



# LA FENICE



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Giselle is to replace Swan Lake at the Fenice in November**

The classical version of the ballet *Giselle* by Marius Petipa, with the Saint Petersburg Mikhailovsky Theatre will replace the performances of Pëtr Il'ič Čajkovskij's *Swan Lake* that were programmed for the month of November.

This change in the programme was necessary since the Saint Petersburg Mariinskij Theatre informed La Fenice they had cancelled their tournée.

*Giselle*, one of the masterpieces of romantic ballet had its première at the Paris Opéra in 1841 and will be performed in Venice by the Mikhailovsky Theatre Company, with Irina Perren, alternating with Sabina Yapparova and Anastasia Matvienko in the role of Giselle, Denis Matvienko alternating with Semyon Chudin in that of Prince Albrecht, Anna Nosoleva in the role of Berthe, Andrey Bregvadze in the role of the duke of Curlandia, Alena Videnina is Bathilde, Irina Kosheleva alternating with Oksana Shestakova and Vladimir Tsal is Hilarion. Choreography review by Nikita Dolgushin, sets and costumes by Vyacheslav Okunev, lights by Mikhail Mekler. The Orchestra of Teatro La Fenice will be conducted by Karen Durgaryan, chief conductor of the National Armenian Theatre of Yerevan and the Symphonic Orchestra of the Armenian Radio.

The Mikhailovsky Theatre was founded in 1833 in Piazza Mikhailovsky (today Arts Square) in Saint Petersburg, it was renamed in 1921 becoming the Academic Maly State Theatre and in 1989 the Musorgsky Theatre; in 2007 it was reopened with its original name. In the Twentieth century many of Shostakovich's and Prokofiev's operas and ballets had their première there. Founded in 1933 under the direction of Fedor Lopukhov and directed since 2007 by Farouk Ruzimatov, the ballet company is considered the third ranking Russian company after the Bolshoi and the Mariinsky.

*Giselle* will be performed at La Fenice on the same dates and at the same times foreseen for *Swan Lake*: on 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 19.00, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November at 15.30. The season ticket cycles remain unchanged.