

## PRESS RELEASE

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BALLET BELLEVUE WOWS EASTSIDE  
WITH NEW ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: DANCER WITH BOLSHOI BALLET  
GRIGOROVICH COMPANY

Bellevue , WA - Ballet Bellevue has been making whistle stop calls since last summer through out the Eastside and Puget Sound region to introduce the company's new Artistic Director, Viktoria Titova, former dancer with Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet Grigorovich Company.

Titova came to Seattle from Russia four years ago when she began dancing for Ballet Bellevue under the direction of the company's founding director, Ronn Tice. At the close of Ballet Bellevue's seventh season as the Eastside's first professional dance company last June, Tice accepted one of several tempting offers from U. S. and European companies, passing the baton to Titova as he left for the Minnesota Dance Theatre in his native Minneapolis . Accepting her new position as Artistic Director of Ballet Bellevue, Titova is especially enthused about presenting the purity of classical performances with the world's best guest artists, while giving many new opportunities for dancers trained in the Northwest to perform here in our own community.

The season opened with Titova rehearsing the company dancers in preparation for Tice's return to Bellevue last week to direct his choreography of *Choral Dances/The Fairy Queen*, a concert of the Cascadian Singers and Cascadian Orchestra directed by Philip Tschopp. Ballet Bellevue 's *Jazz Nutcracker* coming to the Meydenbauer Center December 13-15 will be directed by guest jazz choreographer, Duane George with ballet choreography by Ms. Titova, Titova's focus on classical ballet will be evident in the March 8-9 Spring Repertory Program with *Les Sylphides* and excerpts from *Don Quixote* and other works, and she has already scheduled Ballet Bellevue's *Sleeping Beauty* to open the "Magic Season" during Thanksgiving weekend 2003. Also the new director of Ballet Bellevue School , Titova began a full program of classes on September 3rd which involves five teachers and a steadily growing body of students who will perform at recitals in January and June and at charity events throughout the year.

The Summer Workshop for students that she began last June will resume in 2003 with a celebration of performances at the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center during the renowned Bellevue Arts Fair.

For information about Ballet Bellevue company or school, call 425.455.1345 or visit [www.balletbellevue.org](http://www.balletbellevue.org).