



Russian Heritage

NEWSLETTER

Volume XX, Issue 6

February 2016

World Class Domra Soloist to Perform in St. Petersburg on Wednesday, March 23

ALEXANDER TSYGANKOV and INNA SHEVCHENKO have performed together for many years. Their touring schedule has taken them to most of Europe, the United States and parts of Asia. Mr. Tsygankov has been called the “Russian Paganini” and holds the coveted title of *Distinguished Artist of Russia*. He has performed at the White House, Carnegie Hall, New York’s Lincoln Center and has thrilled audiences in Washington D.C.’s famed Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.



Russian Heritage presents Alexander Tsygankov and Inna Shevchenko at Studio@620 on Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm. This is an evening of Russian Heritage that will include incredible Russian music, and a taste of poetry and Russian food. Alexander Tsygankov will perform a variety of pieces of classical music and Russian folk music. Florida poet laureate Peter Meinke will also participate in this program.

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Tickets for this program are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. Members of Russian Heritage will have a discounted rate of \$15. As a special incentive for persons to learn more about Russian Culture and the programs of Russian Heritage, anyone attending the concert will be given a free membership to Russian Heritage for 2016. For those who attended the Old Russian New Year Gala, this will also be an opportunity to view the photographs from the party and to obtain pictures as souvenirs of the event.

The Russian Heritage Old Russian New Year Celebration Highlights the Grandeur of the Past, Featuring the Beauty of the Faberge and Romanov Traditions of Old Russia.

See story and photos on pages 2-3

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**С НОВЫМ ГОДОМ!
HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2016**



RUSSIAN HERITAGE CELEBRATES ITS 20th ANNUAL OLD RUSSIAN NEW YEAR'S GALA

Many people contributed to the follow article.

On Saturday evening, January 16th, the Russian Heritage organization of Tampa Bay entertained a packed house at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, marking its 20th Annual Old Russian New Year's Gala. After a VIP reception, the main event began with the viewing of a beautifully crafted Russian Faberge-style cake crafted by St. Petersburg artist-baker Irina Chernousova. Over 220 exquisitely dressed and excited guests greeted each other as they entered the room and met both old and new friends.

The members and guests then viewed a number of wonderful items on display for a silent auction, all proceeds from which went to the Russian Heritage Student Scholarship Fund. As the guests took their seats for the Gala's delicious meal (entrées included "Fish a-la Faberge" and "Beef a-la Romanov," prepared by club's chef Joseph), the evening's Master of Ceremonies Sean Daly kicked things off by introducing himself and trying his hand at some Russian phrases.

President Nadia Yevstigneyeva was then introduced and applauded for her great work in putting together the evening. She asked three members of her planning committee to join her, Vladimir Malkin, Bill Parsons and Natalie Scarberry, and together they gave a special Russian New Year's Toast! Emcee Daly then gave the floor to Russian Heritage sponsors John and Margo Catsimatidis from New York who welcomed all to the gala. Also in attendance were Congressman Gus Bilirakis, former Mayor Rick Baker, and former SPC President Carl Kuttler, who shared their thoughts about this Old Russian New Year Celebration.

The night's entertainment began with video greetings from students in St. Petersburg, Russia, followed by professional ballroom dancers Maria and Sergey from the St. Petersburg Fred Astaire Dance Studio. Maria and Sergey drew excited applause throughout their special waltz, performed with great beauty and grace. This was followed by musical highlights with singer Zara Vardanean accompanied by Vladimir Khokhlov. Then the Dazzlers kicked off a Disco themed night of dancing that was thoroughly enjoyed by all! When the Dazzlers took a break the crowd enjoyed great music performed by Boris and his Sax, and Maria and Sergey wowed with yet another beautiful and artful performance.

Daly announced winner of the raffle prize who received a beautiful Faberge Egg with a Surprise-Watch, generously donated by St. Petersburg Global Trade House of NYC. Another sponsor of this event was Russian Standard Vodka who generously donated drinks for the VIP reception and the champagne toast. Other sponsors for the scholarship fundraising effort were Vladimir's Collection, The Euro Deli store in Largo, The Fred Astaire Dance Studio, RWI Wine International, Andrew Ashton of La Posh, Nouvelle Beauty Bar, The Birchwood Inn, and the Mikonos and Acropolis Restaurants. Thank you to our sponsors!

As all the elegantly dressed guests reluctantly gathered themselves together and readied to leave, congratulations and thanks echoed throughout the room for such a magnificent and joyous Old Russian New Year's Gala Celebration!

С НОВЫМ ГОДОМ! HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2016



Membership Dues 2016

All who are interested in Russian culture are welcome to join Russian Heritage by simply paying the yearly dues. Members receive the Russian Heritage Newsletter and discounts on certain events.

Please fill in the following form and send it with your check payable to Russian Heritage, or pay via PayPal at www.russianheritage.org:



Russian Heritage
PO Box 14552
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Please check one:

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UPCOMING EVENTS BOTH NEAR AND FAR.....

Outstanding Russian performers coming to the United States.

1. **Mariinsky Theater** will be performing at Kennedy Art Center from Feb. 23-28 with Raymonda Petipa! Here is a link - <http://www.kennedy-center.org/calendar/event/BQBSE>
2. **Theater "Europa" or Maly Drama Theater of St. Petersburg** (Lev Dodin's famous theater) will be performing at BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music) in NYC from Feb. 17-27 with Chekhov's Cherry Orchard! Here is a link http://www.bam.org/theater/2016/thecherryorchard?gclid=CjwKEAiA_C1BRDqyJOQ8_Tq230SJABWBSxnfhGE8qfEB2hKdj8cCkIpEdNflaEDD8dsAGvJNZopeRoCvIHw_wcB
3. **Alexander Tsygankov** will be performing at Studio@620 in St. Petersburg, Florida on March 23. For those who know Domra music, this performance is on the same level as the first two listed here. See page 1 of this newsletter, and do not miss this concert!

Maslenitsa at USF in Tampa. Saturday, March 5 from 3 to 6:00 pm. Held at the USF Riverfront Park on Fletcher Avenue (on the left hand side before crossing the Hillsborough River). We ask those who come to bring a dish to share or a modest monetary contribution.

Maslenitsa at the Russian American Club. March 12 in Gulfport. **Reservations required.**

12-го марта клуб устраивает Масленицу, конечно с блинами и со всем что к ним полагается. Убедительно просим заказывать и платить заранее. Звонить — Дагмара (727) 345 6360, или Жанна [\(727\) 367 2092](tel:7273672092).

SPIFFS INTERNATIONAL BALL. Saturday, April 23 at the Gulfport Casino.

RUSSIAN HERITAGE ANNUAL MEETING. Sunday, April 24. Details to follow in the April Newsletter.