

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 27, 2000

CONTACT: Jennifer Porter

(425) 455-1345

A Russian Holiday in Bellevue

Bellevue, WA - Ballet Bellevue presents Tchaikowsky's The Snow Maiden with guest stars Yury Andreev and Natalia Toriachvili from St. Petersburg, Russia, for three performances: December 8th and 9th (8 PM) and December 10th (3 PM), at The Theater at Meydenbauer Center in downtown Bellevue.

Ballet Bellevue's holiday offering, featuring Tchaikowsky's haunting score, tells the Russian fable of a snow maiden whose heart of ice is melted by the warmth of human love.

This production by Vera Altunina and Ronn Tice brings the colorful story to life through classical ballet and Russian character dancing. Lighting and technical direction is by Progressive Image, Inc. of New York City/Seattle. Ballet Bellevue company dancers will be joined by Eastside children who have auditioned for student roles in this fairy tale classic, a must see for your holidays! A children's matinee will be performed at 2 PM, Saturday, December 9th.

Russian guest artists Andreev and Toriachvili will be in Bellevue from November 22nd to December 11th in a cultural exchange between The State Theater of Opera and Ballet in St. Petersburg and Ballet Bellevue. In addition to their performance in The Snow Maiden, they will be teaching a master class open to the public and will participate in school visits in the Puget Sound region.

The Snow Maiden, a feature of Wells Fargo's Magic Season, is sponsored by Standing Ovation, King County Arts Commission, Bellevue Arts Commission, the Eastside Journal and the Seattle Weekly.

Tickets are available by calling Ballet Bellevue at (425) 455-1345 or Ticket Window (206) 325-6500. Adults \$17, Students/Seniors \$10. Group rates available for 10 or more. Ballet Bellevue participates in Waste Free Holidays and Arts Bucks.