songs."

The Massenkoff Folk Festival appears this evening for the first time in Ann Arbor.

ELLY AMELING, <i>Soprano</i>	Wed. Mar. 12
ROYAL DANCERS & MUSICIANS OF BHUTAN	Sat. Mar. 15
JURY'S IRISH CABARET OF DUBLIN (sold out)	Tues. Mar. 18
YEHUDI and HEPHZIBAH MENUHIN, <i>Violinist & Pianist</i>	Wed. Mar. 19
Brahms: Sonata No. 2 in A major; Bach: Partita No. 3; Franck: Sonata in A major; Bartók: Rumanian Dances; Debussy: La Fille aux cheveux de lin; Wieniawski: Scherzo and Tarantelle.	
NEW WORLD STRING QUARTET	Wed. Mar. 26
World première of Leslie Bassett's recently-commissioned Quartet No. 4.	
BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA / SERGIU COMISSONA	Wed. Apr. 2
Mozart: Sinfonia Concertante for Woodwinds; Borodin: Polovtzian Dances from <i>Prince Igor</i> (with the Festival Chorus); Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 2.	
SHERRILL MILNES, <i>Baritone</i>	Mon. Apr. 14
QUARTETTO ITALIANO	Thurs. Apr. 17

Ann Arbor May Festival

Wednesday–Saturday, April 23, 24, 25, 26, in Hill Auditorium

THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA

EUGENE ORMANDY, *Music Director and Conductor*

STANISLAW SKROWACZEWSKI, *Guest Conductor*

ISAAC STERN, *Violinist*

RUDOLF FIRKUSNY, *Pianist*

THE UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION

performing the world première of a commissioned work by GIAN CARLO MENOTTI

Wednesday, April 23—*Ormandy and Stern*: Beethoven: Leonore Overture No. 3, Violin Concerto in D major; Mussorgsky–Ravel: Pictures at an Exhibition.

Thursday, April 24—*Skrowaczewski and Firkusny*: Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 25, K. 503; Berlioz: *Symphonie fantastique*.

Friday, April 25—*Skrowaczewski and Choral Union*: Prokofiev: *Romeo and Juliet* Suite No. 2; Menotti: world première, "A Song of Hope"; Beethoven: Symphony No. 5 in C minor.

Saturday, April 26—*Ormandy*: Prokofiev: Classical Symphony, Suite from "Love for Three Oranges"; Schubert: Symphony No. 9 ("The Great").

Single concert tickets for the Festival go on sale Monday, March 3, in Burton Tower.

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

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