

Irina Chernomurova

Producer, musicologist and theater critic

Honored Worker of Culture of the Russian Federation

Honorable Worker of Culture of the City of Moscow

Honorable Professor of State Institute of Theatre Arts (GITIS)

Cavalier of the Order For Contribution to Literature and Art (France)

Irina Chernomuriva is a Head of the Long-Term Planning & Special Projects Department of the Bolshoi Theater of Russia. In this position, she attracted outstanding opera directors to work at the Bolshoi Theater - Peter Stein, Dmitri Tcherniakov, Damiano Michieletto, David Alden, Claus Guth, François Girard. Active work is underway on original productions by Simon McBurney and Krzysztof Warlikowski, joint projects with Stefan Herheim. Together with Music Director of the Bolshoi Theater, she engages conductors for new productions and performances of the current repertoire. She participates in the creation of new opera and ballet scores for new productions of the theater. The initiator of the ballet productions: "Anna Karenina" directed by John Neumeier, "A Winter's Tale" by Christopher Wheeldon, one-act ballets by Paul Lightfoot / Sol Leon, Hans van Manen. As well as ballet productions created especially for the Bolshoi theater ballet troupe - "Petrushka" by Edward Glug, "The Seagull" and "Nureyev" (choreographer Yuri Possokhov), "Orlando" by Christian Shpuk. Coordinator of joint productions with the Aix-en-Provence Festival (France) and of 3 joint productions of operas with the Metropolitan Opera: "Salome" (premiered in Moscow in 2021), "Lohengrin" (in 2022) and "Aida" (in the season 2024/2025). Works on co-production projects with Covent Garden ("Khovanshchina" - an original production of the Bolshoi Theater) and the Bavarian Opera House ("Peter Grimes"), coordinator of the exchange tour project between the Bolshoi Theater and the Bavarian Opera House, which are planned for 2023. Author of a special project for the soloists of the Bolshoi Ballet "A Play for Him" and a number of others projects: The Baroque Festival, "The Era of Bel Canto", "Cantata. Lab", "Cantata. Myth". As the head of the department, she attracted a whole generation of young Russian directors to create opera projects on the theater's stage - Oleg Dolin, Alexander Molochnikov, Philip Grigoryan, Roman Feodori, Timofey Kulyabin, whose works on the dramatic stage were awarded a number of awards and prizes, and their talent was clearly manifested in the work on opera productions. After work at the Bolshoi Theater, they all received invitations to other opera houses in Russia and abroad. Abundant creative activity contributed to the growth of attention to the theater on the part of foreign partners and the fact

that opera and ballet performances of the Bolshoi Theater for the last 7 years have been constantly nominated for the National Golden Mask Award and, moreover, have received top awards in most nominations.

Irina is one of the founders of the International Contemporary Dance Festival DanceInversion, whose history has developed since 1999 from a series of festivals: EDF (European Dance Festival) and ADF (American Dance Festival). Since 2009 she is artistic director and producer of the festival. In 2019, the festival program was named "Best Festival of the Year". Over the years of its existence, the Festival has presented the works of more than 90 choreographers and 40 companies from 30 countries from 5 continents of the world, as well as the islands of Cuba, Ireland and New Zealand. Today the festival enjoys great prestige all over the world and among those professionals who are engaged in the development of this direction in art.

Irina is one of the organizers of the National Award and the Golden Mask Festival. Author of booklets for the first festivals. Supervised the exhibition sections of the festivals "Theaters of Moscow in Munich" and "Theaters of Germany in Moscow" (1988 and 1989) Over the years, Irina was repeatedly awarded special international grants, and in 2018 she was awarded the Order for Contribution to Literature and Art by the French Ministry of Culture.

From 1988 to the present, she has been active in teaching: at the Producing Faculty of State Institute of Theatre Arts (GITIS) (including her own Workshop of Producers) and at the Graduate School of Arts Management - Faculty of Lomonosov Moscow State University. She conducts a course of specialized lectures at the Graduate School of Performing Arts named after G.G. Dadamyan. She regularly participates in the forums for the advanced training of theater managers in Russia and in events to educate the personnel reserve in the field of management.

For more than 17 years she headed the Department of International and Public Relations of the Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Moscow Music Theater. She initiated and directed the projects of the opera troupe's tours to the USA, Italy, China, South Korea, Latvia, Greece, the Mariinsky Theater and Russian cities (Yekaterinburg, Voronezh, Rostov-on-Don); ballet troupe - in Italy, Germany, Greece, USA, China, Japan, Latvia, London and St. Petersburg (on the stage of the Mariinsky Theater, in the Mikhailovsky Theater). Initiator and project manager of exchange tours with the Hamburg Ballet directed by J. Neumeier and Deutsche Oper am Rhein (Dusseldorf). For her work on the ballet "Tatiana", choreographed by John Neumeier (co-production with the Hamburg Ballet), she was named Producer of the Year 2014. She attracted choreographers Jiri Kilian, Nacho Duato (both for the first time in Russia), John Neumeier (his ballets "The Seagull" and "The Little Mermaid" were staged for the first time in Russia).

Producer of the ballet projects “Naples” (choreographed by August Bournonville), “La Sylphide” (choreographer Pierre Lacotte), “Mayerling” and “Manon” (choreography by Kenneth MacMillan), “La Bayadère” (staged by Natalia Makarova), “Coppelia” (choreographed by Roland Petit); in the opera - "Aida" directed by Peter Stein. These works of the theater were awarded the Nail of the Season and Golden Mask awards in various nominations. She supervised the creation of coproductions of operas with the English National Opera ("A Midsummer Night's Dream" by B. Britten) and with France in collaboration with the Chekhov Festival (“Pelléas and Mélisande” by C. Debussy). Both productions were awarded the National Golden Mask Award for Best Opera Production. Irina is the author of unusual advertising projects for the theater. She was a regular author of articles for booklets for the theater's premieres. Author of a booklet on the history of the Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Moscow Music Theater building "Theater on Dmitrovka: Three Centuries".

1979 - 1988 - work at the A.A. Bakhrushin State Central Theatre Museum, where she went from a tour guide to deputy director for scientific work. Author of specialized excursions, lectures, thematic evenings. With her direct participation and under the scientific guidance, there were made the exhibitions: “Theater of Pushkin's Time”, “L. Dodin. E. Nekrosius. A. Vasiliev”, "Konstantin Korovin: from impressionism to expressionism", "Alexander Exter - the era of constructivism", "Drama and plays about the war", "Maya Plisetskaya"(the exhibition has been running for over 10 years)," Alexander Golovin”. "Masquerade"; permanent exhibitions "Soviet Theater of the 1920s and 1930s", "The Art of Fyodor Chaliapin", "Russian Theater of the Second Half of the 19th Century".

Irina is an author of articles on musical theater and management. Publications in newspapers and magazines ("Music Academy", "Theater Life", "Scene", "Petersburg Theater Journal"). A regular participant in laboratories and festivals of opera and ballet art in Russia and abroad. She took part in the creation of films about theater artists in Russia (Valery Leventhal, Stanislav Benediktov, Yuri Ustinov) as a consultant and interviewer (TV channel "Culture").