

Straight to the Pointe

"Let us read, and let us dance; these two amusements will never do any harm to the world." -Voltaire

One Year After Acid Attack Bolshoi Ballet Director Returns to NYC

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Officials from the [Youth America Grand Prix](#) have just announced the exciting news that Bolshoi Ballet director Sergei Filin will be acting as an Honorary Chair for the prestigious competition.



Sergei Filin, photo credit: The Globe and Mail

Mr. Filin is scheduled to attend several performances celebrating the 15th anniversary of the biggest competition in the ballet community, the winners of which receive prestigious scholarships to the world's top dance schools (the Youth American Grand Prix received further recognition after the release of the documentary film [First Position](#), which focuses on several of the competition's participants).

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A year ago the ballet world shook when Mr. Filin was attacked by a former dancer in his company, Pavel V. Dmitrichenko, leaving him disfigured and partially blind. Mr. Dmitrichenko has been sentenced with 6 years in prison; his two accomplices receiving 4 and 10 years. Since the attack Mr. Filin has undergone 23 extensive plastic surgery and eye surgery operations in both Germany and Russia. A YAGP spokeswoman said that Mr. Filin's sight in one eye would suffice for him to fulfill his duties as judge.

Mr. Filin is expected to make a curtain call at the program's April 10th gala at the David H. Koch Theater, as well as hosting a pre-show question and answer event April 11th.



Sergei Filin before the attack and several months after it, photo credit: Otago Daily Times