

Lviv Theatre Voskresinnia



Anton Chekhov

# THE CHERRY ORCHARD



## THE CHERRY ORCHARD

Based on the Play by Anton Chekhov

Grand Prix of the International Theatre Festival "White Tower" in Brest (Belarus). Jury Award of The International Theatre Festival "Voices of History" in Vologda (Russia)

Screenplay and directed by **Jaroslava Fedoryszyn**

Set and costumes designer **Alla Fedoryszyna** (Honoured artist of Ukraine), directing cooperation and light designer **Krzysztof Dubiel**, sound **Mykola Kshanovski**.

Cast : **Nataliya Marchak/ Galyna Strychak, Nataliya Lukashonok, Tetiana Tkachenko, Petro Mykytiuk** (Honoured artist of Ukraine), **Wolodymir Gubanov** (Honoured artist of Ukraine), **Wolodymir Chukhonkin, Taras Yurychko, Yurii Pylypchuk/ Oleksandr Chekmarov, Taras Kitsyniuk, Evgenij Pietrov, Sergiy Chygis**.

Confrontational, pompous, grand and compelling: Theatre Voskresinnia shows a spirited interpretation of the masterpiece *The Cherry Orchard* by Chekhov (1903). These artists takes audience on a journey to the time of the estates and the cherry orchards of early last century. A journey full of vanity, lust, wealth and glow, but also of decay, sorrow and sadness. The performance echoes the style of Chekhov and is both modern and actual. Each character wrestles, becomes ill, because of love or loneliness, but cannot be cured. The only thing that unites everybody is the cherry orchard, like a symbol of paradise and childhood. No life without the cherry orchard! *The Cherry Orchard* is a great performance full of fire and dynamic, inventive creations, impressive games, serene dramatic scenes and music. Come and see this classic theatre play converted into an intensely colourful show .

The social-critical motif of this play is the change in values in a bored and self-indulgent society. A topic that has not lost its relevance until today. The Ukrainian artists show us the extent of this drama, perhaps, only the tip of the iceberg, and yet the audience is already in the midst of the play of the vanities and the painful farewell of times past. The staging is on the one hand very much in the style of Chekhov and at the same time also very modern and up-to-date. The play is about 1900 on a Russian estate with a mansion surrounded by a beautiful cherry garden. Anja, the daughter of the landowner Ranjewskaja, brings her mother back from Paris, because the property is highly indebted and has to be auctioned. The mother had fled with her lover five years ago to France, after her little son had drowned in the nearby river. The brother of Ranievskaya, Gaev, was unable to deal with money and enjoyed life. Ranievskaya also spent her money in Paris. A salvation might be the former body of the family, the merchant Lopachin, who has come to a fortune. He proposes to build dachas on the property and rent them to summer guests. The prerequisite for this would be the clearing of the beautiful but useless cherry garden, which is just in full bloom. The cherry garden, which no longer yields any harvest, symbolizes the Russian nobility, which no longer benefits Russian society. It has only a decorative function, it symbolizes the beautiful. In the end he is cut down. The landlady retreats to Paris, all leaving the house, only the old servant Firs, who symbolizes the old time before the abolition of the physical condition, is accidentally trapped. The show lasts 60 minutes.

Jaroslava Fedoryszyn: *The Cherry Orchard* in my opinion is Chekhov's best play, which combines everything that is in a human life, from childhood to death, and what's more it shows the brutal truth that all can be bought and sold. These commercial relationships in a human life have always existed all over the world. Chekhov tells us that life is like a drop of water that falls to the ground and seeps quickly. Unfortunately, when we try to capture this drop, it has already disappeared. This is what our show is about. I wanted all characters to pass through the orchard in the literal sense of the word. We let the actors walk around the orchard on stilts, dance over it like white butterflies and conduct their trade there. In the finale of our spectacle, Lopakhin does not go to the court with an ax, as is the case with Chekhov, but the orchard is burnt. We realized this idea cause we wanted to give the elements of water and fire a symbolic value. Chekhov, in the *Cherry Orchard*, also reminds us that although in our opinion everything is still ahead of us, but - as in life - everything is behind us.

## R E V I E W E S

The performance "The Cherry Orchard" of the Lviv theatre "Voskresinnia" became the real event of the festival. It was shown on the first day of the festival on the Serpukhov square, surrounded by the sounds of evening coolness. The performance is directed by Yaroslav Fedoryshyn, a student of Anatoliy Efros, theater play lover, a master of irony. "The Cherry Orchard" is spontaneous and is built on opposites. Performance is colored by tones of something supernatural that is beyond the realistic drama frames. High "Chekhov people" who were on stilts, in white costumes and with white umbrellas, hovering in space of flowering cherry trees, were looking down without noticing that under the flowering branches – was iron frame. Cherry trees, made of iron hangers, having lost their tender petals, are surrounded by buckets. The house of Ranevska - a pile of sand, as in children's sandboxes, is shown as an attempt to build a castle from the water. Play is enigma, puzzle, rebus. A picture is distorted and is constantly changing.

Tatiana Krukovska, *SCENA*

Despite these shortcomings hours devoted to art is certainly not time wasted. And it's hard not to have the impression that at both the technical and mental, "The Cherry Orchard" is one of the best presentations in the history of the Festival. TEJO, *Jelonka.com*

The performance "The Cherry Orchard" by Lviv Academic theatre "Voskresinnia" did the real furor on the festival. The show was played on the central square of Serpukhov and impressed the audience by the power of creative pressure. A huge podium and the remains of sand at the backside with some cubes - children's sandbox in the past, and now simply abandoned and forgotten somewhere in the back yard. The music is being played, fireworks are exploding, characters are running, jumping, dancing. Actors work - one better than another. We see a formula-play synopsis, imaginative play with patience, with life, with fate. The play, which concludes and summarizes the twentieth century. This performance is certainly worth seeing. And if you can not see it in Moscow, you need to go to the Lviv. Nina Shalimov, *Melihovska Vesna*

The play "The Cherry Orchard," the Ukrainian Theatre Voskresinnia remain for long in the memory of spectators 27th Street Theatre Festival, which ended on Sunday in Jelenia Gora Beautiful and clever story about the passing of paradise lost and touched even those who do not know of Chekhov. Lviv Theater Voskresinnia successfully translated it into a circus (march of the gladiators), clowning and satire (family walking on stilts). Liked the game very expressive of actors, especially girls reproducing the main character. ALKA, *Polska the Times Gazeta Wroclawska*

The director has focused primarily on the transfer of the image world of dreams and illusions Chekhov characters - hence the scene with the dancing puppets on stilts next to the dream of a happy childhood, the owner, walks in dressed in white and moving on stilts, people waiting on the thriving orchard, carefree fun commoners. The imaginary part of the reality of the estate was the most colorful residents, and the most interesting side show, which next to the value of the visual interpretation was valid. Chekhov boring world without hope of improving the situation of the bankrupt estate is turned into the world of memories, reckless and bordering on the insane fun main character Lyubov Ranevskaya, and other residents of Cherry Orchard. Agata Kirol, *Mirolaw Baran Gazeta Wyborcza*

**The "Cherry Orchard" show was presented, among others, by as part of international festivals:**

**Ukraine:** The International Theatre Festival „Gold Lion” in Lviv Theatre Festival „GogolFest 2010” in Kiev • **Poland:** Open Air Theatre Festival „Feta” in Gdansk, International Street Theatre Festival in Jelenia Gora, Theatre Festival „Street Art” in Warsaw, International Festival of street Theatre „Street 24” in Krakow, • **Russia:** International Chekhov Theatre Festival in Moscow, The Arkhangelsk Theatre Festival in Arkhangelsk, Chekhov International Theatre Festival „Melihovska Spring” in Serpuhovo, International Theatre Festival „Voices of History” in Vologda • **Slovakia:** International Theatre Festival in Kosice • **Slovenia:** 14th International street festival Ana Desetnica 2011 in Lublana, Lent Festival in Maribor • **Belarus:** International Theatre Festival „White Tower” in Brest, **Spain:** X Festival de Teatro y Artes de Calle TAC in Valladolid, V Festival Internacional de las Artes de Castilla y León in Salamanca • **Germany:** La Strada Internationales Straßenzirkusfestival in Bremen, Dülmener Sommer festival in Duellmen, ViaThea International strassen Theater Festivali in Goerlitz • **Holland:** Spoffiin Festival in Ammersfoort • **Italy** Open Street Fermo in Montegrano, **South Korea:** International Handmadang Theatre Festival in Gweacheon • **Belgium:** „Leuven in scene” Festival in Leuven, **Croatia:** SAKUD street thetare Festival in Pula • **Hungary** Theater Vestival in Vac • **Romania:** FDR FEST in Timisoara, **Lithuania:** Teatriniai Susitikimai Salčininkuose.





The Lviv Theatre Voskresinnia was established in Lviv in 1990 on the wave of social transformations and Ukraine's regained independence. The new stage was created as a result of an agreement between young actors from different Ukrainian towns, who were not fully satisfied with the previously existing "slightly" academic theatre. Yaroslav Fedoryshyn, a graduate from the Faculty of Drama at the University of Kharkov and GITES in Moscow. A well-known artist and experienced theatre director, he became the head and principal manager of the new theatre. The Voskresinnia Theatre quickly gained popularity, presenting world drama which had never been previously shown in the Ukraine. Step by step, by combining traditional acting styles based on psychological insight with the modern visual form, the group has elaborated a specific stage formula of its own. For the last 30 years, Voskresinnia Theatre has been invited to perform in many cities countrywide. It has taken part in international festivals in Krakow, Gdansk, Warsaw, Edinburgh, Brest, Novy Sad, Ljubljana, Maribor, Holzminden, Arkhangelsk, Trabzon, Brest, Lenz, Vienna, Cairo, Bratislava, Moscow, Seul, Valladolid, Salamanca, Prague, Montegranaro, Amersfoort, Duermen, Bremen, Tehran, Goerlitz, Leuven, Pula, Yilan Taiwan, Timisoara, Arad, Vac, Marivan. All the theatre's performances have their own unique character. They are spectacular and beautifully acted. The most popular plays staged by the Voskresinnia Theatre are: *Three Sisters* by Chekhov, *Road to Damascus* by Strindberg, *Giants from Mountains* by Pirandello, *Job* by Wojtyla, *Annunciation* by Claudel, *Western Bay* by Koltes, *The Locusts* by B. Srbjanovic, *The Provincial Jokes* by O. Vampilov, *The Man Outside* by W. Borchert, *Ifigenia in Aulide* by Euripides and recently *August: Osage County* by Tracy Letts i *The Shape of Things* by Neil LaBute . Since 1996, the Theatre has been specializing in open air productions. The boldness and spectacular style of performances combined with acting mastery have brought the theatre popularity and audience appreciation. In addition to its stage productions, the audience has been captured by its open-air performances such as *Baryliel's Fiesta*, *The Saint and the Sinful*, *Danylo Halytskyi*, *Gloria*, *Job*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *Pinsel's Mystery Play*, *Testament Shevchenko*, *Seagull* and recently *The echo of the planet* and *Pas de deux*. Thanks to these productions, Voskresinnia has become an unquestionable leading street theatre in Ukraine. In 2010, in recognition of its artistic achievements, the theatre was conferred a highly prestigious title of the Academic Theatre by the Ukrainian Ministry for Culture.

**Yaroslav Fedoryshyn** - (1955 -2020) - till 2020 Artistic and managing director of the Theatre. Graduated from I. Kotliarevskiy Kharkiv Theatre Institute in 1976, Moscow Institute of Theatrical Arts in 1990 and Warsaw Cinema School in 1991 (the class of Krzysztof Zanussi). In 1990 he founded the Lviv Theatre Voskresinnia and he initiated International Theatre Festival „Golden Lion” in 1992. He has directed productions in other cities of Ukraine, Poland, Russia, England. He was producer numerous street shows and festivals dedicated to important events in the life of the city of Lviv. Awarded the distinguished title of activist art of Ukraine by President Victor Yushchenko. Died in 2020 year.



**Krzysztof Dubiel** - Manager, producer, promoter, theatre director. Honorary member of The Royal British Legion in Scotland. Graduate School of Culture Managers of the Centre for Contemporary Art Market Research and the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (PI). Trained in "Arts International" Institute of International Education in New York (USA), Intern of Actors Theatre of Louisville, Kentucky (USA); Deputy Director (1989-1992), General Director (1992-1995) of The Cyprian Norwid Theatre in Jelenia Góra (PI); 1989-1995 Organizing Director of the International Street Theatre Festivals in Jelenia Gora (PI); 1990-2008 Director of International Street Theatre Festivals in Jedlina Zdroj (PI); 1995-2005 co-worker and actor of KTO Theatre in Krakow (Poland); 1999 - 2003 The Bagatela Theatre in Krakow (PI) Marketing Manager ; since 2003 - still - Producer the Kiev Street Theatre KET and Street Theatre Highlihts (Ukraine); (2005 - 2011) - the Julius Slowacki Theatre in Krakow Marketing Manager (PI); 2010 - 2013 Coordinator of The European project „21 century theatre. East meets West - West meest East"; 2014 -2016 proxy of the Director of the Juliusz Slowacki Theatre in Cracow; 2018 Tour Manager of the Jubilee Project Fri. "Wandering" of the STU Theater in Krakow, and in the years 2020-2021 the Plenipotentiary of the Director of the STU Scena Theater. since 2003 Manager the Lviv Theatre Voskresinnia.



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