



The 8th Annual
Kazakh Gala Concert



in celebration of the
20th Anniversary of
the Independence of Kazakhstan
6th December 2011



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8th Kazakh Gala Concert

Kairat Abusseitov
His Excellency the
Ambassador of the
Republic of Kazakhstan to
the United Kingdom and
Northern Ireland



Dear Friends!

The 16th of December will mark 20 years of Kazakhstan's independence.

Throughout these 20 years, Kazakhstan has strengthened its relations with the United Kingdom and the rest of the world, not only through diplomacy, but also through the universal languages of music and art.

The Gala Concert that will be held on the 6th December 2011 at Guildhall, City of London and will feature the outstanding Royal Philharmonic Orchestra with the renowned Kazakh musician Marius Stravinsky who will be performing music composed by Haydn, Rimsky-Korsakov, Danara Mussakhan and Igor Stravinsky.

I express a heartfelt appreciation to my fellow Patrons and sponsors of this festive event. We are also deeply grateful to the outstanding and talented musician, Eleonora Bekova for her eminent dedication and remarkable effort in creating and maintaining the Kazakh Gala for eight consecutive years as an event that promotes Kazakh musical culture abroad and helps strengthen the relationship between Kazakhstan and Great Britain.

I thank you all for coming and let us all enjoy the artistry of the creators and performers of this beautiful concert that marks such a momentous event.

Ambassador
Kairat Abusseitov



KAZAKH GALA

Your donation helps young and gifted individuals to develop their skills.

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Kazakh Gala is a registered charity, number 07730585

8th Kazakh Gala Concert



Eleonora Bekova
Founder Kazakh Gala

Dear Friends,

It is a great honour to welcome you to the eighth annual Kazakh Gala. This event has always been held to create a cultural meeting place between our two nations at the time of Kazakhstan's National Day when we celebrate the independence of our young and vibrant nation and to establish a platform bringing Kazakh art and performance to greater prominence in Britain. The Gala is an opportunity for the British and Kazakh cultural communities to gather in a festive atmosphere and celebrate 20th Kazakhstan Independence Day.

An annual event, the Gala provides a showcase for Kazakh talent, and we are particularly privileged to welcome Kazakhstan born Marius Stravinsky, widely described as an outstanding musician who will be conducting the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. We are also lucky to cheer a talented Kazakh composer Danara Mussakhan, who has composed a Fantasy for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, "Spring rain over the Steppe", solely for this occasion, as well as a young and brilliant violinist, Sherniyaz Mussakhan.

I am deeply grateful for the kind support of our Patrons – His Excellency the Ambassador Kairat Abusseitov, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Kazakhstan Kairat Kelimbetov, Lord Poltimore, Sir John Stuttard and the Right Honourable David Mellor. I am very thankful for the fantastic support of the Embassy of Kazakhstan and all our kind sponsors.

Certainly, no acknowledgment can be complete without saying thank you to everybody who has helped make all this possible: the Guildhall, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and many other wonderful people who has been so active and supportive of the Gala.

I hope you have a most enjoyable evening.

Eleonora Bekova

Kazakh Gala greatly appreciates the invaluable support of the Kazakh Embassy in London



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Kazakh Gala Concert

December 6th 2011



Marius Stravinsky

Marius Stravinsky is Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Karelia Philharmonic Orchestra (KPO). This State Symphony Orchestra performs more than 40 concerts per season in their home concert hall in Petrozavodsk and visits St Petersburg including the Orchestra's 75th anniversary concert in March 2009. Through Stravinsky's initiative and under his direction the KPO was resident at the Savonlinna Ballet Festival (August 2008), played in Finland and Norway (November 2008, June 2009), a three week tour of France and Switzerland (February 2009) and a seven city tour of Finland (November 2009).

Born in Kazakhstan, Stravinsky started playing the violin when he was four and joined the Moscow Central Music School (affiliated to the Tchaikovsky Conservatoire) at six. He continued his studies at the Yehudi Menuhin School in England aged ten and three years later became the first former Soviet student to secure a scholarship in music at Eton College. He is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music in London.

In 2002, Stravinsky accepted the position of assistant conductor with the Moscow Philharmonic and Moscow Helikon Opera, studying with Vladimir Ponkin, Professor of Conducting at the Tchaikovsky Conservatoire. Since then he has guest conducted the Belarus State Symphony, Khabarovsk State Symphony, Kazakh State Chamber Orchestra, Kuban Symphony, Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra, Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra, Malta Philharmonic, Moscow Philharmonic, Nizhny Novgorod Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Queensland Symphony, St Petersburg Academic Orchestra, St Petersburg Chamber Orchestra, St Petersburg Camerata and the Tambov Symphony.

Stravinsky's operatic debut came after he had prepared the Helikon Opera in their multiple-Golden Mask winning productions of Lulu and Lady Macbeth of the Mtensk District (which were subsequently conducted by Stravinsky) and was invited to conduct Carmen. This immediately led to a series of repeat invitations to direct the Helikon Opera in their home theatre in Moscow and on tour to the Netherlands. His three year conducting residency included performance runs of Dialogue des Carmelites (Poulenc), The Tale of a Real Man (Prokofiev), Kaschei the Immortal (Rimsky-Korsakov), Siberia (Giordano) and Mavra (Stravinsky).

Following an extensive search and two year competition, Stravinsky was appointed Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Karelia Philharmonic Orchestra in June 2007, becoming one of the youngest conductors in Russia ever to hold such a post. Stravinsky has considerably broadened the repertoire of the KPO including Enescu's 1st Symphony; Walton's 1st Symphony; Mahler's 1st, 4th and 5th Symphonies; Vaughan Williams' London Symphony and other symphonic works currently rarely performed in Russia. This artistic growth has also coincided with a significant increase in attendance at concerts, development of the Orchestra's educational role as well as a rapid development of the Orchestra personnel.

In 2009, Stravinsky was recognised by State President Sergey Leonidovich Katanandov in a ceremony to award "Karelia Person of the Year" whilst in November 2010 he guest conducted for UNESCO in Almaty, Kazakhstan.



Danara Mussakhan

Danara Mussakhan is a young Kazakh composer and Director for Creative Programmes of the Eurasian Cultural Foundation. The Foundation organizes many cultural projects in Kazakhstan and other countries. Alongside her work for the Foundation, Danara is also finishing her studies as a composer at the Kurmangazy National Conservatory.

She is a Laureate of the Kazakhstan National Music Olympiad and winner of the E. Rakhmadiev Young Composers Competition. She has composed the fantasy for Symphonic Orchestra: “Spring Rain Over the Steppe” specifically for the Kazakh Gala.



Sherniyaz Mussakhan

Sherniyaz Mussakhan is a young Kazakh violinist and Laureate of the prestigious international violin competitions: the Henryk Wieniawski, held in Lublin, and the David Oistrakh, held in Moscow.

He studied at the Central School of Music at the Tchaikovski Moscow State Conservatory and is currently a student at the Laussane higher school

of music under the tuition of P. Vernikov.

Sherniyaz has performed in concert programs in Kazakhstan, Austria, Denmark, Italy, Poland, Russia, including the Bolshoi and Mariinsky theatres as well as in the Vienna Hofburg Palace. He is a Laureate of the independent “Tarlan” award from the patrons of art in Kazakhstan.

Kazakh Gala Concert

December 6th 2011



Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Acknowledged as one of the UK's most prodigious orchestras, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO) enjoys an international reputation for first-class performances and the highest possible standards of music-making. This was the vision of the Orchestra's flamboyant founder Sir Thomas Beecham, whose legacy is maintained today as the Orchestra thrives under the exceptional direction of its new Artistic Director and Principal Conductor, Maestro Charles Dutoit.

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra is London-based and performs a prestigious series of concerts each year at Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall. The Orchestra's 2010-2011 series features internationally renowned artists including Charles Dutoit, Mischa Maisky, Sarah Chang, Martha Argerich, Pinchas Zukerman and Daniel Hope. The Orchestra's London home is at Cadogan Hall, just off Sloane Square. This idyllic location offers an intimate atmosphere for concert-goers, with the current series of concerts featuring Grzegorz Nowak, Jack Liebeck and Christine Rice. The Orchestra also regularly performs in the Royal Albert Hall, presenting works of great magnitude in a varied series of concerts, ranging from large-scale choral and orchestral works to themed evenings of contemporary popular repertoire.

Within the UK, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra is committed to offering an extensive regional touring programme, with established residencies in Croydon, Northampton, Lowestoft, Reading and Crawley. The Orchestra also gives regular performances at other venues throughout the UK. As an international orchestra, the RPO has toured more than thirty

countries in the last five years. Recent tours have included performances in Japan, Egypt, Russia, Spain, Italy, Germany, the USA, a residency in Azerbaijan and a series of concerts in Shanghai with Charles Dutoit. The 2010-2011 season begins with the Orchestra's first annual residency in Montreux, Switzerland, featuring concerts with Charles Dutoit, Pinchas Zukerman and Sir Andrew Davis, with soloists including Yuja Wang and Jean-Yves Thibaudet. The autumn continues with concerts in Greece and Germany and a New Year tour of all the major cities in China with Pinchas Zukerman, followed by further concerts in Spain and the rest of Europe including a tour to the Canary Islands with Charles Dutoit.

The Orchestra is also recognised for its artistic work through an innovative community and education programme, titled RPO resound. Specially trained members of the Orchestra, alongside accomplished project leaders, provide comprehensive workshops where music is used as a powerful and inspirational force. RPO resound prides itself on working with projects connected with homeless people, youth clubs, the probation service and terminally ill children.

Frequently found in the recording studio, the Orchestra records extensively for film and television as well as for all the major commercial record companies. The Orchestra also owns its own record label and is proud to be the first UK orchestra to stream its entire series of concerts live from Cadogan Hall.

www.rpo.co.uk

Programme

Danara Mussakhan

Spring Rain Over the Steppe (World Première)

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov

May Night Overture

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov & Efrem Zimbalist

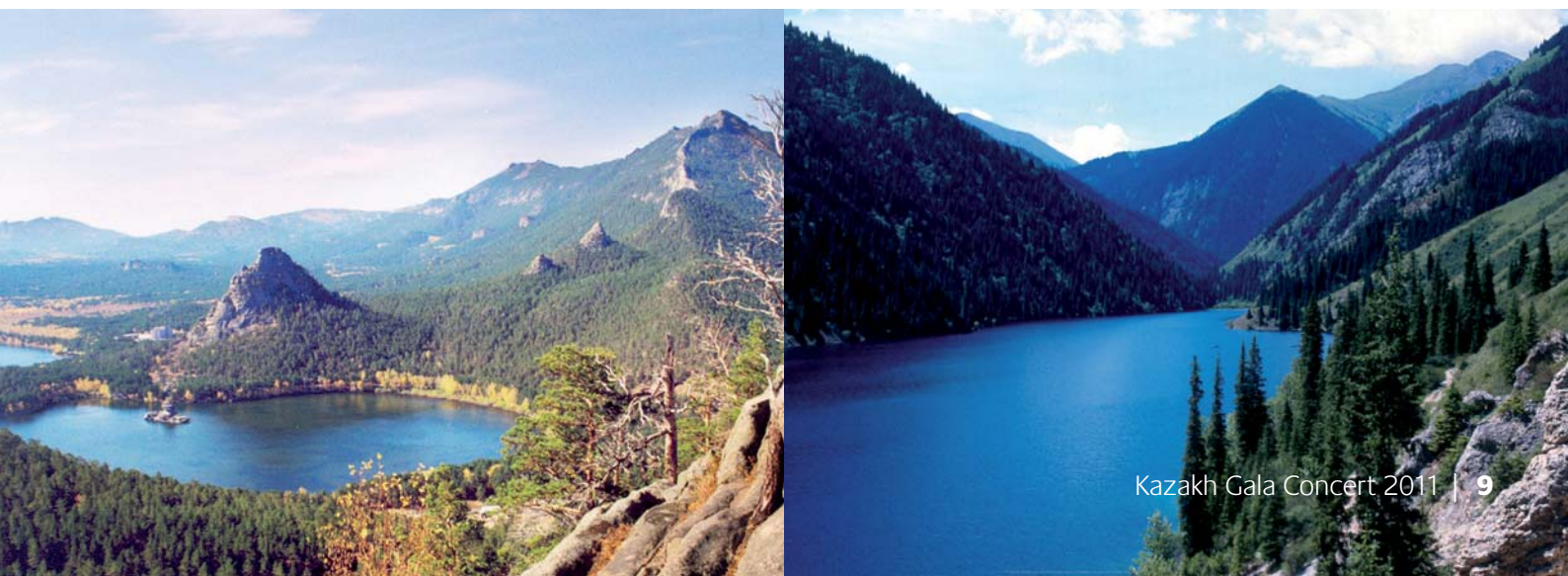
Golden Cockerell (for violin and orchestra)

Joseph Haydn

Symphony 90

Igor Stravinsky

Jeu de Cartes



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