



Festive events dedicated to City's Day in Minsk, with major celebrations taking place on the ground near the Sports Palace

Minsk celebrates its 950th birthday!

The counting begins with the city's first mention in the *Tale of Bygone Years* though Minsk is, of course, much older. The city has celebrated its birthday on a grand scale, as befits the jubilee celebrant with such a great age on its passport.

Dear friends!

I cordially congratulate you on the 950th anniversary of the Belarusian capital city. Modern Minsk is the biggest political, economic, cultural, and business centre of the country. This is a very beautiful city with sincere and warm atmosphere where everyone wants to live, study, work, and bring up children. There have been many heroic and tragic events in the history of our capital city. But every time, having

gone through severe ordeals, the city was restored and became even more magnificent. And today it is proudly called the Hero-City. Preserving its unique architectural landscape, Minsk is developing every year. New residential districts, cultural and sports facilities, comfortable parks and public gardens are being built. Meanwhile, people are the main wealth, the soul of our city.

Dear Minsk residents, I'm convinced that thanks to your talents, bold ideas, diligence and hospitality the city will become more beautiful and comfortable. I wish you every success, health, wellbeing, and new achievements. I hope that future generations of Minsk residents will be proud the results of your work.

Alexander Lukashenko,
President of the Republic of Belarus

Minsk is 950 years old!

The counting begins with the city's first mention in the *Tale of Bygone Years* though Minsk is, of course, much older. The city has celebrated its birthday on a grand scale, as befits the jubilee celebrant with such a great age on its passport.

By Yuliana Leonova

For three days, historic milestones following one after the other, events, famous people and epochs were commemorated here where, according to the legend, the mill of bogatyr Menesk once stood. Meanwhile, the area of the Upper Town was turned into one huge concert venue.

As is traditional, on Minsk's birthday, the best of the best were honoured in the Palace of Culture of Trade Unions. This year, the selection rounds of the professional competition — *Minsk Master* — brought together 19,700 workers, with only 741 specialists qualifying for the finals. The jury selected 38 heroes — those whose daily tasks make our lives better and more qualitative. This year's laureates include industrialists, builders, teachers, doctors, trade and services workers. After the awards ceremony, the best voices in the country sang for them.

On the same day, the Pobeda Museum and Park Estate hosted the *Show of Singing Fountains*: a project uniting three elements — water, music and light. The dance of the fountains was the complement to a laser show, while musical accompaniment was provided by the State Academic Symphony Orchestra under the guidance of maestro Alexander Anisimov. The first



day of celebrations finished with a pyrotechnic firework display.

The next day's events were held near to the Sports Palace. Moreover, for the first time Minsk and guests of the capital were shown photos of unusual museum exhibits in an open urban space. The project involved 15 Minsk museums each of which displayed its own exhibit. The first part of the project was dedicated to

people who have changed the life of Minsk for the better. Last year, the Town Hall hosted an exhibition of portraits of legendary Minskians from the collection of the National Art Museum of Belarus.

The festive celebrations on the second day were officially launched near the Minsk Hero-City Memorial, in Pobediteley Avenue. The place is very symbolic,

with representatives of city administration, heads of the largest enterprises and associations, as well as Minsk's

friends — delegations from twin cities and partner cities — laying flowers at the bottom of the monument.

Minsk and guests of the Belarusian capital were also pleased with the history and culture festival, *Ancient Minsk*. Its organisers promised to recreate the history of ancient Minsk and spectators could see reconstructions of Medieval battles: knights jousting, horse competitions and even the storming of the fortress.

At the end, the finest creative powers of the capital demonstrated their skill. The programme of the best *J:Mors* songs — *Belarusian Gold* — in symphonic arrangements was prepared back in autumn 2016. Last November, the presentation of the project, involving the Presidential Orchestra under the guidance of Victor Babarikin, gathered a full house in the Palace of the Republic. It was the first time that members of the *J:Mors* band had played

together with the maestro in an open venue for free. For those who needed not only spiritual food, the trade pavilions were busy nearby for the entire two days, offering shashlik. Items made by craftsmen were also available for sale.

The third day was marked by the 3rd Minsk Half Marathon, which gathered together professional and keen amateur runners. The festive race featured around 30,000 athletes, including those from Ethiopia, Kenya, India, Uganda, Pakistan, Georgia and Russia...

Launching automated procedures for courts

By Svetlan Isaenok

Belarusian courts soon to gain several automated procedures

At a press conference, the First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Court, Valery Kalinkovich,

told journalists about the coming changes. The Database of Judicial Decrees is being created, logging operative provisions of verdicts announced in economic courts. After receiving authorisation, anyone will be able to gain access to the database.

An e-judiciary system is also being launched, allowing the lodging of claims and petitions without the need to duplicate documents. This will be available only for economic courts. Each court's calendar is also to be kept electronically: for the

Supreme Court, as well as for regional and economic courts. By the end of the year, a new version of the Internet portal is to launch for all courts, in two languages, and including a tool to calculate the cost of any procedure.

The press conference also

tackled the low percentage of verdicts of non-guilty in our courts. Mr. Kalinkovich responded that, since the appearance of the Investigative Committee, fewer criminal cases with weak evidence have been submitted to the courts.

Alexander Lukashenko: 'Everything should be done for the benefit of the people'



The European Games hosted by Minsk in summer 2019 is one of the hot topics of recent times. To welcome the continental equivalent of the Olympiad is an honour for any country and, of course, a great responsibility. Meanwhile, the programme of competitions, records and medals are only the tip of the iceberg. Lots of details remain unnoticed by the fans; but without them, the organisation of the Games would be impossible: the organisational peculiarities and issues of tourism, infrastructure, security, transport, food, tickets... This is the invisible backstage where a great deal of work is conducted; the success of the event primarily depends on the seriousness and substance of the approach used: will the spectators be applauding or will they leave disappointed? This was tackled at the President's expanded session, featuring the NOC Executive Committee.

By Segey Kanashits

The sporting component was a keynote of the whole conversation, as the fans won't be happy with just draniki and kvass; they need bright and inspiring victories. Those present at the meeting were aware that winning medals has been all too rare in recent events. After the report of the Sports and Tourism Minister, Alexander Shamko, which covered the work so far and forthcoming tasks, the President said, "In all your reports, Alexander Igorevich, you describe successes and readiness to succeed. You understand how to do this. However, as soon as the competition takes place we don't see the evidence. Then you say that the athletes have been extremely worried and there has been excessive pressure... I'm also worried. The harvest has started and I have been worrying for two months already. Who cares whether I worry or not? I need to have 10 million tonnes of grain to feed the nation, to sell meat and milk, to bring \$7bn into the country. These are the reasons for my concerns. An athlete worries less when they are preparing for a competition. Ivan Tikhon was also worrying. He was thinking how could he bring a medal from the Olympiad. However, his excitement was against the background of colossal work. What will you say after the Games? Where are the results? How many medals have we earned at the World Athletics Championships? How many medals has Belarus claimed at the FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships? What has been achieved at the Judo World Championships? What are we spending money on?"

Mr. Lukashenko made it clear that he would seriously ask the heads of federations and those responsible for the results to explain their strategy. No excuses will be accepted. The most important thing is the medals earned.

"We should see the results next season, at international competi-



Alexander Lukashenko at the expanded session of the NOC Executive Committee

tions, to know who can we pin our hopes on. I'm embarrassed when a head of this or that sport sends an athlete to the championship and the latter doesn't show even their usual result, e.g. can't jump the height which he easily jumps during training. Starting from 2018, all championships in the country should

be held at the highest level rather than merely for show. Get everyone involved: the government and governors. We should have good championships with worthy prizes. Whether it's boxing or wrestling, a competition should be held in a good stadium, with spectators, enabling athletes to perform in this atmosphere and to feel that they are needed."

The preparation for the European Games is in full swing and the President asked attention is paid to all the details and to consider: the world of mass media, the

These Games are a perfect chance to 'stir up' our economy and to qualitatively advance in technology, education and competence of our specialists. Everything that we would learn will be useful for us and our children

development of the tourist needs, preparation of personnel, financial issues, accommodation, food, TV broadcasts, the work of volunteers and others. "These Games are a perfect chance to 'stir up' our economy and to qualitatively advance in technology, education and competence of our specialists. Everything that we would learn will be useful for us and our chil-

dren," emphasised the President.

Much needs to be done. Many facilities are almost ready (for example the Dinamo Stadium which will host the Games solemn opening and closing ceremonies) but still there's much to complete. A concrete instruction has been given to finish the major arena for spring 2018 and next summer (one year before the 2nd European Games) the new stadium should host serious test international competitions — a check enabling the system to reveal its weaknesses and drawbacks.

Mr. Lukashenko called on all athletes and officials to visit each site: from the fan zone to arena to professionally examine and

to eliminate all drawbacks and to make the Games of maximum comfort for everyone. Of course, this tackles sporting infrastructure, as well as order in the city.

The European Games 2019 should be a true holiday that will be remembered by everyone and will promote our country in many respects. In the end, Mr. Lukashenko again underlined the fact that we primarily need to think about people, "Everything should be done for the benefit of the people. No pomposity. We won't exceed the opening of the Olympiad in Sochi and the 1st European Games in Baku. But we don't aim to do this, because hundreds of millions of US Dollars are spent there. I don't want to say that we don't have such money. If this would have been for our benefit we would find the money. However, we should do on our own — beautifully and spiritually."

Significantly expanding geography of exports

Orsha Linen Mill begins to supply fabrics to the Republic of Korea

By Victor Mikhailov

The company has penetrated the Korean market thanks to its persistent efforts. So far two major batches and one small batch of fabrics have been shipped. Negotiations regarding further shipments are currently underway.

Orsha Linen Mill's products are sold to over 30 countries. In 2017, the company added Chile and India to the list. Chile bought a small batch of merchandise while the work to fill containers of Belarusian linen to send to India is nearly finished. There are plans to conclude the contract in September-October.

The company exports 70 percent of its fabrics and sewn products, with the rest being sold domestically. Wholesale trade accounts for over 68 percent of output, with the retail share being close to 32 percent. The share of Russia and other CIS states in the total export exceeds 18 percent while the European Union accounts for about 47 percent. "Partners from European countries appreciate the quality of Orsha-made products. "We have established stable contacts with our business partners which are being



constantly developed, this is why this region accounts for the largest share of export shipments," say specialists.

Orsha Linen Mill considers Latin America, the USA, and Canada to be promising markets. Their share is currently close to 8 percent. There are plans to raise the figure to 10 percent in the next few years. With this in mind, representatives of the Belarusian company visited Canada's Premier Apparel & Textile International Sourcing Trade Show, which took place in Toronto in late August. The expo gathered about 250 exhibitors from China, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, the UK, Turkey, Colombia, the USA and Canada. "During the visit, we examined the competitor's products, held negotiations and business meetings with the assistance of the



Orsha Linen Mill masters the production of jeans fabric

Canada Eurasia Russia Business Association (CERBA). Participation in such events will help the Belarusian company to determine

further operations in this market and familiarise ourselves with the certification procedures these countries require," said the company.

Driving force of electricity

By Andrey Maximov

The number of electric vehicles in the world has exceeded 2 million and continues to grow. Our country will also soon make its contribution, with scientists and experts who have developed a prototype of domestic e-car taking an exam before the President.

The session was attended by the Aide to the President, Alexander Kosinets, Industry Minister Vitaly Vovk, the Chairman of the Presidium of the National Academy of Sciences Vladimir Gusakov and developers of domestic electric vehicles.

It was said at the 5th Belarusian People's Congress that Belarus has to move to the e-cars. The Joint Institute of Machine Building launched the development of the principally new car last year. What has been done over this time? Will our e-mobile be compared with the world known Tesla which was noiselessly driving along the alleys of Independence Palace as an example?

Alexander Lukashenko personally tested Tesla's latest model and said that it was a wonderful car.

"It accelerates so fast as to leave all the German combustion engine cars we've tested way behind. They couldn't catch up. The Tesla car goes off like a space rocket and even harder: 100kmph within 2.5 seconds. I was curious about traction. It turns out its traction is ideal," notes Mr. Lukashenko.

Of course, it's clear that the President didn't set the task to advertise a foreign manufacturer. His goal was to give an example to follow for our scientists and developers. Mr. Lukashenko told them that he had familiarised in details with the recently produced electric vehicle on the basis of Geely.

"I don't know how high is the level of the engine you have created, its running gear and so on, but it looks very decent. Yet your promises inspire me on one hand and disturb me on the other hand. If we can create the world's best battery to accumulate electricity, why don't we do it? What do we lack to make it happen? People, money, competences? It must be done right now," asserted Mr. Lukashenko.

The requirements of the President are preconditioned by the life itself and colossal competition on the world machine building market, so a sensible advice was made for developers — to use the moment and not to delay with implementation. "It is the future. We should not fall behind. We should not lag behind with our competences and scientific standards. In the near future nobody will want to buy combustion engine vehicles like hot cakes the way it was in the past," stressed the President of Belarus.

Considering ecological purity

Chinese plant to assemble ultra-condensers for electric transport to be commissioned by the end of the year, at Great Stone Chinese-Belarusian Industrial Park

By Veniamin Kharitonov

This was announced by the General Manager of the China's Chengdu Xinzhu Silk Road Development Zhong Chen, responsible for co-operation with European countries.

The Chinese company began construction of the plant last spring and the work will soon be finished. A plot of 1.1 hectares allocated in the park will comprise about 20,000sq.m of the manufacturing area. Apart from the production area, the Chengdu Xinzhu Silk Road Development will have its research laboratories in the park.

The representative of the company shared information on the



advantages of Chinese ultra-condensers. Six minutes will charge it for a 20km trip. These condensers are designed to operate in different weather conditions (from 40 degrees below zero to 55 degrees above). The use of such transport also seems economically sound

considering the Belarusian nuclear power plant which is currently under construction.

The company will focus on the Belarusian market firstly. In the future, it plans to sell ultra-condensers to Europe and the countries of the Eurasian Economic

Union (EAEU). According to Zhong Chen, an electric bus is the transport of the future considering its environmental friendliness. He named Belarus an important partner in economic co-operation with China.

In turn, Vice General Manager of the company responsible for co-operation with Belarus, Shi Guang, said that the company had already launched test works. China attaches great importance to the project and considers it very promising.

Belkommunmash, producer of electric buses, trolleybuses and trams will be the main customer of ultra-condensers. Belarusian electric buses will be certified for foreign markets.

Looking into the economic future with optimism

How will the economy respond to the reduction of the refinancing rate and cheap loans?

By Vladislav Kuletsky

This year the National Bank is reducing the refinancing rate as if according to the schedule: each month. Another fall in the key parameter — to reach 11.5 percent per annum — is the seventh in a row and takes place from September 13th. The last time this major figure in the banking system reached such a level was at the end of 2010. However, a refinancing rate is a two-sided coin. Those wishing to take a loan win from its reduction while those who earn on deposits lose. The *MT* reporter was looking for answers to the questions of what is good in it and what risks there are for the economy when cheap money appears.

Evident consequences

The National Bank always explains the reduction of the refinancing rate by a decrease in actual inflation. The regulator believes in the preservation of this tendency and doesn't see significant risks 'for speedy growth of prices from monetary factors, as well as the balance of payments and the currency market in the medium-term prospect'. The National Bank forecasts inflation at the level of 7 percent and the refinancing rate should change correspondingly.

The current policy of the country's major bank has several apparent consequences. Primarily, rates on loans and saving accounts relate to the refinancing rate, i.e. loans are becoming cheaper while depositors lose part of their income. The banking system begins to redistribute finances: population and enterprises should take more loans. There's no need to be afraid of this: the first will use this money to stimulate demand on the domestic market while the latter should invest in their development.

The reduction of the burden on budgets of families who have previously taken loans at higher interest rates is also of no less importance. The interest rates have fallen to reach those of a decade ago and now it's possible to take a loan at 12 percent



MT REFERENCE:

At present, the situation in the economy is stable and, according to the forecasts, it will remain so. The medium-term prospect (to 2020) shows inflation should be reduced to 5 percent. The reality of achieving the set goal is based on the conduct of the proper monetary-credit policy, agreed with the economic policy of the Government. If unforeseen circumstances happen, the National Bank possesses a wide range of instruments to promptly react to these shocks and to ensure a way out for the target trajectory.

The National Bank believes that some negative tendencies that are currently observed are primarily artificial. For example, the inflow of saving accounts in foreign currency is viewed by the National Bank as insignificant: in July, these increased by just 0.03 percent (\$1.9m against the remainder of \$6.8bn), so the National Bank of Belarus sees no threat to dedollarisation.

per annum. This is less than half those taken in 2016 or 2015. Against a very modest growth of salaries, this factor serves well to support those whose incomes are sensitive to any extra expenditures.

Not everything is so categorical

Most experts assert that quick growth of consumer lending isn't good for the economy. Often people just don't want to reduce the level of consumption. This contradicts logic: during an economic decline, people spend even more than previously. The volume of loans authorised in the first six months of the year has increased by 0.8 percent, while loans taken by individuals has gone up 7.5 percent — though there was just a 0.2 percent drop at the same time last year.

The banks are pleased that they have more clients and they are conducting an even more aggressive advertising policy. However, the major issue is whether all consumers will be able to repay these loans. Our fellow countrymen usually pay

regularly but credit histories will soon start to worsen in times of economic stress. In this respect, it would be nice if the economy could grow, enabling people to keep their jobs and maintain their salaries.

Businesses are more cautious when taking loans. The aggregate portfolio of such loans from the beginning of the year has reduced by 1 percent. The only positive factor is that private businesses have begun to take more loans in Belarusian Roubles rather than in foreign currency. Meanwhile, there are other risks. Zhanna Kulakova, a financial consultant with TeleTrade Company, believes that we shouldn't have a dismissive attitude towards the reduction of rates on saving accounts. This factor has a negative influence on the investment attractiveness of the Belarusian Rouble. "In recent months, the growth rates of saving accounts both in Belarusian Roubles and in foreign currency have slowed. In July, we saw an unusual situation when saving accounts in Belarusian

Roubles dropped and those in foreign currency increased. It was October 2015 when this situation last happened — almost two years ago. Despite this, rates on saving accounts still exceed the growth rate of prices and protect savings from inflation. Not all Belarusians are ready to keep their Belarusian Roubles with the banks being offered 7-10 percent per annum. Though such rates are much closer than those seen several years ago when there were 50-60 percent per annum," explains Ms. Kulakova.

Here the analyst sees some threat to dedollarisation since the inflow of Belarusian Rouble deposits against the background of foreign currency inflow may become a stable trend. Financiers are also concerned about other factors: consumer lending is now expanding, as are loans for housing construction. Considering that on July 4th, the President signed the Decree #240 'On State Support to Citizens for the Construction (Reconstruction) of Housing', loans for housing will only grow. We are re-

mindful that, according to this document, citizens who need their living conditions to be improved can receive a subsidy from the state to take a loan from any bank. Such loans are always long-term: from 15 to 25 years. To give these loans, the bank needs 'long-term' resources while no one knows nowadays where to take them.

Optimism and realism

Despite the National Bank's optimism about the economic future its specialists are in no hurry to announce to what level the refinancing rate may drop further. The National Bank avoids giving a direct answer to this question, hiding behind the necessity to monitor the 'development of the macroeconomic situation'.

The National Bank calls the 'reduction of the nominal level of interest rates after the drop in inflation' an indicator of the improving conditions in the economy. "This creates favourable conditions for investments, expanding opportunities for borrowing and planning while also

facilitating the enhancement of sustainability of the resource basis via the duration of terms of savings'."

The banks are also optimistic though more realistic. For example, experts of the Alfa-Bank assert that the stability of the Belarusian Rouble enables them to offer savings accounts with a fixed interest rate (for the whole agreement validity period for separate saving accounts) which guarantees maximum investment income for clients. However, the bank doesn't see direct dependence between the reduction of inflation (and, accordingly, the drop of the refinancing rate) and business activity.

"The refinancing rate is an important indicator but not the only one. There's a demand for loans from entrepreneurs; however, it is often directed not to develop business but to replenish current assets to run business activity. It turns out that many are still trying simply to keep afloat rather than open new productions or expand their business. In this situation, it's important for the National Bank and the Government to have a plan 'B' and the National Bank assures us that it does exist. At present, the situation in the economy is stable and, according to the forecasts, it will remain so. The medium-term prospect (to 2020) shows inflation should be reduced to 5 percent. The reality of achieving the set goal is based on the conduct of the proper monetary-credit policy, agreed with the economic policy of the Government. If unforeseen circumstances happen, the National Bank possesses a wide range of instruments to promptly react to these shocks and to ensure a way out for the target trajectory."

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Boulders in fields replaced with tasty watermelons

Tasty Belarusian watermelons aren't a myth

By Kristina Khilko

Undemanding giants

Belarusian watermelons may be the stuff of legend, but these stripy fruits appearing in local fields have long stopped being exotic and watermelon plantations in the south of the country are as good as those in the Krasnodar area.

"We have been growing watermelons for three years," says the chief agronomist at the Brest Chernyany agricultural enterprise, Kazimir Sedletsy. "In late May we planted ten hectares. The weather was bad at that time with little sun and frost at night. However, we will be harvesting them in a fortnight and our watermelons rival those planted in the south for flavour, being sweet, rich and large."

Seeds can be bought at the Bykhov melon selection open station. The Russian species 'impuls', 'kholodok' and 'ikar' have become accustomed to the Belarusian soil. However, the most popular variety is called 'triumf'. "Our watermelons are true giants, weighing 8-12kg," said the agronomist proudly. "The record-breaker weighs 15kg. It's profitable to grow them, as they aren't capricious. They like light sandy soil and aren't afraid of drought. The secret is in a well-developed root system which is in the upper layer of soil and goes down for up to 1.5m. It's also easier to take care of watermelons compared to cucumbers."



Natural product

How do Belarusian products differ from others? They are grown without pesticides, herbicides and other harmful substances. All fertilisers are natural, so the produce is sweet.

"Imported watermelons have just 6-7 percent sugar, while ours boast 10 percent. You won't find tastier," said the head of the laboratory for technological research at the Vegetable Growing Institute Republican Unitary Enterprise, Mechislav Stepuro. "Rich watermelons don't like long journeys, so green under ripe watermelons are delivered to us and are given nitrates to maintain their appearance. Harmful watermelons have red flesh with a slightly violet tone and

their internal fibres are yellow rather than white. If you put a piece in a glass of water and water turns pink, the watermelon may have harmful chemicals in it. Many claim that our watermelons don't keep long. It's absurd!" explains the farmer. "If you put it into a dark cool place nothing will happen to it for 1-1.5 months."

Seagal tastes the exotic fruit

Steven Seagal has also tasted Belarusian watermelons, at the President's vegetable garden. Last year, the Hollywood star arrived in Belarus and visited the residence of Alexander Lukashenko. This was in late August when the stripy fruit were ripe. At the end of the dinner, Steven Sea-

Belarusian watermelons suit Hollywood star's tastes

gal was presented with two huge watermelons. After tasting them, he was full of praise for the weighty gift, saying it's not easy to find such sweet and rich watermelons in Hollywood.

This year, the Belarusian watermelons are only just beginning to appear in the markets, though they are now the top-selling fruit at Komarovka market in Minsk. According to scientists, watermelon ripening is delayed because of the cooler climate. Even early season varieties should lay in the field 80-90 days under our climatic conditions. It's no surprise that the first harvest is gathered by farmers in late August, while imported watermelons appear in the markets and shops in early summer.

Warm weather

Experiments with selection started in Belarus in the middle of the 20th century. However, the programme was quickly scrapped. "It's not profitable!" announced the authorities. In 2005, the experiment was revived. Scientists selected species and developed special technologies for our climate. The result exceeded all our expectations: 60 tonnes were harvested from one experimental hectare!

Three years ago, Alexander Lukashenko mentioned the high crop of sweet watermelons in his residence during his meeting with agrarians, "They are better than those from Astrakhan. It turns out that we're able to grow tasty watermelons. Our

scientists have done well. The most important thing is that watermelons grow despite sandy soil with stones. This is not somewhere in Polesie, but in the centre of the country. We will give each governor a watermelon to try so they are in no doubt that this is real."

The President was listened to and crops began to appear on Belarusian fields. "Watermelons and melons are heat-loving," explains Mr. Stepuro. "Previously they did not grow well in our country because of the climate. However, in recent decades the temperature on the Earth has been increasing. Summers become hotter and longer, with only this year being an exception. Do you remember how we were afraid to grow peppers, grapes and eggplants? Now, they can be seen near each house. The Agriculture and Food Ministry released the following figures: this year, around 50 hectares have been used for growing watermelons and melons. They are grown in eighty agricultural organisations and farms of the Brest, Grodno and Minsk regions."

They are no different from those grown in the south, being striped, large and shiny. The top selling variety is hybrids of the Dutch selection 'romanza' and 'top-gan'.

People can also grow watermelons on their own plots. The most important point is to cover the young plants to protect from frost, feed and weed them. "If the right approach is used, watermelons will grow even in the northern regions of Belarus, so it's silly to blame bad weather," believes the scientist.

Easily carrying one's own cups to coffee houses

Graduates of the Ecostart youth education centre, with support from the Centre for Environmental Solutions and the Green Network Society, have presented the *My Cup, Please!* project, promoting the use of re-usable cups for takeaway coffee

By Olga Savitskaya

By bringing your own cup each time you place your order, you may receive a small discount on your

beverage, at participating cafes. Natalia Blyshchik, from the Centre for Environmental Solutions, believes there should be no obstacles to the new trend. She explains,

"First, we prepared an official inquiry to sanitary services to clarify the legitimacy of customers' use of their own cups. Sanitary norms don't forbid this. Later, coffee



houses interested in environmental issues began to join our campaign."

Participating coffee houses

may be found on a special online map, developed by the creators of the project.



To the festival — to visit ancient town of Radimichi

The 11th-12th century era has been brought to life in the Chausy District, with the 4th ethno-cultural festival, *Visiting Radimichi*, held in Radomlya. The remains of the ancient citadel, discovered by archaeologists, gave rise to the theory that this place housed the capital of the ancient tribe.

By Diana Garaninova

An additional 25,000 Euros funding, received as prize money for winning a UNDP competition, has enabled the expansion of the open-air museum which hosted the holiday, recreating the 10th century half-dugouts, as well as an ancient temple of Slavonic idols, old stoves, fittings for a fire, an original loom and a pottery workshop. Medieval ‘freezers’ — pits with clay walls — were recreated by the leading research officer of the Grodno History and



Archaeology Museum and candidate of historical sciences, Natalia Pochobut.

The museum exhibition is brought to life at the festival of Radimichi, with

utensils made on the potter’s wheel and then burnt in a special stove. The famous pottery master from Glusk, Demian, has conducted six master classes with resi-



dents, teaching them to make clay jugs and little bowls. Meanwhile, Anna Senkovets from the neighbouring village Petukhovki can teach anyone who wishes to weave

flax linen on the 10th century loom.

Slavonic idols created by wood carvers give a special colour to the holiday: Svarog (blacksmith god), Dazhbog

(the god of fertility and the Sun), Perun (thunder-bearer), Veles (god of wisdom) and Makosh (goddess of fate and luck).

According to the curator of the project, Alesya Dalletskaya, the archaeological museum of Medieval times is the only one in Belarus.

The festival was organised as part of the local initiative, *Radomlya — the Ancient Town of Radimichi*. This is part of the project *Support to Local Development in the Republic of Belarus*, financed by the EU and realised by the UNDP.

Sand through the fingers

Minsk’s University of Culture Art Gallery hosts sand graphics exhibition, *Outside Time*, with 38 painters from Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania and Moldova presenting their works

By Yelizaveta Artsueva

At first, the exhibition slightly disappointed me, as the photos on the walls differed from my idea of ‘sand graphics’. However, sand is a material that changes and disappears with any movement, so illustrations created with the help of the sand can’t be moved. Therefore, only photos are available.

However, on walking through the gallery, my initial disappoint-

ment was replaced with delight. Each picture was unique and inimitable, being united only by their material. They all twisted into a single wonderful image — delicate and weightless. It seemed as if the whole thing was about to disappear, splitting into thousands of separate sand-grains.

I did also manage to see some ‘live’ sand. At the opening, the authors of the exhibition were creating pictures in front of the

spectators’ eyes. The movement of hands, depictions on the table, replacing each other — was true magic. For those wishing to try their hand as an artist, the organisers have installed several more tables filled with sand. Thus, each visitor to the exhibition could see the pictures while also trying one’s own hand at creating one.

“This is the first such exhibition in our gallery, and immediately has an international status,” noted the



Pictures on the sand

Director of the University of Culture Gallery, Pavel Sapotko. “We were very pleased to welcome it. I would like to congratulate the authors on a successful show.

The exhibition offered an intensive programme: with anima-

tion, special events for children, prizes, as well as an opportunity to create one’s own pictures. Meetings, lectures, master classes and classical evenings were offered for the visitors within the two-week period.



Caribbean islands left with trail of destruction

Hurricane Irma has caused catastrophic damage in several Caribbean islands, killing at least 27 people and leaving thousands homeless

Irma — one of the most powerful storms ever recorded in the Atlantic basin — swept across islands including St. Martin, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the British and US Virgin Islands. It has caused more than \$10bn (£7.6bn) in damage, disaster risk experts say.

Hurricane Irma first struck the dual-island nation of Antigua and Barbuda. A young child was killed. Prime Minister Gaston Browne

said 95 percent of buildings on Barbuda had been damaged, and the island was 'literally under water' and 'barely habitable'. About 50 percent of the Barbuda population was now homeless.

However, Antigua, with a population of 80,000, escaped major damage, with no loss of life.

The category five storm then pummelled St. Martin and Saint Barthélemy — popular holiday

destinations. The hurricane left 60 percent of homes of St. Martin, an island shared between France and the Netherlands, uninhabitable, with no electricity, gas or drinking water. Seven deaths were confirmed on the French part of the island, while four died in the Dutch area.

French Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said there had been 'massive destruction' to the islands.

The nearby British Overseas Territory of Anguilla also had extensive damage, with one person killed.

There was widespread damage reported on both island chains, with five dead in the British Virgin Islands and four killed in the US Virgin Islands.

Sharon Flax-Brutus, Director of Tourism for the British Virgin Islands (BVI), said the damage was difficult to assess.



Arena has re-opened for charity concert

The venue in Manchester where a suicide bomber struck in May, killing 22 people, re-opens on September 9th

Less than four months after the tragedy, which took place after an Ariana Grande concert, music was once again heard at Manchester Arena. Many of the attack victims were young girls; the youngest, Saffie Roussos, was just eight years old.

Parents who had come to pick

up their children after the show were also among those killed in the attack carried out by Salman Abedi. The venue re-opened with a benefit concert that aims to raise money for a charitable trust in charge of establishing a permanent memorial in the northern English city. The line-up for the concert, which was sold out, included Noel Gallagher, formerly of Oasis, one of the most successful bands to emerge from Manchester.

UN Aviation Agency to call for global drone registry

The United Nations' Aviation Agency is backing the creation of a single global drone registry, as part of broader efforts to come up with common rules for flying and tracking unmanned aircraft

While the International Civil Aviation Organisation cannot impose regulations on countries, ICAO has proposed formation of the registry during a Montreal symposium this month to make data accessible in real time, said Stephen Creamer, Director of ICAO's air navigation bureau. The single registry would eschew multiple databases in favour of a one-stop-shop that would allow law enforcement to remotely identify and track unmanned aircraft, along with their operator and owner. The initiative comes at a time when drone usage is soaring in the United States, Europe and China, raising privacy



concerns and fears of collisions with commercial jets. "You've got to have some commonality so that you're not carrying five receivers in your police car," Creamer said in an interview. It's not yet clear who would operate such a database, although ICAO could possibly fill that role. The proposal, however, could face push back from users.

Europe must not be scared of Turkey

German election candidate Martin Schulz has said the European Union must not fear Turkey as the politician stepped up his war of words with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan

In an interview the Social Democratic Party (SPD) leader said Erdogan could not afford to act upon his threats to scrap Turkey's migrant deal with the EU. Schulz said, "He won't risk breaking the deal on migrants. Without financial backing from Europe he couldn't handle the two million refugees in Turkey."

Signed in 2016, the migrant deal promised Turkey aid, visa-free travel for its nationals and accelerated EU membership talks in return for its help in reducing the flow of migrants crossing to Europe. Schulz said that the EU 'must not be scared'.

Trump speaks with leaders of Saudi Arabia, UAE and Qatar

US President Donald Trump spoke separately with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, United Arab Emirates Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan, and Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, the White House said in a statement

Trump told them that unity among Washington's Arab partners was essential to promoting regional stability and countering the threat of Iran, the statement said. "The president also emphasised that all countries must follow through on commitments from the Riyadh Summit to defeat terrorism, cut off funding for terrorist groups, and combat extremist ideology," it said. Trump also spoke to Qatar's al-Thani. Trump said that he would be willing to step in and mediate a dispute among the US-allied Arab states and Qatar.

Nigeria's Buhari urges calm after herdsmen kill 19 in Plateau state

Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari appealed for calm and an end to communal violence after police said armed herdsmen killed 19 people in the central state of Plateau

Local police said Fulani herdsmen attacked Ancha village last Friday. They said it was thought to be a reprisal attack after a boy from the herding community was killed. Police provided details of the attack, in which five people were injured.

Materials prepared with aid of information agencies

Walking through the gallery is like a trip back in time

Minsk through the works of Belarusian painters of various generations is presented at the exhibition, *City. Architecture. We*, dedicated to the 950th anniversary of the capital at the National Art Museum of Belarus

By Vladimir Mikhailov

The exhibition includes more than 90 pictorial, graphical and sculptural works from the collection of the National Art Museum, reflect-



ing the image of the city — ancient and modern, pre-war and post-war, ceremonial and routine. Visitors have a rare opportunity to see works by Belarusian painters from various generations, artistic traditions and styles in a single exhibition space; these have been created over a hundred years and represent Belarus in different ways.



In total, the show comprises around a hundred pictorial, graphical and sculptural works — all dedicated to the capital. A walk through the gallery is like a trip back in time: the city before the war and after it,

modern and old.

Yekaterina Izofatova, who heads the Modern Belarusian Art Department at the National Art Museum, notes, “We have opened the exhibition in a certain order, ena-

bling a greater number of people to see it. The solemn opening took place in late August and was dedicated to the presentation of a collection about Minsk which included around 400 works and 11 thematic sections, it enables us to see Minsk from its roots.”

The single exhibition space includes works by Belarusian painters from various generations, traditions and styles. When visitors become familiar with them they feel that Minsk is like a person — simultaneously close and distant. However, the most important thing is that it's our native city.

New project for jubilee

A new photo exhibition of the BELTA News Agency — both celebratory and nostalgic — has opened at the Galleria Minsk shopping and entertainment centre

By Irina Zavadskaya

Compare Minsk is a project by the Belarusian Telegraph Agency (BELTA), dedicated to the capital's jubilee, a documentary confirming that as the years pass, the city is becoming brighter, more colourful and welcoming. The presentation of the Internet version of this photo collection took place during the *Mass Media in Belarus* Exhibition in May, but only now has the project been completed. BELTA's

Director General, Dmitry Zhuk, hopes that the older generation of Minskites will share their emotions returning to the city of their childhood, while youngsters would like to discuss the photos amongst their circle of friends.

“Galleria Minsk attracts many young people and I believe our photos will make them stop and see how much hard work has been injected into this city.”

Almost a third of the exhibition is dedicated to Minsk during the

post-war years, in ruins and scaffolded, alien and almost unrecognisable for many. Meanwhile, modern shots, displayed nearby, help the viewer to orient themselves. Minsk Mayor, Andrey Shoretz, one of the first guests of the exhibition, was full of praise for the work of the BELTA young photo journalists who have found the exact angle of the restored streets and squares.

It's interesting to take a time trip to Minsk and see what it looked like before the war: over more than



a hundred years the crossing near the Kupala Theatre hasn't really changed. One may note that the feeling of space and light is the same even on bad days. The large

space of the Minsk Galleria shopping and entertainment centre is perfect for exhibitions such as this and BELTA's project is obviously not the last.

NaviBand from BelarusLand

NaviBand has sung at the Belarusian Football Cup finals, performed in the Serbian city of Belgrade and has become the face of Coca-Cola in Belarus...

By Lyudmila Minkevich

Even the musicians themselves didn't expect such popularity after the *Eurovision-2017* Song Contest. "We are the name on everyone's lips! We even decided not to give interviews for a couple of months so that the audience don't get bored," Artem Lukyanenko said during a telephone conversation. Their fans keep up the demand that their favourite artists perform on stage. Ksenia and Artem's feeds in social networks are full of comments such as, 'We're waiting for you in Brest! When will you perform in Gomel? Vitebsk is ready for you!'

After the *Slavianski Bazaar* Arts Festival, the group planned to take part in the *Basowiszczka Festival* in Bialystok, to perform at *Laima Rendez Vous Jūrmala Festival* in Jūrmala and a solo concert in Kiev, apart from any performances in Belarusian cities. Despite being ranked only 17th in the *Eurovision* finals, *NaviBand* sell out wherever they go. Undoubtedly, taking part in the European contest added to their popularity, but their listener's admiration is much more complex than this.

This year, everyone is singing 'Hey-hey-hayayayayo!' and their famous *Eurovision* song, *The Story of My Life*, has already had many cover versions in Belarus, the Czech Republic, the UK, Chile, Qatar and other states. Videos of these alternative versions cover the Internet.

"We are very pleased with the new versions of our songs that we



find on the Internet," admit the artistes. "Once we saw children at a school singing our *Story of My Life*. I can't describe our emotions. It's great that Belarusian language and culture have their natural place in our values through music."

One of the major goals of *NaviBand's* performances at *Eurovision* was to represent Belarus with authenticity and uniqueness. The slogan of the Belarusians in Kiev sounded like #NaviBand from #BelarusLand.

They explain their popularity simply, "Our uniqueness is in the atmosphere we create and in the opportunity to show modern Bela-

rusian culture to the world. We're free in our creativity. The harmony of Ksenia and Artem is apparent. However, it would hardly have been possible if they had been connected solely by music. They were 'harassed' enough by their fans until the mystery of their personal relationship was revealed by that tender kiss that has become one of the highlights of the *Eurovision* finals. The social networks responded to this with a romantic flash mob: Instagram was filled with hundreds of kisses with the hashtag #kissbelarus. "What happiness it is to understand that our country symbolises love," said the comments.



MT REFERENCE:

He comes from Glubokoe while she was born in Minsk. He is calm and sober-minded while she is a firework! They met on St. Valentine's Day in 2013. Ksenia arrived for a rehearsal where Artem was playing. She came up to him asking to touch his ringlets to make sure they were real. Lukyanenko appreciated her frankness and he suggested singing together. Although both were working on other musical projects at the time, *NaviBand* was born and now already has three albums.

Virtual trip through castles

The 15th-17th century castles of Krevo and Golshany can now be visited without leaving Minsk

By Vasily Kharitonov

"Our museum now offers a virtual trip through Krevo and Golshany castles. Using 3D glasses, one can move into the past and see these castles in the time they were at their most important and flourishing, approximately the 15-17th centuries. The digital reconstruction was created using historical data, consultations with archaeologists and scientists. Some inaccuracies may be present in the interior but great attention has been paid to

present accurate historical details," explains Oleg Ryzhkov, Director of the National History Museum of Belarus. Krevo Castle in virtual reality is presented primarily as a fortress while Golshany Castle allows the viewer to study its interior and to submerge themselves in the atmosphere of the time.

Near the glasses for these 3D trips into the past special screens are located where one can see both castles as they look now. "Our goal is to popularise these castles. This is our historical and cultural heritage. These ruins also have a special energy. In my opinion, it's necessary to preserve them and to create a new tourist project. Now not a single visitor walks by these glasses. People will go through our museum, attend a virtual excursion and are likely to want to visit both Krevo and Golshany castles," notes the Director of the museum.



The implementation of the project began several years ago and required difficult and time-consuming research to recreate the architectural details and interiors. Now, the author of the project is already thinking about how to continue it, so that in the future, virtual tours may also be made for other

Belarusian castles. The next plan includes the recreation of Bely Kovel Castle and the necessary information is already being collected.

The project is being realised by Minsk enthusiast Akhrem Belobrovik, with technical assistance from Samsung and in partnership with the National History Museum.

Agreement strengthens collaboration

National History Museum of Belarus and National Museum of History of Romania sign a memorandum on co-operation, with a formal signing ceremony taking place in Romania

"The memorandum of co-operation is the first agreement of the kind concluded between the museums of the two countries. The document envisages collaboration between the two parties in organising joint exhibitions, archaeological research and an exchange of experience," the embassy said.

Minister of Culture and National Identity of Romania, Lucian Romaşcanu, and Belarus' Ambassador Andrei Grinkevich, attended the event as special guests. They discussed further development of the Belarusian-Romanian cooperation in the area of culture.

Let's make exchange

Dinamo Minsk claims first victory in Kontinental Hockey League

By Alexey Grishin

The match in Nizhny Novgorod was played by Dinamo Minsk without Rob Klinkhammer. The previous game against Sochi was the last for the Canadian forward as part of the Belarusian club. By some quirk of fate in that match, the 'bisons' claimed their first victory of the current KHL season — 4:2. Klinkhammer, who earned 44 points last season and around whom Dinamo was going to build a new team, also did well in Sochi. He scored the third puck which turned out to be decisive, and five minutes later, assisted Justin Fontaine in delivering the fourth. The



Canadian hockey player will now be assisting Kazan Ak Bars. The management of the club have replaced Klinkhammer with defender Stefan Elliott and a fee of \$350,000. We may assume that the money earned was also spent on inviting the US Jack Skille, who is to occupy Klinkham-

mer's place in attack. At least, the exchange is ambiguous. Of course, Skille is a good hockey player and in previous years he did well in the NHL, playing for Chicago, Florida, Columbus, Colorado and Vancouver. He was also selected to take part in the AHL All-Star March and

his overseas statistics looked good. However, now the American (he played in Europe only during a lock out-for Norwegian Rosenborg) will have to face a difficult challenge: join the new team's game in a key position during the season of the unfamiliar Kontinental Hockey League.

Belarus' national junior football team draw with Czechs in qualification match

By Kirill Karin

Belarus' junior national football team (U-21) drew with the Czech Republic in the selection match of the 2019 UEFA European Under-21 Championship

The meeting took place in the small Czech town of Jablonec nad Nisou, with Belarusians missing a first goal in the 8th minute, scored by Václav Černý. The hosts were constantly in control of the game, had the greater possession and were constantly threatening Denis Shcherbitsky's net. However, in the third minute of extra time Shibun equalised to make the score — 1:1.

On September 1st, the junior national squad of Belarus was beaten by Poland in Borisov — 0:2. In early June, our team achieved a victory over San Marino in Minsk — 1:0.

After three matches in the selection cycle, the Belarusians are ranked second in Group 1 having four points across three games. Greece boasts 6 points earned across 2 games while Croatia has 3 points in one game. Moldova earned 3 points in three matches, the Czech Republic has 1 point in one played game and San Marino has no points across two games.

Liudas Rumbutis' trainees will play their next away match on October 5th, against Croatia.



During the match

Kabaeva enjoyed

By Semen Bondarev

Belarusian gymnasts earn silver at FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships

The 35th FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships finished in Italian of Pesaro and our team returned home with a silver medal, claimed by Yekaterina Galkina in the clubs exercise.

Despite the absence of any medals in both individual and team all-round competitions, there's no need to be despondent. Firstly, judicial subjectivity had its role to play; after new rules were introduced, corrections in the final standings were often made. Secondly, Galkina is the only athlete who has managed to 'force' her way between the new growing stars of Irina Viner: twin sisters Dina and Arina Averiny shared first and second places with each other in all areas of the programme, except for the exercise with clubs. Thirdly, our former junior Alina Gornosko made herself known at the adult level though she was left without a medal. In addition, we have still three years before the Olympiad in Tokyo, so we could correct any mistakes. Moreover, famous Alina Kabaeva enjoyed the performance



Yekaterina Galkina

of the national team of Belarus and she is preparing to come to Minsk to attend the opening of the Rhythmic Gymnastics Centre.

Minsk Mayor Andrey Shorets said that the Centre is to be commissioned on March 8th, 2018, and it will be a gift for our gymnasts, as well as a useful aid for preparation for the 2019 European Games.

Commenting on the performance of our athletes in Pesaro, Alina Kabaeva noted that she hadn't yet received an invitation to come to Belarus but, should an opportunity arise she is always ready to come. "I enjoyed Yekaterina's all-round programme. If it hadn't been for small errors she would have won a medal. Belarusians are good rivals and it's necessary to beware of you. Yekaterina was slightly out of luck but that's nothing to worry about."

Vasily Kiriyenko ranked third at Tour of Britain 2017 stage five

By Semen Bondarev

Vasily Kiriyenko of Belarus, a member of Team Sky, finished third in the Tour of Britain 2017 stage five's individual time trial

The Belarusian athlete completed 16.2km route in 19 minutes 9 seconds, behind Dutch Lotto NL-Jumbo Lars Boom (19 minutes 2 seconds) and just one second behind his Belgian team-mate Victor Campenaerts (19 minutes 8 seconds). The UCI Continental Minsk Cycling Team took part in the three-day Tour of Bulgaria. At the first stage Konstantin Klimenkov of Belarus was placed third behind Vitaly Buts from Ukraine's UCI Continental Kolss Cycling Team (his time is 5 hours 45 minutes 49 seconds) and his teammate Andrey Vasilyuk. The UCI Continental Minsk Cycling Team is currently ranked second after Ukraine's UCI Continental Kolss Cycling Team. The 2017 UCI Road World Championships are scheduled for September 17th-24th in Norwegian Bergen.

Victoria Degtyarenko of Belarus claims bronze medal at the Cadet World Championship

By Igor Svitov

Belarusian athlete Victoria Degtyarenko earns bronze at the Cadet World Championship in Athens

In the first match in the 65kg weight category, the Belarusian faced Estonian Marta Pajula and won by a fall. In the next fight, Victoria lost on points to Japanese Honoka Nakai — 2:4. In the match against Italian Elena Esposito, the Belarusian athlete was stronger and in the fight for the bronze medal Degtyarenko defeated her rival from Kazakhstan, Aina Temirtasova.

Honoka Nakai claimed gold, followed by US Alara Boyd. Previously, Alexander Pechurenko of Belarus earned bronze at the Cadet World Championship in Greco-Roman Wrestling.

Show of the week



Laser show at celebrations dedicated to Minsk's 950th anniversary

EXHIBITIONS

NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF BELARUS

20 Lenin Street
Until 19th September. *Marc Chagall: Colour of Love* Until 20th September. *Masters of Polish Drawing* Until 24th September. *Mikhail Blishch: Dedicated to 100th Anniversary of the Birth* Until 1st October. *City. Architecture. We* Until 10th December. *Treasures of Ancient Egypt*

NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

12 Karl Marx Street
Until 30th September. *Belarus: Revival of Spirituality* Until 1st October. *Life as a Reason*

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF BELARUS

116 Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 9th October. *Anatoly Dribas: My Minsk* Until 20th November. *Skaryna's Letters and Words*

YANKA KUPALA STATE LITERARY MUSEUM

4 Yanka Kupala Street
Until 27th September. *Smithy of Belarusian Spirit*

YAKUB KOLAS STATE LITERARY MUSEUM

5 Akademicheskaya Street
Until 30th September. *In Waves of Endless Movement: Along Kolas' Automobile Paths*

STATE MUSEUM OF HISTORY OF BELARUSIAN LITERATURE

13 Maxim Bogdanovich Street
Until 29th September. *The Land of Anatoly Kaplan's Places* Until 23rd September. *The Nation of the Books. Statute of 1588 and Black Letter Books* Until 1st October. *Lermontov in Moscow* Until 29th December. *Kandrat Krapiva: from Childhood to Maturity*

MUSEUM OF THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL CULTURE HISTORY

5 Muzykalny Lane
Until 23rd September. *Leaving Nature*

VANKOVICH HOUSE

33a Internatsionalnaya Street
Until 1st October. Exhibition of alternative photography by Victor Zhuravkov

VAN GOGH HOUSE

9 Zybetskaya Street
Until 1st October. *Vincent Van Gogh: Artist of Star Sky*

VLADISLAV GOLUBOK PARLOUR

14 Starovilenskaya Street
Until 17th September. *Minsk is 950*

CHELYUSKINTSEV PARK OF CULTURE AND REST

84/1 Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 30th June 2018. *Legacy of Belarus: Dedicated to Minsk's 950th Anniversary*

THEATRES

NATIONAL ACADEMIC BOLSHOI OPERA AND BALLET THEATRE

1 Parizhskoy Kommuny Street
14.09. The Magic Flute 15.09. Cinderella 17.09. Figaro's Wedding 18.09. The Nutcracker or One More Christmas Story... 19.09. Eugene Onegin 20.09. The Nutcracker or One More Christmas Story...; Nights with Serenade. From Classics to Modernity 21.09. The Flying Dutchman

BELARUSIAN STATE ACADEMIC MUSICAL THEATRE

44 Myasnikov Street
14.09. Jane Eyre 15.09. Mary Poppins 16.09. Buratino.by; Wedding in Malinovka 17.09. Red Riding Hood. Generation NEXT; Women's Revolt 19.09. True Story of Lieutenant Rzhevsky 20.09. Once in Chicago 21.09. Silva

YANKA KUPALA NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

7 Engels Street
14.09. School of Taxpayers 15.09. Not Mine 16.09. People of the Marshes 17.09. Evening 19.09. Two Souls 20.09. Jeweller's Jubilee

BELARUSIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

20 Engels Street
16.09. Red Riding Hood 17.09. Mysterious Hippopotamus 21.09. Mann ist mann

MAXIM GORKY NATIONAL ACADEMIC DRAMA THEATRE

5 Volodarsky Street
14.09. Testosterone 15.09. Lion in Winter 16.09. Tricks of Khanuma 17 and 21.09. Lady for a Day 19.09. The Twelfth Night 20.09. An Intimidated Apostle (Oracle)

THEATRE-STUDIO OF FILM ACTOR

13 Pobediteley Avenue
14.09. An Unnamed Star 15.09. Night of A.P. Chekhov's Miniatures 16.09. The Makropoulos Case 17, 19 and 20.09. #13 21.09. Even a Wise Man Stumbles

REPUBLICAN THEATRE OF BELARUSIAN ARMY

44 Kropotkin Street
19.09. Lift 20.09. Portrait 21.09. Doctor Raus' Career

MODERN ART THEATRE

5 Okiyabrskaya Street
16.09. House Upside Down

CHAMBER DRAMA THEATRE

5 Frunze Street
14.09. Veronika Decides to Die 20.09. Man as a Gift

MINSK CONCERT HALL

5 Okiyabrskaya Street
14.09. There's No Such Country as Holland