

Bolshoi Director Likely Needs More Operations, Top Eye Doctor Says

By The Moscow Times

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Bolshoi Theater artistic director Sergei Filin might need to undergo more operations in Germany, Russia's chief ophthalmologist said Tuesday.

Vladimir Neroyev told Interfax that Filin would need months to recover from the attack and that more operations on his eyes would most likely be required.

"It's a very long process. I can't say how much time it will take. It depends on how the treatment goes," Neroyev said. "But it won't be weeks. It will be months."

Filin, 42, was hospitalized with burns to his face and eyes after a masked attacker splashed acid on his face outside his apartment building on Troitskaya Ulitsa late on Jan. 17.

The Bolshoi Ballet chief arrived in Aachen, Germany on Tuesday for rehabilitation after having been discharged Monday from a Moscow hospital where he underwent eye surgery.

Police are investigating the attack and have named no suspects. Filin has said he knows the identity of his assailant but will not reveal who it is because of the ongoing criminal probe.

"A serious investigation is under way and I hope that not only me, but the public will soon find out answers to all the questions," he told journalists Monday, Interfax reported.

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