



MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION



GOVERNMENT
OF THE PRIMORSKY KRAI

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PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL

Programme to promote the art
of the theatre in the Russian Far East

VLADIVOSTOK 2026

**September
24, 25,
October 9**

**Primorsky Regional Drama
Youth Theater**



HOW VOLCANOES DIE

**Primorsky Regional Drama Youth Theater
and Pacific International Theatre Festival**

HOW VOLCANOES DIE

Based on Uncle Vanya by Anton Chekhov

**Primorsky Regional Drama Youth Theater
and Pacific International Theatre Festival**

Director – **ADA LUANA (Brazil)**

Adaptation – **Ada Luana (Brazil)**

Assistant Director – **Glauber Gonçalves de Abreu (Brazil)**

Movement Director – **Márcia Duarte (Brazil)**

Set Designer – **Petr Okunev**

Lighting Designer – **Sergey Silko**

Assistant Director – **Mikhail Rakov**

Sound and Video –

Daniil Vilchinsky, Nikita Novikov

The project is clear evidence of ongoing international cultural exchange. For Ada Luana, who previously brought her Chekhov-based play *To Moscow! Palimpsest* to the 2023 festival edition, staging the production based on *Uncle Vanya* is the logical next step in her journey through Russian drama.

“I asked myself: am I confident in my aspiration to stage Chekhov in Russia with Russian actors?” the director says. “But I believe it’s possible to modernize and update a play for a younger audience. Cultural exchange is the most productive dialogue; that’s how interesting works are born.”

One hundred and thirty-six years ago, Chekhov crossed Russia to reach Sakhalin Island – a journey that transformed his vision of the world. Today, in an attempt to hear Chekhov anew, Brazilian director and dramaturg Ada Luana has travelled to Vladivostok. Her interpretation of Uncle Vanya is an extension of relentless self-reflection: what a human being is ready to put up with, simply to be left in peace.”

For Ada Luana, an expert on Stanislavsky’s system and a researcher of drama, Chekhov turned out to be a prophet.

“We have arrived in the future that Chekhov imagined. We are still here. And perhaps we are not so different from his contemporaries: cold, desensitized, numb, incapable of action, lonely – we go with the flow while forests disappear and violence becomes an accepted norm,” the director shares her thoughts.

Together with the company of the Primorsky Regional Youth Theatre, the director used the method of active analysis, selected two casts, and is now creating a production where classic elements fuse into the contemporary. The story of people ‘going with the flow’, as interpreted by Ada Luana, is full of hope: it is the story of the warmth that still survives within each of us, waiting to rouse us from slumber.

A production based on Uncle Vanya through the eyes of Brazilian theater practice is an unexpected and poignant conversation about whether peace and quiet is worth desiring and what will happen if the volcano does not die, but finally awakens.

The project is a prime example of the Pacific Festival’s efforts to develop theater in the region and foster professional exchange between Russia and the BRICS countries. In Primorye, the government places particular emphasis on culture, providing significant support to the festival.



ADA LUANA

Brazilian theatre director, playwright, actress, and researcher. She holds a Ph.D. in Performing Arts from the University of Brasília (UnB) and a Master's degree in Theatre Studies from Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris III (France).

Since 2016, she has served as Artistic director of the theatre company *Setor de Áreas Isoladas*, where she has been developing a trilogy inspired by the works of Anton Chekhov from a contemporary female and feminist perspective. The first production, *To Moscow! A Palimpsest* (2017), has been presented at major international festivals, including the Chekhov International Theatre Festival (Moscow and Yekaterinburg), the International Pacific Theatre Festival (Vladivostok), and the On Women Festival (New York). Her second production, *Jupiter and the Seagull. It Is Impossible to Live Without Theatre!* (2024), premiered at the Alexandrinsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg and was later presented at the Curitiba Theatre Festival in Brazil.

As an actress, she has collaborated with renowned Brazilian directors such as Antônio Abujamra and Hugo Rodas, while also pursuing international artistic training at institutions including Sorbonne Nouvelle, the Stella Adler Studio of Acting, and SITI Company under the direction of Anne Bogart.

In 2026, she is creating a new adaptation of *Uncle Vanya* in collaboration with the Primorsky Youth Theatre in Vladivostok, to premiere at the Pacific International Theatre Festival.



PRIMORSKY REGIONAL DRAMA YOUTH THEATER

The Primorsky Regional Young Spectators' Theater was founded on 13 June 1946. Since 2000, it has been known under its present name.

A succession of artistic directors, Honored Workers of Arts, made significant contributions to the theater's development: Igor Liozin from 1959 to 1975, Leonid Anisimov from 1992 to 1999, and Vladimir Galkin from 1999 to 2014. Currently Honored Worker of Culture of the Russian Federation Igor Seleznev holds the position of artistic director.

The Primorsky Regional Drama Youth Theater is particularly proud of its acting traditions and its thoughtful, profound approach to classical drama. The theater's signature early work was its first production, *How the Steel Was Tempered*, premiered on 31 December 1946. Today, the Primorsky Youth Theatre combines traditional approaches with innovative solutions: both classical productions and experimental formats are popular with audiences.



The International Pacific Theatre Festival is one of the central events in a large-scale Theatre Development Program in the Russian Far East. The project, initiated by the Theatre of Nations, headed by Yevgeny Mironov, was supported by the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin.

The festival is programmed by the team of the Chekhov International Theatre Festival, which has long experience in creating landmark theatrical events.

The main goal of the Festival is to erase barriers and present prominent theatre productions from the countries of the Pacific region and around the world to residents of the Russian Far East. It is a space for cultural dialogue, where performances are complemented by a rich educational program: lectures, discussions, and meetings with the artists.

This year, the Festival takes an important step forward, continuing the tradition of the Chekhov International Theatre Festival and embracing the practice of creating international co-productions. For the first time in the history of the Pacific Festival, a production of *How Volcanoes Die* is being created in collaboration with international partners. Its premiere will mark the beginning of a new stage in the Festival's creative development, expanding opportunities for international theatrical collaboration and the creation of new artistic projects in Primorsky Territory.



**T H E A T R E
O F N A T I O N S**

artistic director of the theatre national
artist of Russia **Evgeny Mironov**

O R G A N I Z E R S

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