The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

The Best Seats in the House

The holiday season is a perfect time to indulge in Moscow's fine culture

December 19, 2017



A.Klyushkina / Stanislavsky Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theater Press Service

Moscow's classical performing arts are at their finest during the holiday season, with family favorites as well as new Christmas and New Year's events. But for the more adventurous music lovers, there are some exciting premieres and rarely performed pieces. Just be sure to buy your tickets right away!

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Expect the unexpected in this meditation ⊠on love adapted from Shakespeare's topsy-turvy comedy at the Gogol ⊠Center. Emotions fly high as spectators follow the actors around four ⊠luxurious sets in this visceral performance directed by Kirill ⊠Serebrennikov.

Dec. 28-31 at 7 p.m. 8 Ultisa Kazakova. Metro ⊠Kurskaya. +7 (495) 120 7543. en.gogolcenter.com/events

THE QUEEN OF SPADES

The world premiere at the Bolshoi Theater of ⊠Tchaikovsky's proto-horror opera is directed by the popular Latvian ⊠director Rimas Tuminas. The piece, completed a year before Tchaikovsky's⊠ early death, illustrates the growing delirium of an army engineer as he envisions himself seducing the matronly Queen of Spades for her riches.

Feb. 15-18 at 7 p.m. 1 Teatralnayas. Metro Teatralnaya. +7 (495) ⊠455 5555. www.bolshoi.ru/en

SRETENSKY MONASTERY MEN'S CHOIR

Although Russian classical music may be best known to the world, the ⊠country also maintains an impressive tradition of opera-quality choral ⊠singing in its Orthodox churches. Characterized by a range of colors ⊠from the high tenor to the basso profundo, the Sretensky Monastery Men's⊠ Choir's unearthly timbre resonates with the inimical tolling of church ⊠bells. Even if you know nothing about the Orthodox Church, the music is ⊠beautiful and profoundly moving. Don't miss their concert at the Chamber⊠ Hall of Dom Muzyki.

Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. 52 Kosmodamianskaya ⊠Neberezhnaya, Bldg. 8.Metro Paveletskaya. +7 (495) 730 ⊠1011. www.mmdm.ru/ru/events/hor-sretenskogo-monastyrya-14

GUIDE TO ⊠THE ORCHESTRA

The Bolshoi Theater New Stage is the venue for a ⊠"theatrical concert" of Benjamin Britten's "Young Person's Guide the ⊠Orchestra" and Camille Saint-Saens' zoological fantasy "Carnival of the ⊠Animals," pieces that present the various orchestral instruments by ⊠comparing them to animals. This production adds video, playful young ⊠dancers, and interactive media sure to delight children of all ⊠ages.

Feb. 22-24, matinee and evening performances. 1 Teatralnaya. ⊠Metro Teatralnaya. +7 (495) 455 5555. bolshoi.ru/en/performances/4004/

THE⊠ SERVANT-MISTRESS

In this 18th-century comic opera at Helikon, a witty ⊠maidservant persuades her slow-on-the-uptake aristocratic master to ⊠marry her. The first of its kind, this comic opera mixes spoken dialogue⊠ and Harpo Marx-style mime in its jocular approach to aria. Giovanni ⊠Pergolesi's masterpiece remains a hilarious all-time classic.

March⊠ 24 at 7 p.m. 19/16 Bolshaya Nikitskaya Ulitsa. Metro ⊠Chekhovskaya/Arbatskaya. +7 (495) 250 2222. www.helikon.ru/en/node/1043

Original url: https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2017/12/19/the-best-seats-in-the-house-a59726