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April 18, 2008

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EVENT:       **RUSSIA DAY CONCERT**  
DATE:        Thursday, June 12, 2008, 7 pm  
PLACE:       CARNEGIE HALL, ISAAC STERN AUDITORIUM

ARTISTS:

**VLADIMIR GALOUZINE**, Tenor  
**ELENA OBRAZTSOVA**, Mezzo (45th Anniversary appearance)  
**METODIE BUJHOR**, Bass  
**NATALIYA TIMCHENKO**, Soprano  
**THE RUSSIAN CHAMBER CHORUS OF NEW YORK, NIKOLAI KACHANOV**, MUSIC DIRECTOR

PRINCIPAL UNDERWRITER: **Third Millenium Russia Fund**

MUSIC by:   Tchaikovski, Glinka, Puccini, Verdi, Bizet, Leoncavallo

**VLADIMIR GALOUZINE**, Tenor, appeared this season in the title role of *The Gambler* by Prokofieff at the Metropolitan Opera. He has sung at Opera Bastille (Paris), Lyric Opera (Chicago), Metropolitan Opera (New York), La Scala (Milan), Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (London), performing such roles as Otello, and Herman in Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades*, The Pretender (*Boris Godunov*), Sadko (*Sadko*), Andrey Khovansky (*Khovanschina*), Grishka Kuterma and Prince Vsevolod (*The Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh*), Vladimir Igorevich (*Prince Igor*), Don Carlos (*Don Carlos*), Sergey (*Lady Macbeth of Mtensk*), Calaf, (*Turandot*), Radames (*Aida*), Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*), and Cavaradossi (*Tosca*). Vladimir remains a principal member of the Kirov Theatre. In February, 2008, President Putin named Galouzine "The People's Artist", Russia's highest artistic award. This concert marks Mr. Galouzine's first concert appearance in the United States.

**ELENA OBRAZTSOVA**, Mezzo, has performed on the most celebrated opera stages of the world: the Bolshoi and Mariinsky Theatres, La Scala, El Gran Teatre del Liciu in Barcelona, the Grand Opera, Covent Garden, the Metropolitan Opera, and the San Francisco Opera. She appeared with many of the world's most famous singers, including Placido Domingo, Luciano Pavarotti, Jose Carreras, Nicolai Ghiaurov, Mirella Freni, Renata Scotto, and Carlo Bergonzi. Roles she performed were Marina Mnishek (*Boris Gudonov*), Polina and the Countess (*Queen of Spades*), Princess Mary and Helene Bezrukova in *War and Peace*, Amneris in *Aida*, Marfa in *Khovanschina*, the Princess in *Adriana Lecouvreur*, Carmen in *Carmen*, Azucena in *Il Trovatore*, Dalila in *Samson and Dalila*, Lyubov in *Sadko*. She was Guest Soloist with Herbert Von Karajan, Ricardo Muti, Lorin Maazel, and Claudio Abbado. Ms. Obraztsova has been honored with numerous honors, including the title of "The People's Artist" of Russia.

**METODIE BUJOR**, BASS was the 2001 winner of the International Elena Obraztsova Vocal Competition.. He has sung with Gian Carlo Menotti in the Festival of Two Worlds, and in principal roles in the Opera Theatres of Verona, Parma, Opera Leipzig, Hamburg Opera, Opera Toulouse, as well as guesting with symphony orchestras throughout Europe. This concert marks his official New York Debut.

**NATALIYA TYMCHENKO** is a member of the Mariinsky Theatre. Roles she has performed include Tatiana in *Eugene Onegin*, Kupava in *Snow Maiden*, Militrisa in *Tsar Sultan*, Nedda in *I pagliacci*, Leonora in *La forza del destino*, and Madama Butterfly in *Madame Butterfly*. She was a prize winner in the Placido Domingo Competition, Intenational Rimsky-Korsakov Competition, Ghena Dimitrova Competition, International Lysenko Competition, the Nadezhda Obukhova Festival and Competition, and she was invited to participate in the International Elena Obraztsova Competition. This appearance marks her Carnegie Hall Debut.

The **Russian Chamber Chorus of New York** was founded in 1984 by Artistic Director and Conductor Nikolai Kachanov and has become America's preeminent Russian vocal ensemble. RCCNY commands a repertoire spanning many centuries and styles, and has become a regular presence in Carnegie Hall, performing with the St.Petersburg Philharmonic, the Kirov Orchestra with Valery Gergiev, a concert series under Vladimir Ashkenazy, *Music and Dictatorship: Russia under Stalin*; and with the Moscow Virtuosi under Vladimir Spivakov. The chorus has performed numerous concerts such as Rachmaninoff's monumental *Vespers: All-Night Vigil* at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine; and excerpts from Rachmaninoff's *Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom* at the New York Festival of Sacred Music.

**NIKOLAI KACHANOV**, founder and Artistic Director of the Russian Chamber Chorus of New York, was born in Russia in Altai Region of Siberia. He holds a Ph.D. in choral conducting from the Novosibirsk Conservatory and a post-doctorate from the Moscow Conservatory. In 1984 he founded the Russian Chamber Chorus of New York. Kachanov created the Ussachevsky Festival of Russian-American contemporary music, and an annual RCCNY concert series, *Parallels and Crossings*. He has prepared large concert choruses for Vladimir Ashkenazy, Leon Botstein, Valery Gergiev, Yuri Temirkanov and Peter Tiboris; and was coach for the 2004 Lincoln Center Festival's U.S. premiere of John Tavener's all-night vigil, *The Veil of the Temple*. He is a composer of choral and electronic music. His recording, *The Call*, was released in the Spring of 2003.

**INTERNATIONAL CONCERTS** is a 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization that serves diverse cultural interests and provides career-enhancing opportunities to young artists. Recent Presentations include “FOR LUCIANO PAVAROTTI – with Love” at Lincoln Center, Avery Fisher Hall, STARS of the BOLSHOI at Carnegie Hall, OLGA GURYAKOVA with the Moscow Philharmonia at Carnegie Hall, Black tie galas in collaboration with the Russian Consulate, NY. Honoring Deborah Voigt, Renee Fleming with Dmitri Hvorostovski, and Peter Gelb, General Manager of the Metropolitan Opera. It has toured productions of *La Boheme* (Puccini), *Rigoletto* (Verdi), *The Jewel Box* (Mozart/Griffiths), *Iolanta* (Tchaikovski) the American Premiere of *La Molinara* by Paisiello and New York Premiere of *The Jewel Box* in New York City. The company has appeared on tour nationally and internationally, and was invited by the Taiwan Government to appear at the famous Taiwan National Theatre and Kaohsiung Cultural Center.

**TICKETS: \$32, \$38, \$50, \$70, \*\$84, \*\$104.**

**Contact: Carnegie Hall Box Office: (212) - 247-7800**

**[www.carnegiehall.org](http://www.carnegiehall.org)**

(Each \$84 and \$104 ticket obtains a free copy of the book, *Out of The Red*  
by John T. Connor, upon presentation of ticket in lobby)

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National Theatres of Taiwan and Kaohsiung . It has produced events honoring Renee Fleming, Deborah Voigt, and Peter Gelb and has had frequent collaborations with the Russian Federation in New York, and the Russian Embassy in Washington D.C.