

'Swan Lake' Ballet Graffiti Greet's Putin's Inauguration in St. Petersburg

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Yav Zone

Drawing inspiration from the last days of the Soviet Union, graffiti artists in St. Petersburg welcomed Vladimir Putin's inauguration to his fourth presidential term on Monday with a "Swan Lake" mural.

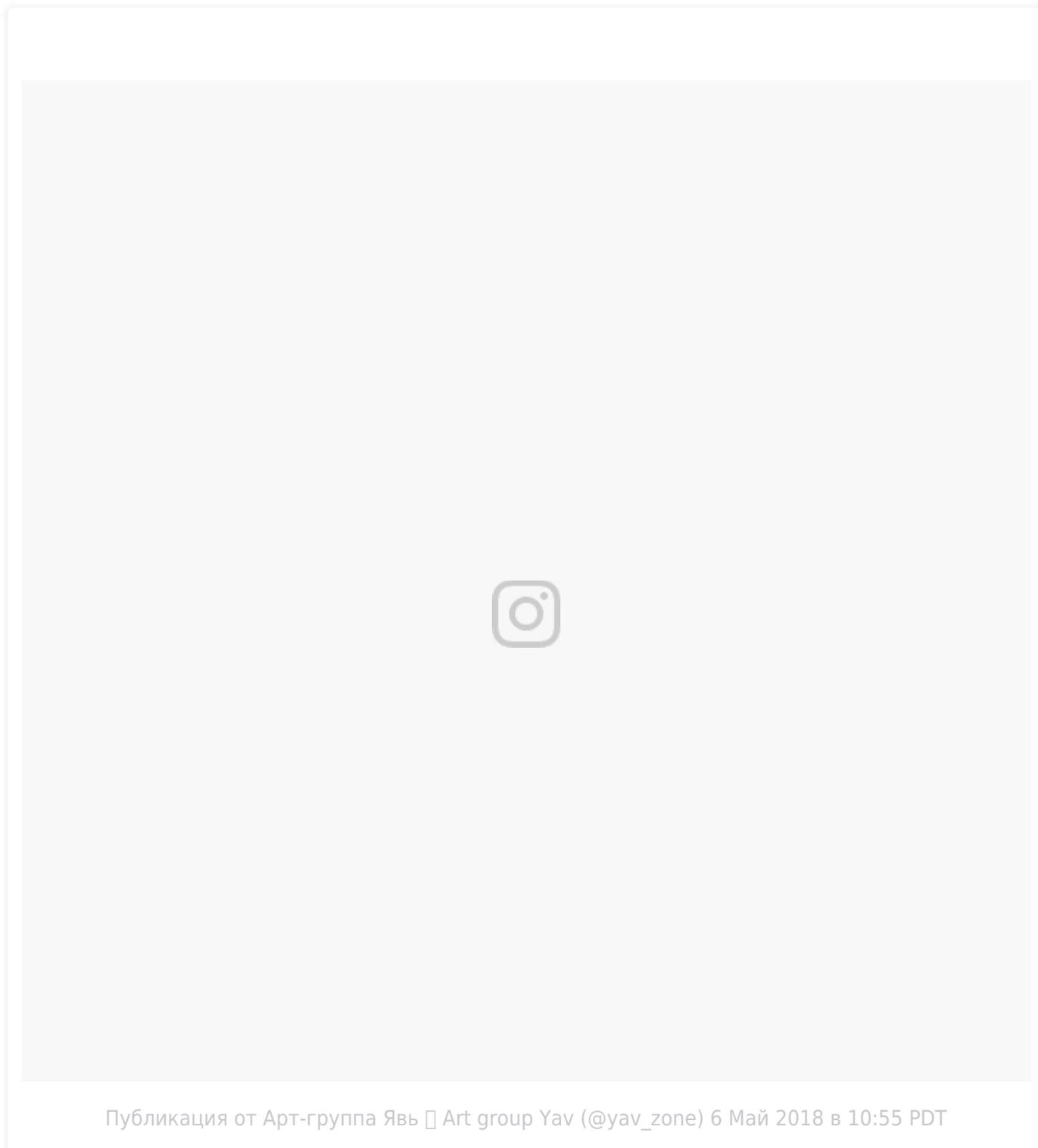
Scenes from the "Swan Lake" ballet [interrupted](#) television programs across the country on Aug. 19, 1991, when Communist coup plotters attempted to wrest control from reformers and reverse the USSR's advancing collapse.

Related article: [August 1991: Muscovites Remember the Failed Coup in a New Exhibition](#)

The sentiment was reflected in the image of four cross-armed ballerinas jumping sideways that appeared overnight in St. Petersburg, its creators explained Monday.

“All we have to say is that it would be better if they showed ‘Swan Lake now’,” the Yav Zone art collective [wrote](#) on social media.

Embed:



Citing possible legal repercussions, the group said it opted against its traditionally comprehensive explanations for their works.

Elsewhere, a Russian-Italian luxury brand marked Putin’s return to the presidency with a limited [release](#) of inauguration-themed iPhones and gold-plated [keypad](#) phones as part of its

[“Tsar-Telephone”](#) line.

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