

St Petersburg  
July 5, 2019

**PRESS-RELEASE**

***NIGHT AT THE OPERA CONCERT AT NEW HOLLAND ISLAND***

On July 18, 2019, a *Night at the Opera* will take place on New Holland Island, where the Youth Opera company of the *State Academic Bolshoi Theater* will perform. Rising stars of academic music will perform famous opera roles from works by Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Puccini, Rossini, Mozart, Bizet and other composers.

Especially for the opera evening, the round stage in the courtyard of the *Bottle House* will be transformed into a real theatrical stage with scenery, a velvet curtain and a crystal chandelier, and comfortable seating will be installed for the audience.

As part of the Youth Opera Program, young singers and pianists from Russia and the CIS take a course of professional development. For several years, young artists enrolling in the program based on the results of competitive auditions, study various academic disciplines, including vocal classes, master classes from famous singers and tutors, foreign languages, theatrical movement and acting skills. In addition, each of the artists of the Youth Opera Program has extensive stage practice, playing roles in premieres and current theater productions, as well as preparing various concert programs.

For the entire existence of the Youth Opera Program, the greatest teachers, pianists and singers of our time have worked with the participants and continue to do so. Artists and graduates of the Youth Opera Program perform at the largest stages in the world. Many graduates of the Youth Opera Program have joined the troupe of the *Bolshoi Theater of Russia* and some became guest soloists of the theater.

Artistic director of the Youth Opera Program: Dmitry Vdovin.

*The concert starts at 10 PM. Tickets cost 1000 rubles; they can be purchased at the New Holland Infocenter. Seats are limited.*

*New Holland: Cultural Urbanization*

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PROGRAMME

- Jacques Offenbach.** Barcarolle from *The Tales of Hoffmann*. Tamuna Gochashvili (Soprano) and Maria Barakova (Mezzo-Soprano)
- Georges Bizet.** Escamillo's Couplets from *Carmen*. Rauf Timergazin (Baritone)
- Georges Bizet.** Carmen and Escamillo's Duet from *Carmen*. Tamuna Gochashvili (Soprano) and Rauf Timergazin (Baritone)
- Gioachino Rossini.** Don Basilio's Aria from *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Giorgi Chelidze (Bass)
- Giacomo Puccini.** Laretta's Aria from *Gianni Schicchi*. Elmira Karakhanova (Soprano)
- Gaetano Donizetti.** Romance di Nemorino from *L'Elisir d'Amore*. Bogdan Volkov (Tenor)
- Giacomo Puccini.** Musetta's Waltz from *La Bohème*. Tamuna Gochashvili (Soprano)
- Sergei Rachmaninoff.** Aleko's Cavatina from *Aleko*. Rauf Timergazin (Baritone)
- Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov.** The Snow Maiden's Aria from *The Snow Maiden*. Elmira Karakhanova (Soprano)
- Pyotr Tchaikovsky.** Herman's Aria from *The Queen of Spades*. Vadim Babichuk (Tenor)
- Pyotr Tchaikovsky.** Lisa's Arioso from *The Queen of Spades*. Maria Motolygina (Soprano)
- Pyotr Tchaikovsky.** Lensky's Aria from *Eugene Onegin*. Bogdan Volkov (Tenor)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.** Zerlina and Don Giovanni's Duet from *Don Giovanni*. Elmira Karakhanova (Soprano) and Rauf Timergazin (Baritone)
- Charles Gounod.** Mephistopheles' Couplets from *Faust*. Giorgi Chelidze (Bass)
- Jacques Offenbach.** Couplets du sabre from *La Grande-Duchesse de Gérolstein*. Maria Barakova (Mezzo-Soprano)
- Georges Bizet.** Nadir and Zurga's Duet from *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*. Bogdan Volkov (Tenor) and Rauf Timergazin (Baritone)
- Giacomo Puccini.** Tosca's Aria from *Tosca*. Maria Motolygina (Soprano)
- Giacomo Puccini.** Calaf's Aria Nessun Dorma from *Turandot*. Vadim Babichuk (Tenor) and all performers.
- Johann Strauss.** Two Acts from *Die Fledermaus*. All performers.

**NEW HOLLAND: CULTURAL URBANIZATION**

In 2010, *New Holland Development*, an affiliate of Roman Abramovich's company *Millhouse, LLC*, won the tender for the restoration and renovation of New Holland Island, with the goal of creating a mixed-use complex that will serve as one of the epicenters of cultural life not only for St Petersburg, but for Russia as a whole. To help determine the concept and creative direction of the island's development, *Millhouse* turned to the *Iris Foundation*, a non-commercial initiative for the support and advancement of contemporary culture and art, launched by Daria Zhukova. This collaboration resulted in *New Holland: Cultural Urbanization*, a fresh approach to the restructuring and modernization of the territory, a monument of cultural and national historical significance. Following the success of the seasonal programs, the project investors decided not to proceed with the original plan to clear the territory to construct a new building. Instead, they chose to organize a full-fledged city park, complete with a modern and convenient infrastructure, which each and every person could find his or her place. The island continues to host cultural programs as well as grand-scale civic initiatives. Future plans for the development of the territory include not only commercial enterprises, but also cultural and educational institutions, research laboratories, and exhibition spaces, whose programming will be overseen by emerging specialists. *New Holland: Cultural Urbanization* helps recruit a team of architects, designers, and urban planners, as well as provide the cultural content for the island's programming and participate in the selection of partners and operators. In August 2016, the first phase of the project came to completion, with the launch of New Holland's park zone, and the island began to operate all year long. As of now, three historical buildings have been restored: the Foundry, the Commandant's House and the *Bottle House*.