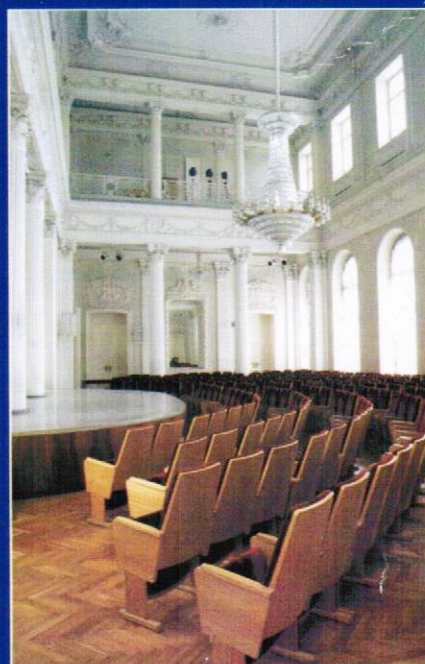


Feel  
yourself  
RUSSIAN!

**FOLK SHOW**  
AT THE NIKOLAYEVSKY PALACE



# The Nikolayevsky Palace



In the very center of St. Petersburg one can see a beautiful palace — a real masterpiece of architecture of the second half of the XIX century — Nikolayevsky Palace. By the 40th of the XIX century that place was a highly fashionable area, the favorite place of promenade in St. Petersburg for representatives of the Higher Society. Built by a gifted architect Andrey Schtakenshneider for the Grand Duke Nikolay, a son of the Emperor Nikolay I, this Palace will fully meet your highest cultural expectations.

Despite of mixture of several architectural styles — renaissance, baroque, classicism, etc. — the Palace makes everyone feel what the perfect harmony is. The magnificent gala staircase is considered to be the great architectural achievement of Stakenschneider. The Palace's Church of Our Lady of Sorrow is worth of special attention. It's location is unique: only in this palace the family church is located right on the gala staircase.

When the Grand Duke was not preoccupied with his military responsibilities he gave a lot of attention to various social affairs and events. Being kind, cheerful and generous he inspired and arranged parties, balls, dinners — and never missed the opportunity of pleasing his guests with exquisite cuisine, rare wines and joyful performance. It should be mentioned that Nikolay Nikolayevich was fond of Russian culture and Russian traditions of hospitality, that's why balls and receptions were often held in Russian style, where "all costumes were magnificent, graceful and historically true, and some accessories survived from the ancient times". In accordance with the ancient Russian ceremony of hospitality the hosts were greeting their guests on



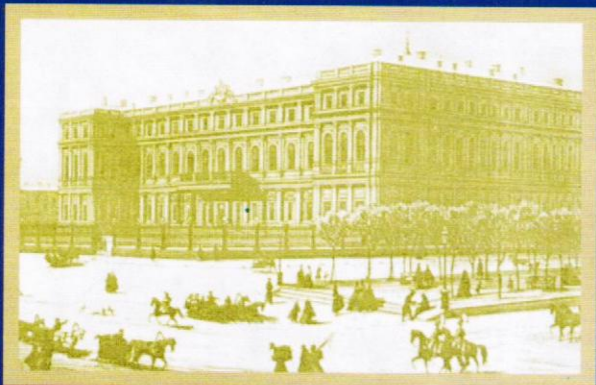


the top of the gala staircase with Bread and Salt. The program of each ball included celebratory dinners. To emphasize traditional theme dishes were supplied with cranberry, cloudberry, currant and mushrooms.

In 1895 the Palace hosted "Kseniinsky" Institute, founded by the Grand Duchess Ksenia Alexandrovna for education of young middle-class women. The last graduation took place in 1918. That year Lenin signed a decree which stated a new owner of the Palace. Since 1918 the local trade union's association has been located here.

Since 1990 a new era of life began at the Nikolayevsky Palace. Nowadays it's one of the nicest places in St. Petersburg for arranging banquets, dinners, parties etc.

Everyday dear guests of the city are welcome to the unique folk show "Feel Yourself Russian". The show reminds of time when folk art came into imperial and grand-duke's Palaces and developed a fashionable style called a la Russ.



# Feel yourself RUSSIAN!

## THE FOLK SHOW FEEL YOURSELF RUSSIAN

Enjoy this unique opportunity of getting acquainted with the history and cultural traditions of Russia!

Classical quartet is playing lovely melodies of the XIX century, two stunning ladies in crinolines and a gentleman in a wig are welcoming guests at the Gala stairs of the Palace. How nice to be a guest of the Grand Duke!

## PETERS QUARTET

"Peters Quartet" performs folk songs, lyrical romances and Russian Orthodox hymns.

## THE SOUVENIR

"The Souvenir" is a folk instrument group. Skilful musicians brilliantly perform folk compositions not only with accordion and balalaika, which are traditional for Russia, but use some rare and even exotic musical instruments. You will be astonished to hear traditional Russian folk melodies, performed with objects not normally used for music-making.

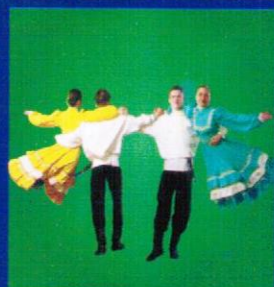
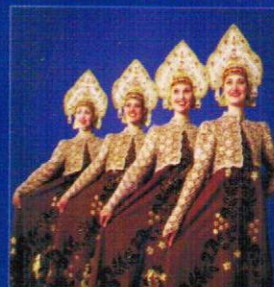
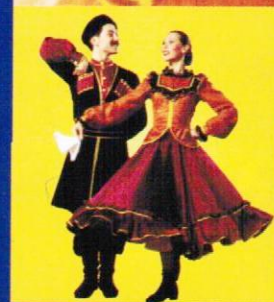
## MAIDAN

"Maidan" is a Cossack song-and-dance group that skilfully reproduces on stage Cossack songs and dances in their original form.

## THE STARS OF ST. PETERSBURG

"The Stars of St. Petersburg" is a dance group. The dancers graduated from leading schools of choreography in Russia. Its repertoire covers lyrical dances of the Russian North, dancing miniatures of the Urals and Siberia with their subtle humor.

The show consists of two parts and lasts for 1 hour 50. During the break guests are offered canapes with red caviar, vodka, champagne. Classical quartet is playing and beauties in crinolines are dancing for dear guests. There is also a good opportunity to buy local souvenirs as well as folk show version on CD, DVD.





# *Russian Style New Year* *at the Nikolayevsky Palace*

If you happen to spend a New Year Eve in St. Petersburg you will have a unique chance to enjoy the Grand Duke's hospitality at the Nikolayevsky Palace.

We offer you the best dishes of Russian and European cuisine and the most pleasant and enjoyable program of entertainment!

New Year Party starts with the warm greeting of the Grand Duke's dear guests at the Gala stairs of the Palace. Picturesque handsome Cossacks honor invitees with traditional Russian "charochka" (tiny glass of vodka) and Cossack song. Grandfather Frost (Russian version of Santa Claus) and Petroushka (Russian folk character) congratulate the guests, give presents, initiate funny games, jokes, tricks and create the atmosphere of fun and relaxation.

New Year Gala Dinner is also impressive! Just imagine a feast of the Grand Duke's time: marinated salmon and halibut with red caviar, smoked duck salad with apples, blue cheese backed on crouton...

All-night the orchestra is playing and the guests are dancing and enjoying wonderful music. Every guests receives a New Year Gift and a pretty Russian souvenir. And one of the most intriguing moments of the evening is that all the invitees will have a unique opportunity of winning a Grand Prix (very pleasant surprise)!

