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<p>Search</p> <p>Newsletter Your email :</p> <p>Submit</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><a href="#">Back</a></p> <p>Tchaikovsky in Luxury</p> <p>Washington D.C. Kennedy Center Concert Hall 06/12/2008 - and June 14, 16</p> <p><b>Peter Illyich Tchaikovsky: Eugene Onegin</b> Sergei Leiferkus (Eugene Onegin), Irina Mataeva (Tatiana), Daniil Shtoda (Vladimir Lensky), Irina Tchistiakova (Madame Larina), Ekaterina Semenchuk (Olga), Mzia Nioradze (Filipyevna), Gustav Andreassen (Prince Gremin), Nathan Herfindahl (Captain), Grigory Soloviev (Zaretsky), Robert Baker (Monsieur Triquet) The Washington Chorus, Julian Wachner (Music Director Designate), National Symphony Orchestra, Leonard Slatkin (Music Director)</p>  <p>Leonard Slatkin (© National Symphony Orchestra)</p>
	<p>All of the roles, in fact, were filled by voices of the finest caliber. Basses Nathan Herfindahl as the Captain and Grigory Soloviev as Zaretsky were both vocally impressive in their brief but notable appearances. This was also true of mezzo Irina Tchistjakova as Madame Larina, whose plummy, luscious sound was especially effective in the quartet that opens Act I. It was indeed an evening of luxury casting. Nothing, however, was as luxurious as the casting of Georgian mezzo Mzia Nioradze as Filipyevna. My jaw dropped to the floor when she started singing. Her voice is divine, as is her stage presence. How in heaven's name can this singer, who is an internationally famous Carmen, Amneris, Eboli, Azucena, Laura, Marina, Konchakova, etcetera, etcetera, with credits ranging from the NY Metropolitan Opera to St. Petersburg's Mariinsky be cast as Tatiana's nanny??? What an indulgence. Filipyevna is usually cast with a crackly-voiced, character contralto. Every meager line Ms. Nioradze sang was of extraordinary beauty. I hope the NSO will have her return in something major, like Verdi's <i>Requiem</i>.</p>

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