Day of Russia in New York 2008

Continuing the celebration of the 200th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Russia and the United States of America

UNDER THE GRACIOUS PATRONAGE OF

The Embassy of the Russian Federation to the United States of America
The Committee for Foreign Affairs of the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
The Consulate General of the Russian Federation in New York
The New York Office of the Trade Representation of the Russian Federation

HONORING

His Excellency Yuri V. Ushakov
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the United States of America

The Honorable George E. Pataki
53rd Governor of the State of New York

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2008 7:00 P.M.
CIPRIANI 42ND STREET
110 EAST 42ND STREET,
NEW YORK, NY 10017
BLACK TIE
INTERNATIONAL HONORARY CHAIRS

Senator Mikhail V. Margelov  
Chairman of the Committee  
for Foreign Affairs of the Council of Federation  
of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

Senator Roy M. Goodman  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
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Her Excellency Byrganym Aitimova  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of the Kazakhstan to the United Nations

Mr. Anatoli S. Karpov  
President  
“Polet” Cargo Airlines

Mr. Zurab K. Tsereteli  
President  
Russian Academy of Arts

Mr. Andrey Z. Martirosov  
Chief Executive Officer  
UTair Aviation
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Solton Rosen & Balakhovsky LLP

Laura True
President
Aqua Ocean Transport, Inc.

FOUNDERS AND ORGANIZERS OF DAY OF RUSSIA 2008

Iioorl Smirnov & partners, Globe PR Group, Inc.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Borislav Strulev
YURI V. USHAKOV
AMBASSADOR OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Born in Moscow on March 13, 1947.
1970 – graduated from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO)
1970 – joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR
1970-1986 – held various posts at the Soviet Embassy to Denmark, at the Scandinavian Department, at the Secretariat General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR; Department of post-graduate studies of the Diplomatic Academy – presented thesis on the Foreign policy of North European countries, Ph.D. (History)
1986-1992 – Deputy Chief of Mission, Minister-Counselor, Embassy of the USSR/Russian Federation to Denmark
1996-1998 – Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Vienna, Austria
Since January 1999 – Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the United States of America
Also serves as the Permanent Observer of the Russian Federation to the Organization of American States
Diplomatic rank: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Married, has one daughter
 Fluent in English and Danish
Continuing the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Russia and USA

GEORGE E. PATAKI
53RD GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Governor George E. Pataki joined the law firm Chadbourne and Parke, LLP in 2007 as Counsel, focusing on their environmental and corporate practice areas. The Governor also is the founder and Chairman of Pataki-Cahill Group, a consulting firm concentrating on climate change, energy and the environment.

Prior to joining Chadbourne & Parke and starting the Pataki-Cahill Group, he served three terms as the 53rd governor of New York State, from 1995 through 2006. First elected in 1994, he won re-election in 1998 and 2002. He was a partner in the New York law firm of Plunkett & Jaffe until 1987. He was elected mayor of Peekskill, New York in 1981, and served in the New York State Legislature as an assemblyman and then a senator from 1985 to 1994, before becoming governor.

Widely known for his protection of over one million acres of open space, the most since Teddy Roosevelt, Governor Pataki balanced his pro-business philosophy with award-winning, cutting-edge policies in the renewable energy and environmental fields. He led the establishment of the first mandatory cap and trade carbon initiative (Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative - RGGI) which now includes ten Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic States. The Governor implemented the first integrated strategy for creating clean, renewable transportation networks utilizing alternative fuels, including tax and other incentives for both consumers and manufacturers, grants for alternative retail fuel distribution systems and the exemption of renewable fuels from all State and local taxes.

Governor Pataki established New York’s leading brownfield program spurring development in cities across the state by creating a $200 million fund to support the redevelopment of contaminated sites and instituting a $135 million tax credit program to encourage public private investment in brownfields. He instituted the nation’s first green buildings tax credit incentive program which led to the building of the first high-rise green office building in the United States, the first high-rise green residential building in the United States and a host of other green projects currently underdevelopment. Most notably, through his determined leadership Governor Pataki ensured that the redeveloped World Trade Center site will be a global example of green building design.

In addition, Governor Pataki worked to create public private partnerships for clean energy generation in New York State resulting in one of the largest industrial solar power arrays in the U.S., two cellulosic ethanol production facilities, two clean coal plants underdevelopment and one of the largest wind-power arrays in the Eastern United States. He introduced net metering to encourage alternative energy production in homes and established the nation’s first business park devoted to the development of clean energy technologies.

Among numerous other awards, BusinessWeek named Governor Pataki one of the top 20 “Individuals who stand out for their efforts to cut gases that cause global warming” in the world. Also, in 2006, Vanity Fair called him a governor who “gets it” in its inaugural “Green Issue” for his efforts concerning the environment. He is currently co-chairman of the Council on Foreign Relations Independent Task Force on Climate Change.

The Governor and his wife Libby reside in Garrison, NY. They have four children.
Anatoly S. Karpov
President of "Polet" Cargo Airlines

Polet’s success is largely due to the influence of its Director General, Anatoly Karpov, who has steered the company from its inception. We believe that our airline’s success over the years is largely due to the influence of its Director General, Anatoly Karpov who has steered it from its very dawn.

Born on 7 May 1951, Anatoly S. Karpov has dreamt of becoming an aviator since his childhood.

From 1973 up to the present he has been working in the enterprises and organizations of Russian Civil Aviation. He has progressed from the traffic controller to the Director General of one of the largest Russian aviation companies.

Anatoly S. Karpov graduated from the Academy of National Economy under the Government of the Russian Federation. He was awarded a chest badge “Excellent Worker of the Air Transport” for his successful work.

Since 1997 Mr. Karpov took the leadership in creating the Air Launch Aerospace Corporation. The project envisages a new aircraft rocket launch system aimed not only at cutting the costs of launch, but also at environmental safety.
Continuing the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Russia and USA

Rick Shannon has spent his business life in the transportation industry holding senior management positions in major transport companies and overseeing vessel and cargo operations in world wide trade routes over a 40 year career. He has concentrated in difficult and developing parts of the world such as in the early 1970’s in Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran and later in the 1980’s in China where he represented the National Line of China, COSCO, in the USA.

In July 1993, he opened his office in St. Petersburg, Russia and in 1994 AmeRussia was appointed General Agent for Baltic Shipping Company, the National line of Russia operating 176 ships worldwide.

In 1995, while continuing his own AmeRussia operation, he was appointed President of Atlantic Ro-Ro Carries, the only direct all water vessel operator dedicated to the Russian trade capable of handling project cargo concentrating on supplying over sized equipment needed for the oil and gas industry of Russia. ARRC operates nine vessels from the USA to St. Petersburg.

Rick serves on the Board of Directors of the House of Hope, a free alcohol rehabilitation facility just outside of St. Petersburg now celebrating their 11th anniversary this year.

RICK SHANNON
PRESIDENT OF AMERUSSIA SHIPPING COMPANY
Welcoming Address

May 19, 2008

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

We should look back into the glorious past of Russia and the United States. The fact is that in the times really crucial for both of our countries Russians and Americans could not only come to a mutual understanding but always managed to offer each other real and decisive help. That was the case with the Independence War, the Civil War, and both of the World Wars, especially the Second one.

Naturally there are always differences in our interests but they are not that different and leave room for compromise. Perhaps it is the size, the nature, and the ethno-religious diversity of our countries, which bring us together in the crucial times. In such times Russia and the United States could always pick up leaders who could stay above differences.

Search for mutual understanding and cooperation between our countries is gaining importance in this rapidly changing and to a large extent unpredictable world. I am confident that again and again the elites of our countries will reveal wisdom and tact, reach mutual understanding and render each other real help.

With best wishes, I am

Mikhail Margelov
Head of the Committee for Foreign Affairs
The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly,
The Russian Federation
Chairperson of the European Democrat Group (EDG),
The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
June 10, 2008

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the Day of Russia in New York 2008, an international celebration under the auspices of the Embassy of the Russian Federation to the United States and various other organizations; including the Committee for Foreign Affairs of the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the Consulate General of the Russian Federation in New York, and the New York Office of the Trade Representation of the Russian Federation.

Tonight, as Russian cultural, business, and civic leaders come together with friends to culminate the 200th year of their homeland’s diplomatic ties to the United States, we recognize Russian New Yorkers’ outstanding contributions to life in our great City. In every neighborhood throughout the five boroughs, these men, women, and children continue to help our City reach new heights — and this evening’s exciting event is a terrific opportunity for us to celebrate this legacy and rejoice in the rich and vibrant culture of the Russian people.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, I commend everyone involved with this year’s Day of Russia in New York for strengthening this dynamic community through shared tradition and fellowship. Please accept my best wishes for enjoyable festivities and continued success.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor
POLET AIRLINES
COMPANY’S PROFILE

OVERVIEW
Polet Airlines has operated in the air transportation market since 1988. During this time, the company has developed into an international outsized and heavy air cargo transportation company and has grown into a major player in the market. Based on official data, Polet is currently ranked third in the total flow of air cargo traffic in Russia. Polet Airlines is officially registered with the International Civil Aviation Organization and licensed to fly all over the world. At present Polet operates six aircraft AN-124-100 with positive plans to expand its cargo fleet. All these unique factors make Polet Airlines the “Smart Solution” for the transportation of heavyweight and outsize cargo.

The airline’s client data base includes more than 1000 official organizations and companies representing all parts of the world and all types of industries.

UNITED NATIONS
Polet Airlines was accredited by the United Nations (U.N.) in 1998 and has carried out all cargo flights for the U.N. and its divisions since that time. More than 400 cargo flights were operated in eight years helping the U.N. in peace-keeping operations throughout the world – Middle East, East Timor, Africa, South and Central America etc. Polet Airlines is privileged to be called “One of the most reliable operators” in 2004 and 2005. The company operates humanitarian and relief flights for many governmental and international organizations all over the world.

BUSINESS IN CANADA
In May 2001, inspectors of Canada’s aviation authority approved the suitability of Polet Airlines and issued a Canadian Foreign Air Operator Certificate. Mr. Antony Thornton with the Canadian Aviation Authorities was pleasantly surprised by the level of safety standards maintained by Polet Cargo Airlines: “It is obvious that high safety standards exist throughout the company and are actively maintained by the management team. I am highly impressed by the professional and highly experienced personnel holding the key positions in the flight operations department. You have all contributed to an operation that you can be proud of...”.

AEROSPACE BUSINESS
Every year Polet Airlines and Airbus Transport International have an annual schedule of flights.

Recently Polet Airlines has transported two Inmarsat-4 new generation satellites for mobile and distant telephone communication from Toulouse, France to Cape Canaveral, Florida and Long Beach, California in the
United States and finished both missions successfully and on time. The company in 2007 has also completed the first part of the program transporting the A321 fuselage sections from Taiwan to the Germany Airbus assembly factory.

The most recent missions of Polet Airlines includes the delivery of METOP satellites for the European Space Agency which will be launched in October 2008 from Baikonour, Russia. Polet Airlines also transported the Hotbird-8, the largest telecommunication satellite which was launched in 2007.

In 2007, Polet Airlines was nominated as the designated carrier for Airbus Transport International and part of European Aeronautic Defense and Space (EADS), the group providers for outsize and unique goods.

Another factor that sets Polet Airlines apart from its competitors is its involvement in the space technology program. Polet Cargo Airlines is the only operator of AN-124-100 licensed by the Russian Space Agency for transportation of satellites and space rockets.

**MISSION POSSIBLE AWARD**

**P-3 back to the USA**

Perhaps the highest profile air charter operation in recent years was the return to the United States in July 2001 of the US Navy’s Lockheed Martin P-3 Orion ‘spy-plane’ which made a forced landing on China’s Hainan Island after a mid-air incident with Chinese air force fighters.

The recovery charter began in total secrecy, maintaining the lowest possible profile.

Everything went so well during the recovery that one of the two original AN-124s assigned to the operation was not needed, and the entire US aircraft was moved with just one AN-124. Polet Airlines shuttled the AN-124 with pre-staged disassembly equipment outbound from Okinawa, Japan to Hainan Island, China and returned with parts of the P-3 ranging from its dorsal fin to the crew’s parachutes.

The flight back to the US with the fuselage was the final stage of the three-week operation. On July 3, 2001 the AN-124 left Hainan Island in the South Chinese Sea bound for the Dobbins Air Force Base in the United States.

Polet Airline’s 120-ton capacity aircraft successfully completed its mission. Not only was the operation a technical success, but in terms of enhancing the airline’s profile, it was incredible.

The use of a Russian carrier was seen as significant in the diplomatic standoff that followed the incident and Polet Airlines has been congratulated and thanked by the United States and international aviation bodies.

**PASSENGER FLIGHTS**

In August 2003, Polet Airlines entered the passenger air transportation industry. For this purpose, Polet purchased five YAK-40 aircraft and leased one additional. From the year 2005, airline “Polet” purchased six Saab-2000 aircraft and operates them both on domestic and international routes. Most flights are performed from the base airport of Voronezh in Russia.

The destinations are Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Yekaterinburg. There are also regular flights from Moscow to Ulyanovsk. On the international routes Saab-2000 is operated on regular bases to Saint-Petersburg, Belgorod, Kustanay (Kazakhstan), Munich (Germany), and on charter bases to Antalya (Turkey), Pula (Croatia), and Larnaca (Cyprus). In the near future air company Polet is planning to open regular flights to Minsk (Belarus), Kiev (Ukraine), Prague (Czech Republic), Milan (Italy) and Istanbul (Turkey).
Thank you for generous support:

AmeRussia Shipping Company, Inc.
ARRC (Am RoRo Carriers)
Asnes Peter, President, V&P Altitude Corp.
Natalia Azarov, President, Cinderella Travel
Louis Bantle, Chairman Emeritus, UST, Inc.
Joseph Barbieri, Sotheby’s International Realty
Bennett Carr
Craft Food
Gabriele Ehret Devlin, Vice President Sotheby’s International Realty
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John Gicking, Senior Vice President, Sotheby’s International Realty
Yuri Kourachvili
Dr. Veronika Krasheninnikova, President, Council for Trade and Economic Cooperation USA-CIS
Christian Leinfelder, Cittadini Custom Luxury Italian Linens
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A SPECIAL “THANK YOU” TO YAMAHA
FOR PROVIDING THE GRAND PIANO FOR THE DAY OF RUSSIA IN NEW YORK 2008

YAMAHA PIANOS

MEDIA PARTNERS

Continuing the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Russia and USA
BUDD MISHKIN, MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Budd Mishkin is the host and reporter for NY1’s weekly profile series, “One On 1 with Budd Mishkin,” which profiles influential New Yorkers who have significant personal and professional ties to the city. Among those profiled since the series started in 2003 are musicians Wynton Marsalis, Wyclef Jean and Judy Collins; writers Robert Caro, Gay Talese and Pete Hamill; TV chefs Rachel Ray, Bobby Flay and Anthony Bourdain; broadcaster Mike Wallace; educator Geoffrey Canada; environmental activist Majora Carter; and Donald Trump, Ed Koch, Mario Cuomo.

Budd started with the news channel in 1992 and is one of NY1’s original employees. He has served as a sports anchor/reporter for NY1’s nightly program “Sports on 1, The Last Word,” covering some of the biggest events in recent New York sports history: the Rangers Stanley Cup victory, the Yankees World Series run, the 2000 Subway Series and the Knicks playoff series against the Chicago Bulls, the Indiana Pacers and the Miami Heat.

As an anchor for the show, Budd has interviewed some of the greats of the New York sports world and beyond: Walt Frazier, Bill Bradley, Rod Gilbert, Boris Becker, Jim Palmer and Brooks Robinson, to name a few. Perhaps his most enjoyable in-studio interview was horse owner and actor Jack Klugman, the beloved Oscar Madison of “Odd Couple” fame.

Since NY1’s inception, Budd has contributed feature stories outside the world of sports on subjects ranging from the one-year commemoration of September 11th to profiles of Steve Van Zandt and Clarence Clemons of Bruce Springsteen’s E Street Band. His anchoring work was cited in an Emmy awarded to NY1 in 1999 for a half-hour special on the death of Joe Dimaggio.

Away from NY1, Budd has turned a hobby into a slowly developing second career: Russian folk singer. And the one line he’s used to start all of these shows? “I know what you are thinking,” he says. “Just another TV sports guy who sings Russian folk songs.”
WELCOME
Mr. Budd Mishkin
Master of Ceremonies

THE RUSSIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM AND THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

GREETINGS
Ioori Smirnov
Co-Founder of Day of Russia in New York Event
President of Globe PR Group Inc.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
His Excellency Yuri V. Ushakov
Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the United States of America

The Honorable George Pataki
53rd Governor of the State of New York

Mr. Anatoli S. Karpov
President of “Polet” Cargo Airlines

Rick Shannon
President of AmeRussia Shipping Co.

REMARKS
Dr. Henry Kissinger

The Honorable Bradford Billet
Deputy Commissioner of the NYC Commission
for the United Nations, Consular Corps and Protocol

CONCERT

DINNER AND DANCING
CONCERT PROGRAM

Sarah Heltzel, mezzo-soprano
Marina Struleva, piano
Georges Bizet — Habanera from opera “Carmen”
Giacomo Puccini — Musetta’s Waltz from opera “La Boheme”

Mikhail Svetlov, bass
Pavlina Dokovska, piano
Charles Gounod — Mephistopheles song from opera “Faust”
Mikhail Glinka — Farlaf’s Rondo from opera “Ruslan and Lyudmila”

Denis Matsuev, piano
Alexander Scriabin — Etude Op. 8 №12
Franz Liszt — Hungarian Rhapsody №2

Borislav Strulev, cello
Denis Matsuev, piano
Isaak Dunayevsky/Sergey Dreznin — Fantasy on the music to the film Circus

Vasily Romani, tenor
Nickolay Zhemchuzhnyi — Russian Song “Veter” (The Wind)
arr. David Kurcheshvili

GRAND FINALE FOR ALL PERFORMERS


ENTERTAINMENT AND CONCERT
until midnight

Russian-born trumpeter Valery Ponomarev and his 18 - piece Jazz Big Band VP
with Special Guests: Denis Matsuev, Kids dancing Show, Jazz and Blues singers.
Menu

COCKTAIL RECEPTION
PASSED BUTLER STYLE

Hot
Sea Scallop with Prosciutto and Fresh Herb
Chicken Satay with Peanut Sauce
Seared Duck Breast a la Orange
Fritto Misto

Cold
Tuna Tartare on Toasted Baguette
Marinated Salmon Canapes with Capers
Endive Leaf with Chevre
Prosciutto di Parma Wrapped Around Bread Stick
Fresh Crab Canape with Avocado
Potato with American Caviar/Creme Fraiche

On All Bars
Zucchini a la Cipriani
Nuggets of Aged Parmigiano Reggiano
Menu

DINNER

Warm Cipriani Rolls Passed
Parmesan Nuggets & Cipriani Breadsticks on Each Table

Appetizer
Cold Lobster with Haricots Verts, Lemon & Oil

Silent Alternate
Red Beets, String Bean & Goat Cheese Salad

Main Course
Individual Roast Filet of Beef with Sauce Perigourdine

Silent Alternate
Chilean Sea Bass wrapped in Zucchini Topped with Tomato Concasse

Vegetarian Alternate
Vegetable Napoleon

All Main Courses Served with
Fresh Seasonal Ratatouille
Patate Anna

Alternating Desserts
Individual Tiramisu

and
Cipriani’s Homemade Raspberry, Lemon and Peach Sorbets with Fresh Strawberries,
Blueberries & Blackberries in a Chocolate Shell
Miniature Eclairs (Vanilla, Chocolate, Coffee),
Giant Driscoll Strawberries dipped in Bittersweet Chocolate, Assorted Cookies & Brownies
(More Chocolate)
Coffee, Tea, Brewed Decaffeinated
DENIS MATSUEV, PIANIST

Denis Matsuev has become a fast-rising star on the international concert stage after his triumphant victory at the 11th International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow and has quickly established himself as one of the most sought after pianists in his generation.

Mr. Matsuev has appeared in hundreds of recitals at prestigious concert halls throughout the world, including New York’s Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, Salle Gaveau and Théâtre de Champs Elysée in Paris, Mozarteum in Salzburg, Musikhalle in Hamburg, Musikverein in Vienna, Royal Festival Hall in London, Great Hall of the Conservatoire in Moscow, Great Hall of Philharmonie in St. Petersburg, La Scala in Milan, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, and the new Mariinsky Theatre Concert Hall in St. Petersburg.

He has given brilliant performances in numerous festivals including the “Russian Winter” Festival in Moscow, “Stars of White Nights” in St. Petersburg, Andrew Lloyd Webber Festival in London, Auvers-Sur-Oise Festival and La Cote-St-Andre (Berlioz) Festival in France, Chopin Festival in Dushniki, Poland, Klavier-Festival Ruhr in Essen, Germany, Shanghai International Arts Festival, and festivals in Brazil, China, Spain, and Turkey.

Highlights of 2006-2007 included return engagements to the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, concerts at the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg under Mariss Jansons, his debut with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, concerts with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and Vladimir Fedoseyev, a European tour with the Russian National Orchestra under Mikhail Pletnev, a tour in Israel with “Moscow Virtuosi” and Vladimir Spivakov, and performances in Teatro alla Scala with Lorin Maazel. He toured in Greece, Switzerland and Italy with St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra under Yuri Temirkanov, in Great Britain with Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra under Vladimir Fedoseyev, and made his recital debut at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

In a season 2007-2008 Mr. Matsuev opened the season of Houston Symphony Orchestra with Hans Graf, debuted in Luxemburg with Liege Philharmonic Orchestra, in Chicago with Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Leonard Slatkin at the Ravinia Festival. The St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra has chosen Mr. Matsuev to be the major soloist in their tour in Asia. He has appeared with recital in Isaac Stern Auditorium in Carnegie Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, will join the Ravinia Festival in Chicago and the Mariinsky Theatre concert Hall in St. Petersburg.

Mr. Matsuev is Artistic Director of two festivals in Russia: “Stars on Baikal” in Irkutsk and “Crescendo” in Moscow.

“The very real thing-an absolute powerhouse of a pianist”
Washington Post

“Perhaps he is the new Horowitz”
London Times
Continuing the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Russia and USA

BORISLAV STRULEV, CELLIST

Mr. Strulev was privileged to play at the “Tribute to Oscar Peterson” at Carnegie Hall. He took part in 6th Annual Russian Rhapsody - Eventica in London as well as to perform at the French Gala “rEvolution” — “Voulez-Vous” for World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. Mr. Strulev took part in the 100th anniversary of Diaghilev’s “Saisons Russes” within the Crescendo Festival - Paris edition in December 2007 — playing with pianist Denis Matsuev at Salle Gaveau. He performs and records with major pop band of Russia - Uma2Urman. At the 92 Street Y in New York he performed as well as curated concerts entitled “Russian Sundays at the Y”. He performed with the celebrated Terem Quartet for their 25th Anniversary. Mr. Strulev is currently producing “Mythodea: Music for the NASA Mission — 2001 Mars Odyssey” of Oscar-winning composer Vangelis for chamber ensemble as well as performing his numerous cello works.

Mr. Strulev’s orchestral appearances include Detroit Symphony, Orpheus Chamber Ensemble, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Honolulu Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Nazionale della RAI, WDR Symphony Orchestra-Köln, NÖ Tonkünstler Orchestra, Helsingborg Symphony, Orquesta del Principado de Asturias, NorrlandsOperan Symphony Orchestra, Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra, Moscow Philharmonic, Moscow Virtuosi, Moscow State Radio Symphony Orchestra.

He performs at numerous important occasions such as the opening of the 27th International Film Festival in Moscow invited by Nikita Mikhalkov, Denis Matsuev’s “Crescendo” Festival (under auspices of Ministry of Culture and President Vladimir Putin), the United Nations in New York, Unesco in Vienna, where he played in honor of such celebrated figures as Prince Alexis N. Obolensky, Gorbachev, Clinton, Berlusconi, mayor Giuliani, JAY-Z, Billy Joel, Sean Lennon, Lord Lloyd Webber, U2’s Bono and G8 by special invitation of President Putin. He performed “Svyati Boje” by John Tavener on the occasion of Festival of Slavic Literacy in front of 30,000 people.

Mr. Strulev is debut recording on French label Lyrinx includes Rachmaninov and Schostakovich sonatas. The same label is to release his debut orchestral recording of Arvo Pärt’s Pro et Contra, Erkki-Sven Tüür’s concerto, and Daniel Schnyer’s cello concerto (world premiere). Mr. Strulev is special guest on significant crossover recordings with Regina Carter on “Paganini: After a Dream” with celebrated mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves and Eliane Elias on “Lost Days”. He has collaborated with Bobby McFerrin, Roger Kellaway, Vangelis and Billy Joel.

Mr. Strulev plays a cello by master Luigi Piattellini, Florence (1777) on a loan from Dmitry Gindin.

Russian cellist Borislav Strulev has been fascinating audiences on some of the world’s most prestigious stages since his U.S. debut at the Kennedy Center in 1993 arranged on initiative of Isaac Stern, Former World Bank President James Wolfensohn, and Byron Janis with whom he made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1999 playing F. Chopin Sonata.

Critics call him a

“soloist ... with a rich, singing tone”
The New York Times

“He produced a gorgeous sound”
Daily News of Japan

“Channeling no one, or perhaps God”
Associated Press
Mikhail Svetlov, Bass

Celebrated bass and international opera star Mikhail Svetlov is known for the unique range and beauty of his voice as well as for his outstanding acting ability. Described by The Washington Post as “a Titanic, all encompassing and penetrating voice”.

Mr. Svetlov is a winner of the Viotti International Competition, two Telerama Awards, and a Grammy Award nomination. A principal soloist at Moscow’s venerated Bolshoi Theater for more than a decade, he also performed to great acclaim on its international tours at New York’s Metropolitan Opera, Milán’s Teatro alla Scala, and London’s Royal Albert Hall.

He has performed the greatest roles of the bass repertoire such as Zaccaria (Nabucco), Mephistopheles (Faust), Phillip (Don Carlos), Boris (Boris Godunov), Attila, Don Giovanni, and Dutchman as well as orchestra works and recitals, in world prestigious venues like Carnegie Hall, Arena di Verona, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Bayerische State Opera, Hamburg Stadttsoper, Teatro Colón, Salzburg, Edinburgh and Britten festivals, Bregenz Festspiele, Genoa’s Teatro Carlo Felice, L’Opera de Montreal, Houston and Florida Grand operas, Santa Fe, Baltimore, San Diego and Palm Beach operas, Opera de Bellas Artes (Mexico), and many others.

“...Mikhail Svetlov was a sensation!”
La Presse, Montreal

“The evening, indeed, was rich in deep voice, with Mikhail Svetlov...first rate”.
New York Times
PAVLINA DOKOVSKA, PIANIST

A First Prize winner of the Claude Debussy International Competition in France and Italy’s International Piano Competition of Senigallia, Pavlina Dokovska’s concert tours have taken her to Europe, the Far East and throughout the United States, receiving critical acclaim for her brilliant technique, depth of interpretation, and emotional range.

Among the highlights of her performing career figure concerts with the Luxembourg Philharmonic under conductors Leopold Hager and Paavo Jarvi, and important debuts at the Spoleto Festival in Italy, Mai Musical in Bordeaux, the Frick Collection in New York, Munich’s Gasteig, the National Gallery in Washington, Prague’s Autumn Festival and the Klavierfestival Ruhr in Germany. At the International Apolonia Festival in Bulgaria she gave a solo recital in addition to a duo-recital with the great Bulgarian soprano Stefka Evstatieva.

Pavlina Dokovska was born in Bulgaria where she studied with Lydia Kuteva and graduated from the Music Academy of Sofia as a student of Julia and Constantin Ganev. After further studies with Ivonne Lefebure in Paris, she completed her Master of Music Degree at the Juilliard School in New York as a student of Beveridge Webster.

In New York, she has appeared in several top halls, including Avery Fisher Hall, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, and Merkin Hall. A sought-after soloist with orchestra, she has performed with the symphony orchestras of Austin, Knoxville, Youngstown and Great Falls, and performed Chopin’s e-minor Concerto with the Billings Symphony and Prokofiev’s 3rd Piano Concerto with the Augsburg Symphony in Germany. Duo-recitals with the late legendary Bulgarian bass Nicolai Ghiaurov brought both to Paris, Munich, the Salzburg Festival, Teatro alla Scala in Milan, and Wigmore Hall in London to standing ovations throughout.

In her native Bulgaria, she regularly performs as recitalist and soloist with all the major orchestras, including the Sofia Philharmonic and Radio Symphony.

Ms. Dokovska’s discography shows an affinity for French music, such as in her CDs on Koch International and Arcadia featuring music by various French composers including the Groupe des Six, an album titled Tombeau de Couperin and another CD named Musical Tribute, Debussy on Labor Records. She has also recorded an all-Schumann CD on Gega New Records. Her collaborative efforts with major musical figures have resulted in many memorable recordings, among them Russian Romances with Mr. Ghiaurov on RCA, on Elan with cellist Nathaniel Rosen playing sonatas by Prokofiev and Rachmaninov, and on the Victor label sonatas by Ravel and Saint-Saëns with violinist Mila Georgieva.

Known for her insightful and caring teaching methods which have produced many a competition winner, Ms. Dokovska joined the faculty of the Mannes College of Music in New York in 1995. Three years later she was elected Chair of the Piano Department, a position she holds to date. In 1999 she founded and became artistic director of the annual Mannes Festival which grew into a staple of New York’s musical life with about 20 concerts at some of the city’s major venues. She is also artistic director of the Southwest Virginia Festival for the Arts.
SARAH HELTZEL, MEZZO SOPRANO

Lauded by the Seattle Weekly for her “perfectly polished and vivacious” singing, American Mezzo-Soprano Sarah Heltzel made her Seattle Opera debut in 2005 as the Siegrune in Stephen Wadsworth’s acclaimed Der Ring des Nibelungen., which she repeats in 2009. She was a last minute replacement in Das Rheingold, singing Flosshilde from the orchestra pit with great success. Miss Heltzel spent much of the past two seasons with the Seattle Opera; as a member of their Young Artist Program, where she was heard as Cherubino in Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro and Miss Jessel in Britten’s The Turn of the Screw, and covered the role of Paula in the company’s performances of Catán’s Florencia en el Amazonas.

Engagements for the 2006-2007 season included Miss Heltzel’s first performances of Bizet’s Carmen with both Skagit and Tacoma Operas, as well as Cherubino and the Monitor in Puccini’s Suor Angelica with Chautauqua Opera. Also in the season she joins the Seattle Symphony as the Alto soloist in Janacek’s Glagolitic Mass, and Mississippi Opera for their “Love in the Afternoon” concert.

Miss Heltzel made her concert debut at Alice Tully Hall with the New York Symphonic Ensemble as the 2003 recipient of the Panasonic Harmony Award. Additional concert engagements have included Mozart’s Coronation Mass and Handel’s Messiah; she has recently been a featured soloist with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, and with the Yakima Symphony Orchestra as Cherubino in a semi-staged Le Nozze di Figaro. Equally at home on the recital stage, Miss Heltzel has performed numerous song recitals in the New York, Boston, and Seattle areas.

In previous seasons, Miss Heltzel sang Mère Marie in Poulenc’s Dialogues des Carmélites in Tel-Aviv with the Israel Vocal Arts Institute, and appeared as Giulietta in Offenbach’s Les Contes d’Hoffmann, and as Charlotte in Act 3 of Massenet’s Werther with the International Institute of Vocal Arts in Italy. At Manhattan School of Music, she performed the roles of Hermia in Britten’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream and Zweite Dame in Mozart’s Die Zauberflöte, among others. Other credits include La Messaggiera in Monteverdi’s L’Orfeo and the title role of Offenbach’s The Grand Duchess of Gérolstein.

Sarah Heltzel received a 2006 Apprentice Award from Chautauqua Opera, and was a grant recipient in the 2005 Gerda Lissner Foundation competition. She was a winner in the 2004 Sun Valley Opera Competition as well as the 2002 Palm Beach Opera Vocal Competition (Junior division). Miss Heltzel holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Gordon College, and both a Master of Music degree and a Professional Studies Certificate from the Manhattan School of Music.
MARINA STRULEVA, PIANIST

The accomplished pianist Marina Struleva was born in Moscow and received her musical education at the Gnessin Academy of Music. Her studies with the legendary teachers provided a deep passion for the great tradition of pianism, which the audiences immediately sense from her inspired interpretations and musical integrity. She was the youngest appointed accompanist at the Gnessin Academy at age 16 even before her graduation.

Marina Struleva developed a flourishing career as a chamber musician and accompanist to many of the most famous classical instrumentalists and singers in the world.

She was invited to perform at some of the most celebrated musical venues including The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, Carnegie’s Weill recital Hall, a ten city tour of Japan including Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Van Wezel Hall, Kravis Center, Steinway Hall and United Nations in New York, and Northwestern University in Chicago.
VASILY YANKOVICH (ROMANI), TENOR AND GUITAR

One of the best known gypsy singers in the world graduated in 1982 from the Gnesien Music Academy in Moscow, Russia.

From 1982 to 1990, he performed as the lead musician in the Gypsy Theater Romen under the direction of N. Slechenko in Moscow.

From 1986 to 1988, he served in the military as a soloist in the Moscow State Ensemble Song and Dance. He was presented with a special military citation by the Ministry of Defense for his contributions to the State Ensemble. Since 1990, he has travelled the world as a musician and has held many performances in Moscow and the United States.

He has entertained President Putin, Pope John Paul II as well as performing in the Russian Embassy in Washington, DC. and at Festivals throughout the country.

Vocal and guitar repertoire includes songs and arias from the best of Russian and American classical and popular traditions, Italian Bel Canto and Gypsy Heritage.

He has appeared in: Russian Classical Romances Concert – Carnegie Weill Hall – New York City; Regular Performer in Russian Embassy Concert Events – Washington, DC; Annual Cultural Exchange Festival – Portland, Maine; Russian Gypsy Concert – Harvard University; Russian Gypsy Concert – Boston University; Russian Gypsy Concert – Boro College – Manhattan, New York; Lead performer in The Defense of Prague in LaMaMaTheater, Manhattan, New York; Lead musician in Russian Gypsy Ensemble in New York Theater production of “The Brothers Karazamov” – La MaMa Theater, Manhattan, New York; Performing concerts in Russian Embassy in Washington, DC; Russian Gypsy Concert performance at the University of Texas; Featured performer in Guggenheim Museum event welcoming Russia’s President Putin to the United States and the opening of the United Nations; Gala Holiday Event at Metropolitan Club of New York for Banks of Deutsche and Suisse; Directed and performed Gypsy Music Shows at Moscow Cabaret; Filmed in motion picture “Autumn In New York” with actor Richard Gere.
VALERY PONOMAREV, BIG BAND LEADER AND TRUMPET

Mr. Ponomarev worked with Art Blakey & the Jazz Messengers for 4 years. Also made numerous television appearances with the Messengers in Europe, Japan, and Brazil. In the United States has made television appearances on “To Tell the Truth”, on PBS network, National Geographic Today and on CNN.

First time Mr. Ponomarev returned to Russia in 1990 after a 17year absence to participate in the First International Jazz Festival in Moscow along with many of the world’s greatest jazz superstars. Since then Mr. Ponomarev regularly travels to Russia with American musicians, Benny Golson, Curtis Fuller, Bobbie Watson, James “Sid” Simmons, Bradford Leali, Vincent Lewis, Byron & Robert Landham, Sean McGloin, Evelyn Blakey, joining local stars for concerts and tours of the major cities in Siberia, Moscow and St Petersburg. He was also featured as a European superstar at the Charlie Parker in Paris Festival. Valery has also played concerts with Benny Golson, featuring Mr. Golson’s music. Mr. Ponomarev is a current member of the memorial “Art Blakey & the Jazz Messengers” band led by Mr. Golson.


Featured in the movie “Frozen in Amber” a documentary about the contributions of Russian ex-patriots to art and the performing arts in the USA. “Messenger from Russia” a documentary by independent producer Jason Scadron about Valery Ponomarev’s life was aired on the National Geographic Today channel.

Included in many publications including: Oxford University Press, the Grove Encyclopedia of Music, Penguin Guide to Jazz on CD by Richard Cook & Brian Morton, All Music Guide to Jazz, Hard Bop Academy by Alan Goldsher, Top Brass by Bob Bernotas, Trumpet Kings by Scott Yanow and many other. Valery Ponomarev’s book “On the flip side of sound” was written both in English and Russian languages. It was published by the “AGRAF” publishing house and came out in Moscow, Russia in January 2003. It’s being prepared for publication in English language in America.

“But the most provocative soloist in the group is Valery Ponomarev, a Russian trumpeter who combines bristling attack with dazzling execution and a very neat, compact, controlled development of his solos”.

John S. Wilson, The New York Times
Continuing the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Russia and USA
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TIMELINE OF RUSSIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS 18–20TH CENTURIES

1540 A manuscript by Maksim the Greek written during the Moscow period of his life contains the first reference in old Russian to the existence of the New World.

1584 “The Chronicle of the Whole World” (The Belskiy Chronicle), where the name “America” is first mentioned, is translated into Russian.

1698 The first officially documented meeting of American and Russian political figures - Peter the Great and William Penn - takes place in London.

1725 Preparations begin for the First Kamchatka expedition by Vitus Bering to discover whether Asia and America connect. In August 1728, the expedition reaches the latitude of 67° N and confirms the existence of a strait dividing the continents.

1732 July 23 The expedition of Russian seafarers M. Gvozdev and I. Fedorov begins - the first Russian expedition to reach the north-western coast of America.

1741 February American scientist Ezra Stiles sends a letter through Benjamin Franklin to M.V. Lomonosov, an act which marks the first contact in the field of science between American and Russian scientists.

1750 November 25 “The Sankt-Peterburg Vedomosti” publishes for the first time in Russia the geography and the history of North America and its inhabitants.

1753 V. Bering and A.I. Chirikov preparations begin for the second Kamchatka expedition. In the summer of 1741 the northern part of the Pacific Ocean and north-western coast of America are explored. The Aleutian Islands, Alaska, the Aleksandr Archipelago are discovered.

1755 Russian trader and seafarer G.I. Shelikhov organizes a trip of Russian merchant ships to the Kuril and Aleutian Islands.

1775 Russian educator and traveler F.V. Karzhavin, one of the first Russians to visit America, begins his lengthy extensive travels in America.

1780 February 28 Russia proclaims Declaration on Armed Neutrality.

1781 August American diplomat Francis Dana arrives in Russia to establish diplomatic relations between the United States and Russia.

1782 Russian physicist Leonard Eyler becomes the first Russian member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

1783 June 1 The first U.S. merchant ship arrives in Russia.
Continuing the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Russia and USA

1783 August 16  G.I. Shelikhov and I.I. Golikov begins expedition to the north-western shores of America.

1784 June 21  G.I. Shelikhov reaches Kadjak Island and creates a hunting base. In 1786 a Russian settlement is established.

1785  Russian seafarers and explorers I.I. Billings and G.A. Sarychev begin ten-year expedition. They explore the northern part of the Pacific Ocean and reach the Aleutian Islands and American shores.

1787 Summer  One of the first Americans, traveler John Ledyard, arrives in St. Petersburg, travels through out Russia, including Siberia, for two years.

1787  Russian merchants find the North-Eastern American Company.

1788 April  U.S. Navy Captain John Paul Jones, a heroic naval commander during the American Revolution, arrives in St. Petersburg to be commissioned a Rear Admiral in the Imperial Russian Navy.

1788  Russian seafarer G.L. Pribylov discovers a group of islands to the north of the Aleutian Islands, which are named after him - the Pribylov Islands.

1789 September 17  President of the Russian Academy of Arts and Sciences Duchess E.R. Dashkova is elected as an honorary member to the American Philosophical Society.

1789 November 2  Benjamin Franklin becomes the first American elected member of the Russian Academy of Arts and Sciences.

1790  Russian merchant A.A. Baranov becomes the first formal ruler of Russian America.

1792 Fall  D.D. Golitsyn, the first Russian emigrant, arrives in the United States to settle in America permanently.

1794  The Holy Synod sends a Russian Orthodox Church Mission to Kadjak Island.

1796  Russian ruler of Russian America A.A. Baranov builds a fort and a settlement at Yakutat Bay.

1797  Russian merchants find the American United Company.

1799 July 8  By decree Russian Emperor Pavel I finds the Russian American Company.

1799 Summer  Russian ruler of Russian America A.A. Baranov establishes the Mikhaylovskiy Fort on the Sitka Island.

1800  Second American census registers the first reference to a Russian settled on American territory.

1803 Summer  Seafarers and scientists I.F. Kruzenshtern and Yu.F. Lisyanskiy begins the first round-the-world Russian expedition and visits Russian America.

1803 October 19  The first U.S. Consul Levett (Levitt) Harris arrives in St. Petersburg and assumes official duties.

1803  The ruler of Russian America A.A. Baranov organizes first Russian expedition to Californian headed by Russian seafarer and merchant I.A. Kuskov.

1804 June  Regular correspondence is established between Russian Emperor Aleksandr I and U.S. President Thomas Jefferson. Correspondence begins after Jefferson sends the Emperor in 1802 a list of publications on the U.S. Constitution with a personal letter.

1804 August  American seafarer John D’Wolf begins his five-year travels through Russia on board the “Yunon” schooner and in the summer of 1805 reaches Sitka Island.

1804 Fall  The Russian ruler of Russian America A.A. Baranov builds a fort and a settlement called Novoarkhangelsk on Sitka Island. It becomes the capital of Russian America in 1808.

1806 February 25  Russian Navy officer and merchant N.P. Rezanov sails toward the western coast of North America reaching San Francisco Bay on board the “Yunon” schooner (purchased from John D’Wolf and commanded by N.A. Khvostov). The “Avos,” a schooner commanded by G.I. Davydov, accompanies the “Yunon.”

1806  First direct route of Russian merchant ships loaded with Russian goods organized by Russian merchant K.A. Anfilatov begins.

1807 August-December  Diplomatic relations between the United States and Russia are officially established through an exchange of reports and messages between Russian Envoy in London M.M. Alopeus and Russian Foreign Minister A.Ya. Budberg, on one side, and American Envoys in London James Monroe and William Pinkney and U.S. Secretary of State James Madison, on the other.
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