



Russian Duo

Oleg Kruglyakov & Terry Boyarsky

About the Russian Duo

Oleg Kruglyakov and Terry Boyarsky have a generous rapport with audiences of all kinds. Listeners can expect exuberant, compelling interpretations which make them want to dance and sing along. Audiences feel invited into this animated dialogue between the two musicians.

Russian Duo is an international project, born out of a love of traditional music and classical elegance. Oleg is a balalaika virtuoso from Siberia and Terry is an American concert pianist. Together they have joined forces to perform vibrant, magical concerts. Their program combines the diverse flavors of traditional Russian music, lilting voices, chamber music classics and unique transcriptions of favorites from around the world.

Robert Spano, Music Director, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra writes, *“With music of élan, finesse and passion so virtuosically rendered, this duo’s performances are irresistible.”*

Russian Duo is a celebration of cross-cultural creativity, exploring the range of possibilities offered by the combination of balalaika, voice and piano. The Duo takes audiences on a journey across the span of Russian culture, ranging from humorous pieces, elaborate sets of variations, pulsating dance music, rhythmic folk songs, gypsy melodies, and lyrical romances. Enter into music that is at times reserved, soulful, vigorous, mischievous, and vibrant. Join Oleg and Terry in singing their own translations and playing Russian percussion instruments. Thrill to the newly arranged, 1918 American ragtime piece, “Russian Rag,” based on the famous C# minor Prelude of Sergei Rachmaninoff.

Russian Duo presents a remarkable genre of compositions originally written for this three-stringed, triangular instrument, stemming from the 1800’s. In addition, their classical repertoire includes solo and chamber music by such composers as Dvořák, Schubert, Mozart, Paganini, Liszt, Boccherini, Bach, and da Falla. Some examples of favorites from other countries include *Tico Tico* from Brazil and *Czárdás* from Hungary.

It is unusual for conservatory trained musicians to have the freedom and spontaneity of folk musicians, just as it is rare for folk musicians to play with such precision and ensemble. Experience this exceptional collaboration as Russian Duo brings an appealing blend of folk, traditional, classical and world music to life.

“Explosive talent ... see these dazzling musicians in action” - The Hartford Advocate

