## Boris Godunov



by Alexander Pushkin

A Chekhov International Festival Production in association with Cheek by Jowl



Conellino International Chellino International

'Tremendous and stirring...a splendid, bursting, mighty themed epic.'

The Observer

## Boris Godunov by Alexander Pushkin

### Борис Годунов Александра Пушкина



#### The Company

Sobansky/Bailiff

Catholic Priest/

Patriarch/Yuri Mnishek,

Basmanov, army leader

Pimen, the monk/Pushkin

Tsarevna Xenia, Boris' daughter

Father Superior/Chief Bailiff/

the Polish nobleman

Gavrila Pushkin, Pushkin's nephew /Shcheklalov, the Duma Scribe Boris Godunov, the Russian Tsar Marina Mnishek. Yuri Mnishek's daughter Prince Vorotynsky/Russian Prisoner Father Varlaam/Karela, the Cossack Owner of the tavern Poet Grigori Otrepyev, a young monk (The Lowry) Prince Vasily Shuisky (Warwick, Barbican) Father Misail /Nikolka the God's fool Prince Vasily Shuisky (The Lowry) Feodor, Boris' son/Russian boy Grigori Otrepyev, a young monk

Semyon Godunov/Prince Kurbsky

Alexey Dadonov Alexander Feklistov

Irina Grineva Ilia Ilin Nikolay Khmelev Olga Khokholva Leonid Krasovitsky

Andrey Kuzichev Sergey Lanbamin

Alexander Lenkov Avangard Leontiev Nikita Lukinsarovitch

Evgeny Mironov Evgeny Plekhanov Dmitry Shcherbina

Oleg Vavilov Igor Yasulovich Elena Zakharova Director
Designer
Lighting Designer
Music Director
Choreographer
Declan Donnellan's Interpreter
and Literary Consultant
Assistant Directors

Technical Director Stage Manager Lighting

Sound
Make-up
Stage
Wardrobe
Interpreter
Surtitle Adaptation
Company Manager
UK Production Manager
Tour Manager
Foreign Projects Coordinator
General Producer

Declan Donnellan Nick Ormerod Judith Greenwood Maxim Gutkin Irina Filippova

**Dina Dodina Evgeny Pisarev** Anna Kolesnikova Vladimir Kizeev **Ekaterina Cheremina** Sergey Timchenko, Sergey Govorushkin **Alexey Chesnokov Valery Antonov** Tatiana Abdullaeva Georgy Siprashvili, Dmitry Khodin Nataliya Vedeneeva Anna Kolesnikova **Dina Dodina** Olga Sharapova **Martin Taylor** Svetlana Semenova Galina Kolosova Valery Shadrin

Mikhail Zhigalov

The 2001 production was a co-production between Chekhov International Theatre Festiva and Avignon Theatre Festival with the support of the European Association "Theorem", Brighton Festival and La Filature, Mulhouse, France.

With additional support from British Council, Moscow, British Embassy, Moscow, Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and Department for Culture of Moscow

The first performance of this production was at Moscow Art Theatre, Moscow on June 15th 2000.



#### Background to the text

Boris Godunov was written in 1825 (the same year as the Decembrist uprising) when Alexander Pushkin was in exile on his family's estate. While working on this play, Pushkin studied many chronicles, historical treatises, saints' biographies, ancient Russian scripts and folk legends, and he was particularly inspired by the work of William Shakespeare and the publication of Karamzin's *History of Russia* in 1824:

"The survey of Shakespeare, of Karamzin, of our ancient Chronicles, gave me the idea to turn into a dramatic way one of the most tragic eras of modern history. I imitated Shakespeare's style in what concerns the large and free description of characters, for his extraordinary types, construction and his simplicity. I followed Karamzin in his clear development of events and finally, in the Chronicles, I did my best to find out what could have been the form of thinking and speaking at the time."

Pushkin was fond of history. His library contained about four hundred historical and philosophical works, and he had read many of the French, English or German authors with revolutionary ideas on history and philosophy.

Pushkin disobeys the rules of French tragedy, then dominating the Russian stage. Disdaining the Racinian model there is neither unity of time nor of place. The action unfolds from the 20th February 1598 to the 10th June 1605 – a little more than seven years. The play is cut into twenty three little scenes that unfold in numerous different locations – in Moscow, in Poland and on the plains of Russia. Having finished *Boris Godunov*, Alexander Sergeevitch wrote to his friend Viazemsky:

"My tragedy is written: I was reading it aloud to myself, alone, sat there clapping my hands and shouting 'Well done, Pushkin, well done, son of a bitch...'"

# Everything includes itself in power

Troilus and Cressida

Irina Grineva in Boris Goduno

#### **Boris Godunov biographies**



From back row left to right: Alexander Feklistov, Igor Yasulovich, Oleg Vavilov, Valery Antonov, Evgeny Pisarev, Ilia Ilin, Sergey Lanbamin Middle row: Svetlana Semenova, Natalia Vedeneeva, Ekaterina Cheremina, Olga Khokholva, Alexander Lenkov, Olga Sharapova, Tatiana Abdullaeva Front row: Andrey Kuzichev, Mikhail Zhigalov, Sergey Timchenko, Valery Shadrin, Anya Kolesnikova, Sergey Govorushkin, Nikita Lukin, Dmitry Shcherbina

#### Alexander Feklistov

#### Boris Godunov, the Russian Tsar

Alexander graduated from the Moscow Art Theatre School in 1982, then worked at the Chekhov Moscow Art Theatre from 1982 till 1988 and from 1995 till 2000. He has worked at the Theatre-Studio Chelovek, where he performed in The Emigrants by Mrozhek and Waiting for Godot by Beckett. He was one of the founders of the Fifth Moscow Art Theatre Studio. Theatre includes: For the Chekhov International Theatre Festival in association with Cheek by Jowl: Sir Toby Belch in Twelfth Night and Vershinin in Three Sisters, Arbenin in Masquerade by M. Lermontov; N in Nizhinsky; a one man show Bashmachkin (after Gogol); Hamlet; The Black Prince (Pushkin Theatre). Winner of the Golden Mask award in 1994 and the Seagull award in 1998. Film and Television include: Detachment, Plumbum or a Dangerous Play, A Close Circle, Envy of Gods, Luna-Park, Glutton, Bourgeois's Birthday, Avalanche and others.

#### Irina Grineva

#### Marina Mnishek, Yuri Mnishek's daughter

Irina graduated from the Yaroslavl Theatre Institute in 1995 and Anatoly Vasiliev's School of Dramatic Art in 1998 and now works at the Stanislavsky Theatre. She received the Seagull Award in 2003. Theatre includes: For the Chekhov International Theatre Festival in association with Cheek by Jowl: Masha in Three Sisters, Life is No Bed of Roses, Twelfth Night, A Month in the Country, Masquerade, Khlestakov, Hopscotch, Hamlet, A. is Another, Don Juan and Antigone (Pushkin Theatre). Film and Television include: A House for the Rich, Minerva's Shield, Only You, The Station, My Personal Enemy, You I Love, Farewell, Doctor Freud, Without a Passenger, Always Speak Always, Spring, Summer, Winter, The Year of Golden - Fish, Simple Story,

#### **Andrey Kuzichev**

Grigori Otrepyev, a young monk (The Lowry)

Andrey graduated from the Russian Theatre Academy (RATI) in 1996 and worked at the Sphere Theatre. Since 1999 he has worked for A. Kazantsev and M. Roshchin Playwright and Director Centre. Winner of the Seagull Prize (2002) and the Award of Moskovsky Komsomolets (2003), Theatre includes: For the Chekhov International Theatre Festival in association with Cheek by Jowl: Tuzenbach in Three Sisters and Viola in Twelfth Night, Plasticine, Westside Story, Shopping and Fucking, Your Well-known Writer, Film includes: Family Secrets. A Murderer's Diary, Moon Glades, Lines of Fate, Children of the Arbat, May, The Doctor Zhivago, The Night is Bright.

#### Alexander Lenkov

#### Father Misail/Nikolka the God's fool

Alexander graduated from Yury Zavadsky's Studio in 1965. Professor of the All-Russia State Institute of Cinematography (VGIK). Now works at the Mossoviet Theatre. Theatre includes: Twelfth Night, Noises Off, Vasily Terkin, The Seagull, The Romantics, The Bee, Not a Penny More, Half-Way to the Summit. Film and Television include: Keys to the Sky, A True Story, The Spring Pains, An Endless Street, Dreams of an Idiot, Little Vera, Winter Cherry, The Barber of Siberia, Turetsky March, Alexander Pushkin. Black and White Magic, Adventures of Petrov and Vasechkin, The Mystery of Snow Queen.

#### **Avangard Leontiev**

#### Prince Vasily Shuisky (The Lowry)

Avangard graduated from the Moscow Art Theatre School in 1968. Actor and Director. Professor of the Moscow Art Theatre School. Runs workshops at drama schools in Russia and abroad. Worked at the "Sovremennik" Theatre from 1968 to 2004. Since 2004 he has worked at the Chekhov Moscow Art Theatre. Theatre includes: The Cherry Orchard and Twelfth Night (Sovremennik Theatre); Le Fou Jourdain (Oleg Tabakov Theatre); A Room in the Town of NN (Meyerhold Centre); Figaro (Evgeny Mironov Theatre Company), Ecole des Femmes, "13" Out of Order, The Forest and The Last Victim (Chekhov Moscow Art Theatre). As Director productions include: Marriage Proposals (Chekhov Moscow Art Theatre); Pancake week for the cat is not forever (Oleg Tabakov Theatre). Film and Television include: Burned by the Sun, Several days from the life of Oblomov, The Secret of Edwin Drood, Dombey and Son, Pechorin, The Russian Game.

#### **Evgeny Mironov**

#### Grigori Otrepyev, a young monk

Evgeny graduated from the Moscow Art Theatre School in 1990. Evgeny is one of Russia's most famous film and theatre stars. He is Artistic Director of the State Theatre of Nations. Winner of many drama and film awards. He is currently engaged at the Oleg Tabakov Theatre and at the Chekhov Moscow Art Theatre. Theatre includes: An Ordinary Story and Passions for Bumbarash (Oleg Tabakov Theatre); The Karamazovs and Hell (Sovremennik Theatre) (awarded a national prize); The Last Night of the Last Tsar (Agency BOGIS); Oresteva and Hamlet (Chekhov International Theatre Festival): Seagull, "13" Out of Order, The Cherry Orchard and The Golovlevs (Chekhov Moscow Art Theatre); Figaro (Evgeny Mironov Theatre Company). Film and Televison include: Love, The Moslem, Burned by the Sun, The Government Inspector, In August 1944, Idiot, The First Circle, Dreaming of Space, Apostle.

#### Oleg Vaviloy

Patriarch/Yuri Mnishek, the Polish nobleman Oleg graduated from the State Institute of Theatre Art (GITIS) in 1971, Worked at Moscow TUZ and Malaya Bronnaya Theatre.

Since 2003 he has worked at the Satira Theatre.

Theatre Includes: Lunin or the Death of Jacques. Three Sisters. A Month in the Country, Marriage, Forest, Nizhinsky or God's Crazy Clown, Portrait of Dorian Gray, Anna Karenina (Malaya Bronnaya Theatre): Romances with Oblomov (Theatre "U Nikitskikh voro"): Hamlet for Peter Stein (Chekhov International Theatre Festival); Talents and Admirers, Homo Erectus, Wait? (Satira Theatre). Film includes: The Strange Woman, Roving Bus, Pseudonym: Lukach. The End of Universe.

#### Igor Yasulovich

#### Pimen, the monk/Pushkin

Theatre and cinema actor and director. Igor graduated from the All-Russia State Institute of Cinematography (VGIK) in 1963. Professor of the Russian Theatre Academy (RATI) and the All-Russia State Institute of Cinematography (VGIK). Since 1993 he has worked at the Moscow Young Spectator Theatre (TUZ). Theatre includes: For the Chekhov International Theatre Festival

in association with Cheek by Jowl: Chebutykin and Ferapont in Three Sisters and Feste in Twelfth Night; Ivanov, Thunderstorm, The Black Monk, Rotshild's Violin, Absurd Little Poem.

Films and Television include: Uncle's Dream, Ruslan and Liudmila, Twelve Chairs, There is No Way Back, Once Twenty Years After, There are Skies behind the Clouds, There, over the horizon, Petersburg Mysteries, That very Munchhausen, Go on, Reefers, Krechinsky Polonaise, Wind-Man.

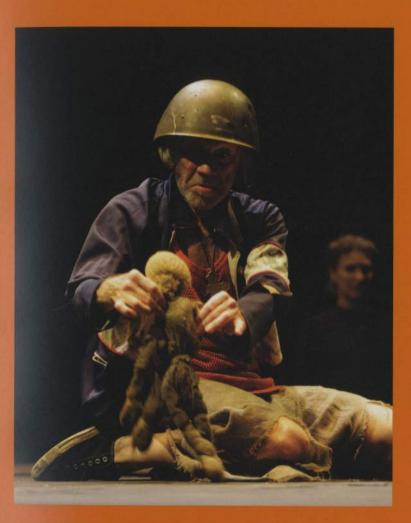
#### Mikhail Zhigalov

#### Father Superior/Chief Bailiff/Catholic Priest/ Basmanov, army leader

Mikhail graduated from the Moscow Chemical Engineering Industry Institute in 1965 and the Moscow Children's Theatre Drama Studio in 1970. From 1970 till 1978 he worked at the Moscow Children's Theatre. Since 1978 he has been an actor for the Sovremennik Theatre. He was invited to participate in the productions of Ermolova and Stanislavsky Theatres. and has worked in many other theatre enterprises.

## The Chekhov International Theatre Festival





Alexander Lenkov in Boris Godunov 2008

Since its creation by the International Confederation of Theatrical Associations in 1992, **The Chekhov International Festival** has grown to become one of the most important and prestigious theatre events in the world.

The 2007 festival was the most ambitious to date, featuring work by Pina Bausch, Matthew Bourne, Peter Brook, Cirque Elioze, Cloudgate Dance Theatre of Taiwan, Declan Donnellan and Robert Lepage.

The Chekhov Festival aims to capture and celebrate the unique spirit of Russian theatre and promotes Moscow as a strong contender for theatre capital of the world.

In 1999, at the request of the Russian Theatre Confederation, Declan Donnellan and Nick Ormerod formed a Russian counterpart to Cheek by Jowl. This ensemble, featuring some of Russia's finest actors, opened eight years ago at the Moscow Art Theatre with Boris Godunov by Pushkin.

Since then, following in the footsteps of Cheek by Jowl this new Russian company has won awards at home in Moscow and has performed across the world from Sydney to Buenos Aires. Its current repertoire includes Boris Godunov, Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare and Three Sisters by Anton Chekhov.

# Young Director and Designer Summer School

30 July - 4 August 2007

In August 2007, for the very first time, Cheek by Jowl held a Summer School for Young Directors and Designers. With generous funding from the Foyle Foundation and support from the Barbican, where Cheek by Jowl is an Associate Company, we brought together a group of eight talented young directors and designers. Selected from over 200 applicants they were invited to work with the Cheek by Jowl creative team.

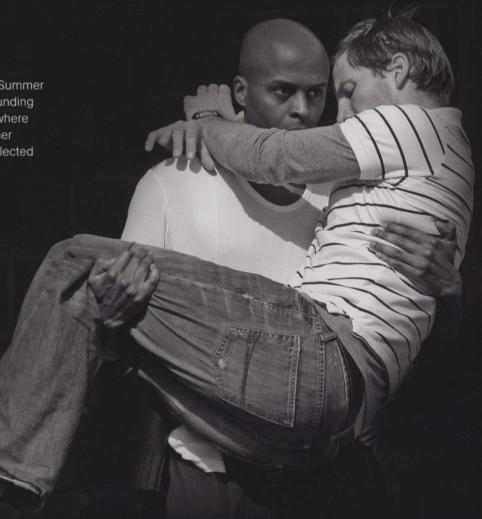
The participants worked in four director and designer teams:

Adan Black and Chris Gylee Rachel Briscoe and Maureen Freedman Katie McAleese and Avgoustina Tchkoreva Roland Smith and Harry Scott

They worked with eight professional actors:

Lucy Briggs-Owen Richard Cant David Caves Nick Court Simon Day Kelly Hotten Chu Omambala Giles Terera

An exhibition was held in January at Toynbee Studios, London to share their ideas.



Making Cheek by Jowl's work happen

In addition to the generous and ongoing support that Cheek by Jowl receives from Arts Council England and the Barbican, we rely on a growing body of supporters to make our work possible. In 2008/2009 we will need to raise a total of £60,000 to continue producing international theatre of the highest quality and investing in young artists.

If you feel passionate about Cheek by Jowl's work please support its future

We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to:

#### Our corporate partners

#### Our patrons and

benefactors

#### Our friends

Mrs G Bullock Matt Goulding

Veronika Hyks

Professor Carol Rutter Antonia Southern Svetlana Walker

#### **Trusts and Foundations**

John Ellerman Foundation

To find out more about the many ways to support Cheek by Jowl, and the benefits available to our supporters, please contact Anna Schmitz on +44 (0)20 7382 6176 or supporters@cheekbyjowl.com.

Alternatively please see our website: www.cheekbyjowl.com

CITYINN

Paul Brennen in Troilus and Cressida

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Ralph Fiennes
Sophie Hamilton
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David Orr
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Jane Reid
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Bill & Doreen Mapleson

Alternatively please see our website: www.cheekbyjowl.com

CiTYINN

With thanks to City Inn, a supporter of both performing and visual arts in London, Bristol, Glasgow, Birmingham and Manchester.

Paul Brennen in Troilus and Cressida

1981	The Country Wife Wycherley
1982	Othello Shakespeare
1983	Vanity Fair * Thackeray
1984	Pericles Shakespeare
1985	Andromache * Racine
1985	A Midsummer Night's Dream Shakespeare
1985	The Man of Mode Etherege
1986	The Cid * Corneille
1986	Twelfth Night Shakespeare
1987	Macbeth Shakespeare
1988	A Family Affair * Ostrovsky
1988	Philoctetes Sophocles
1988	The Tempest Shakespeare
1989	The Doctor of Honour Calderon
1989	Lady Betty * Donnellan
1990	Sara * Lessing
1990	Hamlet Shakespeare
1991	As You Like It Shakespeare
1993	Don't Fool With Love de Musset
1993	The Blind Men * de Ghelderode
1994	Measure for Measure Shakespeare
1994	As You Like It (revival) Shakespeare
1995	The Duchess of Malfi Webster
1997	Out Cry * Williams
1998	Much Ado About Nothing Shakespeare
1998	Le Cid Corneille (An Avignon Festival production)
2000	Boris Godunov ** Pushkin
2002	Homebody/Kabul * Kushner
2003	Twelfth Night ** Shakespeare
2004	Othello Shakespeare
2005	Three Sisters ** Chekhov
2006	The Changeling Middleton & Rowley
2007	Cymbeline Shakespeare
2007	Andromaque *** Racine
2008	Troilus and Cressida Shakespeare
	* British premierė

#### For Cheek by Jowl

Artistic Directors Declan Donnellan, Nick Ormerod

Executive Director Griselda Yorke

Assistant Producers Jacqui Honess-Martin and Anna Schmitz

Work Placements Isabel Alves-Marquez, Jason Ho (ITC Fast-track placement), Hanna Osmolska

Programme Research Judith Greenwood

Programme Editor Jacqui Honess-Martin

**UK Press Agent** Sharon Kean at Kean Lanyon

Design Eureka! Design Consultants, London

**UK Marketing Consultants** The Cogency

#### **Directors of Cheek by Jowl**

Sophie Hamilton (Chair) Nicholas Bryan-Brown Jane Reid John Scott-Moncrieff Chrissy Sharp Tim Stockil Nicola Thorold

#### Cheek by Jowl

Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS

Scottish Charity No: SCO 13544







Cheek by Jowl gratefully acknowledges support from Arts Council England.

Cheek by Jowl is proud to be an Artistic Associate at the Barbican.

Cheek by Jowl's international touring is generously supported by the British Counc

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<sup>\*\*</sup> Produced by Chekhov International Festival in association with Cheek by Jov

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