



DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

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Legendary Mariinsky Ballet at the 70th Festival

Dubrovnik, 1 August 2019 – One of the premier world ballets, the historic **Mariinsky Theatre**, will be performing for the first time ever at the 70th Dubrovnik Summer Festival, on its grand anniversary. This unique event of regional as well as national significance will see the magnificent Mariinsky artistes performing ***The Four Seasons***, a ballet in two acts choreographed by **Ilya Zhivoi** based on the Max Richter recomposition of the well-known eponymous Vivaldi concerto. They will be performing two evenings in a row, on **4 August and 5 August**, in the **Gradac park at 9.30pm**. Tickets for both have been sold-out.

Premiered in 2017, *The Four Seasons* is Ilya Zhivoi's first full-length, award-winning ballet, which was named the production of the year in St Petersburg in its premiere season and won international acclaim.

The Four Seasons, which premiered in 2017, was **Ilya Zhivoi's** first full-length ballet which was named the production of the year in St Petersburg in its premiere season and which won international acclaim. When it comes to ballet, the first guest performance of the legendary ballet company from St Petersburg is the most beautiful jewel in the crown of the 70th Dubrovnik Summer Festival, writes Branimir Pofuk announcing the lauded two-part show – with each part lasting some 45 minutes – during which Zhivoi uses, apart from the titular recomposition, Richter's electronic soundscapes *Shadows*, released on CD with the recomposition of *The Four Seasons*.

The renowned **Mariinsky Ballet**, founded in the 18th century in St Petersburg as the Russian Imperial Ballet and known for the better part of the 20th century as the Leningrad Kirov Ballet, is an indispensable and irreplaceable dance institution, a place where some of the greatest and best-loved ballets were created, including the most performed one ever – *The Nutcracker*. It is a place from which a vast array of legendary dancers and choreographers set out to conquer the world, a place where the most rigid canons of the effervescent and utterly demanding art of ballet are nurtured and preserved, at the same time serving as the hub of its revolutionary modernisers and innovators. This guest performance in Dubrovnik is the first time in recent history that the Mariinsky are performing a full-length ballet in the region.

Tickets for both performances are sold-out.

The Dubrovnik Summer Festival – the centre of Croatian and global spirit and culture, a place of creation and not just a place of visit, a place of community, ideas and new artistic expressions, is traditionally supported this year by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Dubrovnik, the Dubrovnik-neretva county and numerous other sponsors and benefactors who helped bring this most prestigious cultural event in Croatia to fruition.

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