



Ilya Volkov will perform *Sing with Me* for Belarus at International Junior Eurovision-2013 Song Contest

Voice to take us to Kiev

Kiev will host the *Junior Eurovision* finals on November 30th, with Belarus represented by 11 year old Ilya Volkov, from Minsk

By Victoria Popova

The boy won the national selection round, held on October 4th at the Belarusian TV and Radio Company office. His *Sing with Me* song earned 18 points as a result of the audience and jury (headed by People's Artists Eduard Zaritsky) voting.

Contests are already a routine for Ilya, as he's already taken part in the Europe's Vocal Cup, coming second, and the *New Wave*, where he reached the semi-finals.

Last year, he brilliantly danced for the Belarusian *Junior Eurovision* contestant, Yegor Zheshko. In Amsterdam, contest experts drew special attention to our talented boy, and journalists even asked the Belarusian delegation members, "Where did you find such a wonderful boy?"

Valery Shmat heads the Golden Voices Studio which Ilya attends. He's never doubted that the boy would do so well, "Ilya studies at the I. Akhremchik Gymnasium-College of Arts, so vocal singing

is his profession. Moreover, he is extremely supple. Stability is his key feature. The boy is able to concentrate on the eve of a major performance to demonstrate all his skills. Ilya is truly talented."

The boy's mother, Natalia, is also a musician as well, graduating from the Conservatory. At the age of 24, she won the Grand Prix of the *Star Scattering* TV contest. The woman notes, "What more I can tell you about my son? He is artistic and able to set off a concert hall. Ilya boasts perfect pitch

and has a 'ten' grade in solfeggio at the Akhremchik school. He is an excellent pupil, and very obedient. We have a friendly family."

Ilya has no worries about his forthcoming Kiev performance. He asserts confidently, "We'll win over Ukraine as we all are friendly." We couldn't agree more. Ilya's song is quick-moving, the boy dances well and he is able to attract the audience's attention. Moreover, wonderful girls dance jointly with him. Let's wish them all luck!

Tufelki short film by Belarusian director may fight for Academy Awards Oscar

Director Konstantin Fam's *Tufelki (Shoes)* short film, dedicated to the Holocaust victims, has left behind the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences qualifying round

According to co-producer of the project from the Belarusian side Yuri Igrusha this is an unprecedented event in the history of the Belarusian film-making industry. The long list of short films will be unveiled in mid-January 2014; after that, only five contenders will enter the final. The Academy Awards ceremony will be held in Los Angeles as usual, with the solemn ceremony scheduled for March 2nd.

"The Academy imposes strict requirements on the selection of films, which includes a qualification, a long list, a short list and a nomination. To make it through the qualification is a great victory in itself. We've gone through a very difficult procedure connected with the fulfilment of technical requirements and qualifying distribution



Shot from *Tufelki* short-length film

of films in the USA, which was held in the famous international cinema chain Landmark, and submitted our application just before the deadline, on October 1st," said co-producer of the project from the American side Igor Lopatenok.

The film *Tufelki* uses an unusual cinema language as viewers can see only the characters' legs. Director Konstantin Fam tells us the story of a pair of women's shoes which begins on the shop window and ends

in the grave of the Auschwitz prisoners. The director explains such way of interaction with viewers only by ideological reasons.

The picture contains no dialogues at all and the entire movie is accompanied by symphonic music written by Moscow Conservatory graduate Yegor Romanenko. The young composer had a difficult task of creating such musical atmosphere that would make dialogues unnecessary.

Bridge between past and present

By Anna Ilyasheva

National History Museum hosts exhibition of works by German photo artist, Helga Paris

The exposition of photos, all taken between 1968 and 1996, portrays everyday life in post-war Eastern Germany. The exhibition features 133 black-and-white photos from different series: *The Berlin of 1974-1982*, *Russian Veterans of World War II*, *Transylvania*, *Garbage Collectors*, *Berlin Youth*, *Female Textile Mill Workers*, and others. The idea for the exhibition came from Germany's Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations (IFA). It opened first in Leipzig, and afterwards it began its world tour.

"This exhibition is a bridge between the past and the present. Helga Paris spent her childhood in the town, in which the largest Wehrmacht department was located. Later, the Soviet Army built their headquarters there. All these factors influenced her works," notes curator of the exhibition, Inka Schube.

The photographer, who started as an amateur, is interested in everyday, sometimes commonplace moments of life, in groups and alone with oneself; poses, glances, gestures, movements and tactual sensations. In the photos you can see Paris herself, as well as her friends, children, neighbours, acquaintances and people who were just passing by.

'Eternal' topic revealed in exposition

Towards Infinity exhibition, by Belarusian painter, Grigor Danelyan, opens in Riga

This exhibition showcases 10 pictures, created in the spirit of cosmism. These are works, created within the last eight years which reflect the artist's achievements during the contemporary stage of his creative development.

"I'm very pleased that the premiere of the new cycle took place in Riga — a city that I love greatly. This is the second collection of my pictures, entitled *Towards Infinity*, and this completely reflects the spirit, mood and philosophy of my works, as well as the feelings which I experienced when creating them. This exhibition is also special to me, since it's the 40th personal exhibition in my career," notes Mr. Danelyan.

The exposition was also attended by the Belarusian Ambassador to Latvia, Alexander Gerasimenko, alongside representatives of the artistic community and diplomats.

Since the 1980s, Danelyan's creativity has been primarily characterised by the reflection of light in his paintings as a symbol of the vitality and spirituality of the Universe. The author is working on the problems of the materialisation of spiritual energy on the canvas and the reflection of the mysterious. At present, the painter lives and works in Belarus. Dozens of his personal exhibitions have been held in Georgia, Belarus, Russia, Italy, France and other countries.