



For Immediate Release

**NEW YORK PREMIERE OF BORIS EIFMAN DOCUMENTARY AT
DIRECTOR'S GUILD THEATRE, APRIL 3 & 6**

The premiere of a revealing new documentary, “Boris Eifman: A Work in Progress,” kicks off the New York celebration of Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg’s 30th anniversary. The film, produced, directed and written by Alexander Gutman, will be screened at the Director’s Guild Theatre on April 3 & 6, just prior to the company’s season at New York City Center, April 13–29. The film showings will be followed both evenings by a conversation between Eifman and Gutman.

“Boris Eifman: A Work in Progress” offers a unique glimpse into Eifman’s creative process and the torturous ways in which he achieves his ends. During the demanding creation of “Anna Karenina,” choreographed in 2004, Gutman captures Eifman in uninhibited moments of frustration, fury and exhilaration. Rarely has a film reflected the raw reality of creation and the effect the process has on the performers. In the film, Gutman intertwines in-depth interviews with Eifman with archival footage dating from Eifman’s days as a young choreographer to his present international success.

Boris Eifman was born in Siberia and studied dance at the Leningrad Conservatory. In 1977 he founded Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg, the Soviet Union’s first independent ballet company. Since then, he has created over 40 ballets, whose bold originality and emotional depth has been recognized worldwide. Eifman is a four-time recipient of The Golden Sofit, St. Petersburg’s prestigious theater award. Other awards and distinctions include the State

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Award for his contribution to the development of the performing arts and the People's Artist of Russia Award. Additionally, several of Eifman's ballets have received the prestigious Russian Golden Mask Award (the Russian equivalent of the Tony). The choreographer himself was the recipient of the Golden Mask Award for his lifetime achievement in contemporary choreography.

The anniversary celebration continues with Eifman Ballet's New York City Center season, which features the New York premiere of Eifman's "The Seagull," as well as "Anna Karenina" and other classic works by the choreographer. The New York performances are part the company's two-month long U.S. tour.

Screenings of "Boris Eifman: A Work in Progress" begin at 7pm. Tickets are \$20 each and are available by calling 212-399-0002. The Director's Guild is located at 110 West 57th Street.

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