

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

World Theatre Day, International Dance Day, and International Opera Day in North Macedonia – 2026

The Macedonian Centre of the International Theatre Institute (ITI) is pleased to announce the national commemorations of three major international performing arts occasions in 2026.



1. On the occasion of 27 March 2026 – World Theatre Day, the celebration in North Macedonia will be marked by the collective Macedonian message authored by the collective of the independent Theatre *Zlaten Elec*. This message reflects the contemporary voice of independent theatre artists, emphasizing the urgency, resilience, and poetic force of theatre in times of global and local transformation.

Fragment - It is not the place that matters, but the idea and its essence.

Today, all too often, we close the doors immediately after the applause, we turn off the lights yet theatre is not film.

It exists here and now, alive, face to face.

It opens essential conversations and awakens themes that must and deserve to be spoken about openly. The audience does not come to witness perfection; it comes to recognize sincerity and pure truth.

Theatre should be created out of genuine necessity.

Out of joy.

Out of unrest.

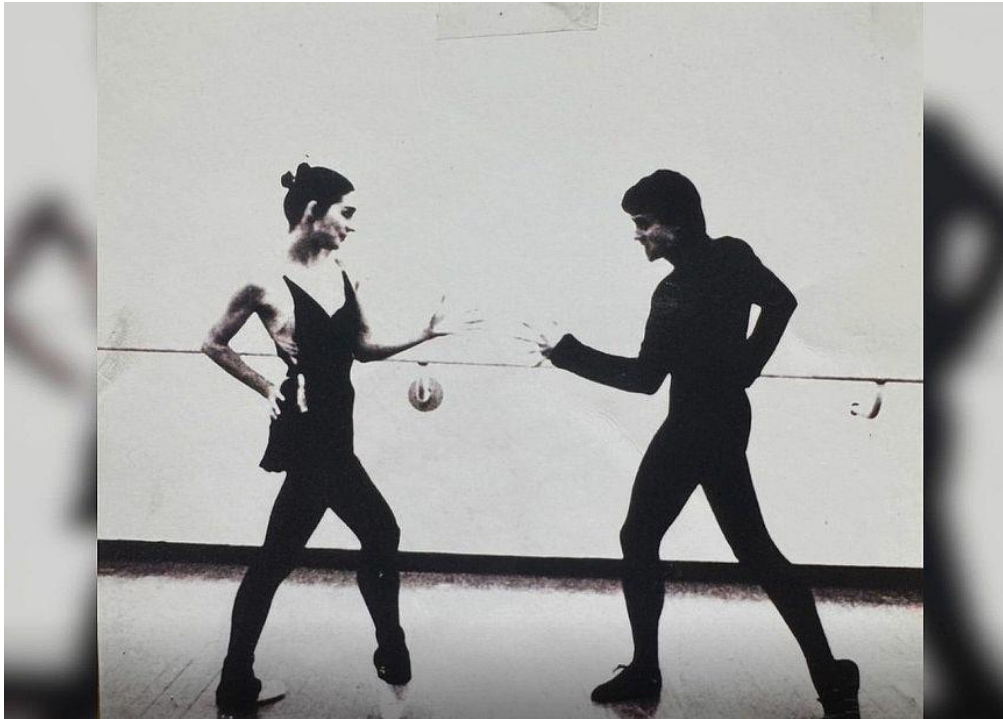
Out of powerlessness.

Out of curiosity.

Out of the desire to understand a world that is constantly changing.

If we do not speak about the time we live in through both new and old texts then which time are we to speak of? ``

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2. Furthermore, 29 April 2026 – International Dance Day will be celebrated with a national message written by the distinguished ballerina Zoica Purovska Velevska, whose artistic and pedagogical work has significantly contributed to the development of dance in North Macedonia. Her message will highlight the expressive power of movement and the role of dance as a universal language of connection and embodiment.

Fragment - `` Dance touches, recognizes, connects, conveys, and builds bridges of musical embraces and moving thoughts. There is no greater gesture of kindness and respect than that expressed through dance, and therefore, in these fast-paced times, it is vital to harness its positive power to help shape socially aware individuals formed in collaboration with cultural institutions as spaces for profound transformation.

The hybrid unity that modern humanity is losing is rediscovered on the dance stage, where life itself unfolds.

For some, it is breath.

For others, salvation.

For others still, a style and a necessity.

Dance is the niche that is naturally woven into everyone's spiritual longing for a beautiful truth.

There is no deeper thought, nor greater honor than this.

I extend my congratulations on the occasion of International Dance Day to all direct participants in the performing arts, to all indirect supporters, and, of course, to all those who dance through life every day.

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3. In addition, International Opera Day - 25 October 2026 will be marked by a message from the renowned Macedonian opera singer and educator Goran Dinovski, whose work bridges performance and education. His contribution will underline the enduring relevance of opera as a multidisciplinary art form that unites music, drama, and voice in profound cultural dialogue.

Through these three messages, North Macedonia joins the global ITI network in celebrating the richness and diversity of the performing arts, while foregrounding its own vibrant artistic voices.

Fragment - `` Today, immersed in the demands of contemporaneity, we can all too easily lose the anchor of our being and drift away from the profound truth that musical theatre continually whispers.

Yet perseverance is a human virtue, and we must engage it in the care and preservation of all that holds human value.

Ultimately, within our very DNA, spirituality and culture are embedded as a conscious truth called the Voice. This truth, flowing like a raft through the wild waters of time, has always surfaced, continues to surface, and will surface again because it is one and unique.

Opera was not created to capture our attention for a fleeting moment, but to sustain it across time designed to endure eternally. What a triumph! ``

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