



The Glory of Russian Masterworks

Dr. Rachel Franklin

Thursday, January 30, 2025 - 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET

Session 4, Jan. 30th- The Ballet Masters: Igor Stravinsky and Sergei Prokofiev

Before exploring the mesmerizing ballet worlds of Stravinsky and Prokofiev we look back to how that intensely expressive style emerged with the many versions of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. Then, commissioned by the great impresario Serge Diaghilev, Stravinsky's ballets crossed the fault line between Romanticism and Modernism, and changed forever the way audiences understood dance. We'll sample *Petrushka* for an illuminating vision of Stravinsky's Russian roots. Prokofiev composed his *Romeo and Juliet* under the malign supervision of Soviet apparatchiks but still produced a work of sublime romance and beauty. We'll also explore his exquisite Violin Concerto no. 1.

Works explored

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Swan Lake, 1877

- Mariinsky Theatre, Ulyana Lopatkina & Danina Korsuntsev, Swan Lake Act II pas de deux (love duet), 2007

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSKgGF4v8_c

- Ulyana Lopatkina & Danina Korsuntsev, Swan Lake Act II finale
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89BzShP2eYs>
- Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake, early 2000's, Adam Cooper, Scott Ambler
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=prms4ZqA_N4

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

Petrushka, 1911

- Excerpts from Tony Palmer's documentary: "Stravinsky: Once at a Border"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_fDL2OVgg
- Bolshoi Ballet. Choreography Michel Fokine. Petrushka - Andris Liepa
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVXkBIWmQQs>

Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)

Romeo & Juliet, 1935

- Opéra national de Paris, choreography Rudolf Nureyev: Dance of the Knights
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92YhJ4ZVmCg>
- Royal Ballet, Margot Fonteyn, Rudolph Nureyev. Choreography Kenneth Macmillan
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HtBRN5BXt6o>
- Royal Ballet, David Blair- Mercutio, Desmond Doyle – Tybalt
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyD8ICSUPMY&t=137s>

Prokofiev

Violin concerto n°1, Op. 19, 1917

- David Oistrakh, London Symphony Orchestra, Lovro von Matačić
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SokXIbbfkrk>