

Top Russian TV Comedians' First Kyiv Performance

Nasha Russia, Freedom (134 Frunze), 5 March at 21.00

Michal Galustyan and Sergiy Svetlakov, stars of the popular satirical TV series 'Nasha Russia', will hit Kyiv for the first time to perform their best jokes, some of which have already become proverbial for loads of Russians and Ukrainians. Semen Stepanov, the director of the project, promises that the Kyiv audience will be treated to scenes that didn't make it onto television. The project itself is being produced by Comedy Club producer Anur Djanibekyan. Tickets are 600-1000hryv. Call 406-3032.

Second 'Majesty of Opera' Installment: Puccini's Birthday

'The Inspiration of Opera', concert, National Philharmonic (2 Volodymyrsky Uzviz),

29 Friday at 19.00

At the beginning of this season the National Philharmonic launched its 'Majesty of Opera' series of live concerts and now it's time for the second in the series. Called 'The Inspiration of Opera' it's dedicated to Puccini's 150th birthday, and so will feature loads of his music. Mykola Dyachuk conducts. For tickets call 279-1087.

Music Meets the Rag Trade for Ukrainian Fashion Week

'Walking Under the Moonlight', a fashion musical, October Palace (1 Instytutska)

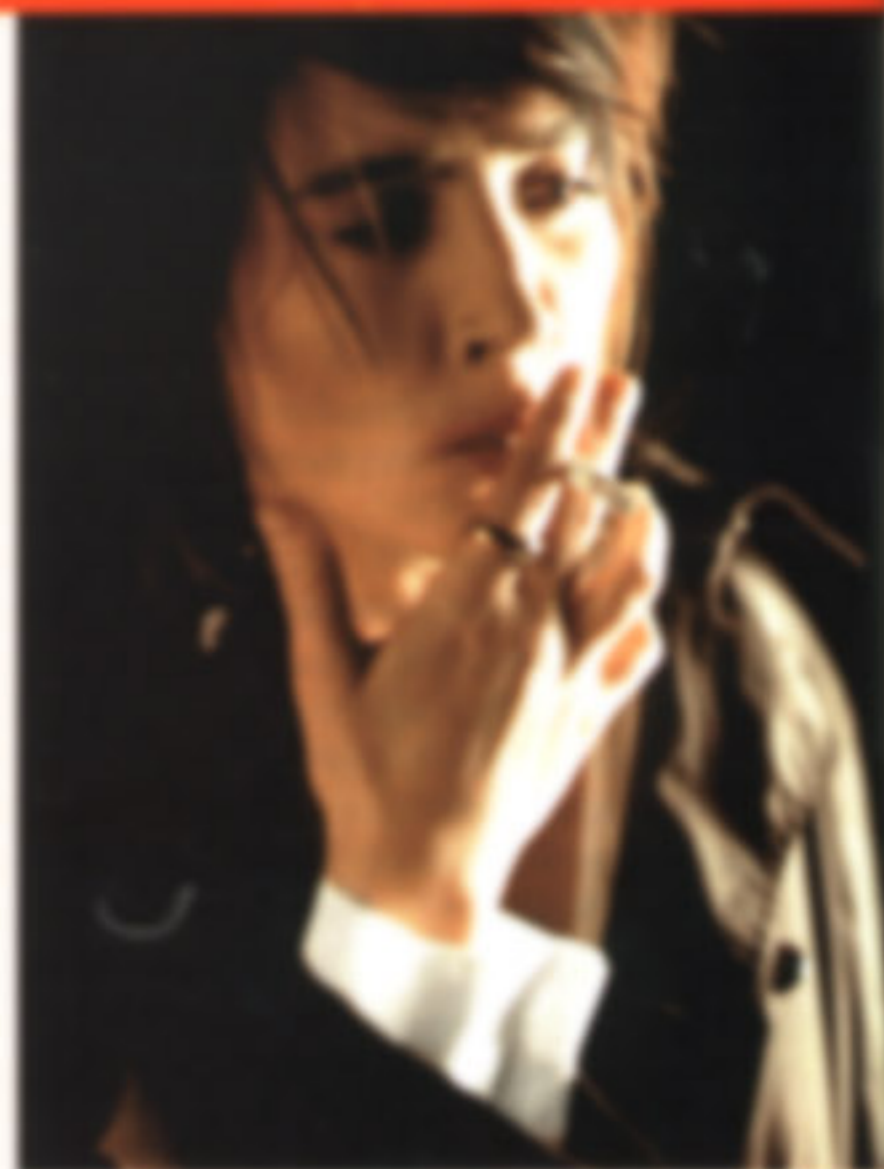
5 March at 19.00

In what's being billed as a 'fashion musical' models will strut on the catwalk under artificial moonlight and to the accompaniment of music. They'll be wearing clothes from Ukrainian brands such as Jolie Dame by Golda Vinogradnik, which launched during Ukrainian Fashion week, as well as by Sotto Voce and Qsenz. How does this differ from a regular fashion show? It's more theatrical and high concept. Tickets are 50-200hryv. For more information call 279-1062.

Kyiv Artist Continues Her Fascination with Gastronomy!

'Sweet Addiction', pictures by Natalia Peregudova, Actors House (7 Yaroslaviv Val), till 4 March

Photo collage artist Natalia Peregudova, whose witty, slightly grotesque picture of a man turning into a melon was featured on a What's On cover last year, is back with her new collection of photo collages, which this time take as their theme that huge army of women who are on a diet. Peregudova believes women should have a little bit of meat on their bones, and not be skeletons who resemble adolescent boys. Thus she depicts good-looking women communing with different fattening delicacies - cakes, candies, chocolate bars, marmalade, donuts and more. The timing's right - just before it's time to slim down for spring. You can meet Natalia at the Actors House on 2 March at 15.00, if you'd like. For more information call 573-5362.



Russian Rocker Performs

Zemira in concert, Palace Sport (1

Sportyvna Ploshcha), 5 March at 19.00

"On my earlier albums I was constantly looking for something and in my most recent work it's obvious that I found it, just like I found myself," says edgy Russian rock singer Zemira of her new album, 'Thank You'. The album was recorded in London and features popular musicians Dima Shurov from Esthetic Education and Yuriy Tsar from Mumy Trok. Russian film star Renata Litvinova starred in the video for 'We Are Coming to Pieces', one of the album's best songs. Tickets are 75-250hryv. For more information call 246-7406.

Egyptology at the Opera

'Aida', by Verdi, National Opera House (50

Volodymyrsky Uzviz), February 29 at 19.00

Verdi's ancient Egyptian melodrama is a fine production by the National Opera. Come watch the story of Radames' love for the Ethiopian slave girl Aida, as presented in this perennial favourite of the opera repertoire. Conducted by Volodymyr Kuchuk, honoured artist of Ukraine. In Italian, but they beam Ukrainian subtitles over the stage. For more information call 279-1169.

Hot Young Ukrainian Artist

'For Kindness and Evil', paintings by Laysa

Khomenko, Atelier Karas (22a Andriivsky Uzviz), till 18 March.

Laysa Khomenko is a young and innovative artist who's already got quite a following in the local galleries. Last year her 'Elephants' project hung in the ProchukArtCentre during the 'GenerationsUSA' show, and her paintings of funny old people swimming in the river by winter at the Mytotsky Arsenal were good high-quality stuff. Khomenko's into painting giant images - giant people, for maximum striking effect. We're looking forward to the just-opening project at the Karas gallery. For more information call 238-6531.