

# КЛАССИКА НА ДВОРЦОВОЙ



## St. Petersburg celebrates its 315th anniversary with “Classics at the Palace Square”

“Tradition” in Latin means “legend”. Connection of ages and generations is still unbreakable while we have something to love, care for and inherit. That is particularly true for St. Petersburg. Every new generation creates its new traditions but all of them become city customs. The love for classical music is a good example. Our city has been loyal to the classics for more than three centuries and it is still popular and trendy here.

So according to the city tradition St. Petersburg celebrates its 315th anniversary with a great open-air festival “Classics at the Palace Square”, which is initiated by the St. Petersburg City Government and supported by the Committee for Culture of St. Petersburg.

On May 26 the audience will experience incredible opera voices and atmosphere of the exquisite music show filled with modern technologies and unique visual art effects.

The concert program will surprise fans of classical music again with varied repertoire and charismatic performances of the masterpieces by Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Bizet, Verdi, Gounod, Strauss and other great composers.

Brilliant duo of the world opera stars is the headliner of the night.

He is an outstanding tenor, courageous experimenter and a man of a real Sicilian temper. Music fans all over the world mention him in the same breath as Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras and Luciano Pavarotti.

She is a Polish “queen of improvisation”, a fan favorite all over the world with a great acting talent and inimitable lyrical soprano.

Together they are **Roberto Alagna and Aleksandra Kurzak**, beautiful and creative married couple. “Classics at the Palace Square” will be their debut open-air performance in Russia.

This night city citizens and guests can also enjoy another great soprano. The winner of the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World Competition **Valentina Nafornita** participates in the open-air for the second time. In 2015 crowd at the square applauded to amazing duo of Valentina and the opera legend Dmitri Hvorostovsky.

The “Classics 2018” program’s centerpiece is performers whose skills and talents are always in demand at the most prestigious opera stages.

The greatest voices of Russian opera school congratulate Saint Petersburg on the 315th anniversary. These singers are **Venera Gimadieva, Alexey Markov, Oksana Volkova, Pavel Kolgatin, Aleksey Tikhomirov, Aleksandr Trofimov.**

Dancing part of the show is performed by principal at the Bolshoi Theatre Vyacheslav Lopatin and wonderful duo of ballet dancers of the Mikhailovsky Theatre Irina Perren and Marat Shemiunov. Alla Dukhova's TODES Theatre of Dance presents the search for harmony between classics and plastic avant-garde. Dancers of the Saint Petersburg State Academic Yacobson Ballet Theatre show their elegant courtly romance miniatures. The winner of World championships of sport ballroom dances in the Latin-American program "Duet" sport dance club adds expression and amazing synchronous dances to the "Classics" with its debut performance.

The most important and constant advantage of the music show at the Palace Square is live performances. Every composition of the open-air is performed by one of the best musician ensembles in Russia and Europe – the Orchestra of the Mikhailovsky Theatre conducted by Mikhail Tatarnikov.

The SoGlasiye Youth Choir directed by Pavel Teplov also participates in the project.

A lot of cities in Europe have a tradition of open-air concerts, but only "Classics at the Palace Square" turns every piece of program into the separated show. Unique video content and high-tech scenography unite improvised open-air auditorium, stage and the orchestra into virtual dimension of images, sketches, landscapes and interiors based on famous pieces of art.

Favorite culture city brand "Classics at the Palace Square" draws attention not only of citizens but also of Russian and foreign tourists. The audience of the show increases every year and there is no doubt, this year concert reaches more than 500 thousand of viewers. The open-air festival becomes an amazing musical part of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum and certainly enhances the international status of our city.

The project is supported by the leading Russian airline company "Aeroflot" – the official airline of the concert.

Special partner of the project is MTS telecommunication company.

**The show starts at 9pm. The entrance is free.**

**"Classics at the Palace Square" organization:**

International ballet festival Dance Open

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