

Fact Sheet for Presenters

“The Voloshky dancers...have a genuine feeling for the nobility and friskiness of the dances. The Hopak, the most famous of the Ukrainian dances, goes way beyond friskiness into high virtuosity.”

The Philadelphia Inquirer

“Dressed in scarlet traditional costumes, Voloshky executed sparkling athletic choreography to the strains of traditional music.”

The New York Times

“Their performances have everything: scholarship, insight, finesse, and no little poetry. No trace of surface glitter; art is there, the ideas are there, and the ability to execute is there, which makes for the traditional intimacy of Ukrainian dancing and its tasteful performance.”

America Weekly

Through dance, Voloshky portrays the rich culture of the Ukrainian people. Combining the highest level of technique and presentation with the national character of Ukraine, Voloshky creates a spellbinding show of art and energy. The resulting style is bold and powerful, clearly native to Ukrainian dance, yet classical enough to be appreciated by all.

The artistry of Ukrainian dance is testament to a vibrant and enduring culture steeped in a long national history, rich with tragedy and triumph. The spirit of this cultural tradition deepens and enriches the ethnic diversity that is so central to the American experience.

Voloshky combines authenticity and originality in style and composition, drawing from a repertoire of over 40 traditional dances representing every region of Ukraine. It is the only Ukrainian dance company in the United States to have a full repertoire of original choreography with music recorded exclusively for the company by the Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Symphony Orchestra. Voloshky often enhances each appearance with live performance by a talented artist on a traditional Ukrainian folk instrument.

In addition to dazzling performances, Voloshky offers a variety workshops, master classes, and lecture-demonstrations, working closely with presenters in order to best serve each particular audience. Brief spoken commentary can be interspersed with the dances of a performance itself, adding glimpses of insight into the genre, the particular dances, and the workings of Voloshky itself.

Voloshky has performed throughout the United States and Canada in festivals, concert series, and private events. Notable performances: Jacob’s Pillow (Lee, MA); Florida Dance Festival (Miami); Lincoln Center (New York); The Playhouse Theater (Wilmington, DE); the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Kimmel Center (Philadelphia). Voloshky was chosen by the Ukrainian diaspora twice to officially greet the president of Ukraine, Victor Yushchenko, during two visits to the United States in 2005.

The Ensemble is critically acclaimed and has been recognized with grants from The National Endowment for the Arts, The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and The Philadelphia Cultural Fund. Over the past dozen years, Voloshky has received funding numerous times from Dance Advance, a program funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts and administered by The University of the Arts. Voloshky also is on the roster of the Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour, which provides touring funds for presenters.

“I have worked with many hundreds of music and dance groups... Voloshky is number one on my list. Their beautifully choreographed and performed dances, costumes and technical expertise are evident each and every time I see them.”

Philadelphia Museum of Art

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**UKRAINIAN
DANCE
ENSEMBLE**