

Dear Friends,

Japan is a country where passion for the art of dance is so uniquely strong that there are virtually no other public elsewhere in the world to rival Japanese in the knowledge of dance and desire to see both masterpieces of the past and the most cutting edge innovative works. For me it has always been a great pleasure to perform in Japan and to bring my art to the people, who are so interested in dance.

I feel that it is symbolic that the first foreign tour of the Mikhailovsky Ballet since I am appointed Artistic Director of the company takes place in Japan. This year, we celebrate the 30th consecutive season of the Mikhailovsky in Japan, and I do hope that a great love for the Mikhailovsky Ballet company your country has developed, will grow even stronger.

We present a programme of the immortal Russian classics, such as Swan Lake, Nutcracker, Giselle and Don Quixote in many cities of Japan this time. We are very proud to perform Romeo and Juliet in the celebrated hall of Bunka Kaikan and I am particularly happy that we are bringing the best Mikhailovsky dancers to your wonderful country.

I hope that you will enjoy our season as much as we enjoy each and every performance for you.

Artistic Director
of the Mikhailovsky Ballet

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nacho Duato". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'N' and a long, sweeping underline.

Nacho Duato