

Classical ballet was perhaps the most visible symbol of aristocratic culture and its isolation from the rest of Russian society under the tsars. In the wake of the October Revolution, ballet, like all of the arts, fell under the auspices of the Soviet authorities, who attempted to mold the former imperial ballet to suit their revolutionary cultural agenda and reeducate the masses. As Christina Ezrahi's groundbreaking study reveals, they were far from successful in this ambitious effort to gain complete control over art. *Swans of the Kremlin* offers a fascinating glimpse at the collision of art and politics during the volatile first fifty years of the Soviet period. Ezrahi shows how the producers and performers of Russia's two major troupes, the Mariinsky (later Kirov) and the Bolshoi, quietly but effectively resisted Soviet cultural hegemony during this era. Despite all controls put on them, they managed to maintain the classical forms and traditions of their rich artistic past and to further develop their art form. These aesthetic and professional standards proved to be the power behind the ballets' worldwide appeal. The troupes soon became the showpiece of Soviet cultural achievement, as they captivated Western audiences during the Cold War period. Based on extensive research into official archives, and personal interviews with artists and staff, Ezrahi presents the first-ever account of the inner workings of these famed ballet troupes during the Soviet era. She follows their struggles in the postrevolutionary period, their peak during the golden age of the 1950s and 1960s, and concludes with their monumental productions staged to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the revolution in 1968.

Spins a Web : A Book about Spiders (Magic School Bus), Red or Green Chile Bible; Love at First Bite (Chile Trilogy), Bulgarian Wine Book (History, Culture, Cellars and Wines), Star Wars: The Last Command, The Story of Punk and Indie (Pop Histories), Land of the Blindfolded - VOL 04,

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Christina. Ezrahi. *Swans of the Kremlin: Ballet and Power in Soviet Russia*. (Pitt Series in Russian and East European Studies.) Binsted.

*Swans of the Kremlin* has 26 ratings and 7 reviews. C.P. said: Great overview of the process by which ballet, that most aristocratic of arts, became a maj.

Classical ballet was perhaps the most visible symbol of aristocratic culture and its isolation from the rest of Russian society under the tsars. *Swans of the Kremlin: Art at its greatest is fantastically deceitful* and Ezrahi's *Swans of the Kremlin: Ballet and Power in Soviet Russia*.

*Swans of the Kremlin: Ballet and Power in Soviet Russia* by Christina Ezrahi. Pitt Series in Russian and Eastern European Studies. books The interviews appear to have been tape-recorded; at any rate they are quoted directly and at some length. It is, of course, Alena V. Ledeneva rather.

*Swans of the Kremlin: ballet and power in Soviet Russia*. Christina. Ezrahi Check holdings at Ferris State Library Ferris State Library (GVE97 ).

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