



Experience the magic of merging cultures through the music of Duo Balalaika!

When this Siberian balalaika virtuoso (Oleg Kruglyakov) met this American concert pianist (Terry Boyarsky) in 2007, the duo discovered that weaving the music of their different cultures created more than the sum of their cultures. It created a one-world music for diverse audiences. It created experiences of communally uplifting music.

“Audiences love this rare combination of piano, voice, and balalaika; it fills the air with music that touches our hearts, and lifts our souls.”

Listeners experience a musical journey of connection with Duo Balalaika performances – via concerts, intimate performances, festivals, private parties, corporate events, and creative collaborations we can create together to attract, and enrich your audiences.

And our success in delivering impactful arts-educational workshops like school residencies, and assemblies, is evidenced by our top qualifications as members of Arts-in-Education rosters across the U.S. We have trained and been awarded certification of the highest levels, in arts integration, inclusivity for diverse populations, seniors, and more.

Experience a one-world community through music. Let the collaboration begin!

Robert Spano, Music Director, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra writes, “With music of élan, finesse and passion so virtuosically rendered, this duo’s performances are irresistible.”

OUR MUSIC - Our music merges multiple cultures through a rare combination of instruments—balalaika, piano, and voice, across continents, across time, and composers. Audiences are introduced to classic compositions, virtuoso variations, toe-tapping, and get up and dance music. Our repertoires include original arrangements that meld music from diverse environments for a new take on musical intersections. Think film scores to Tango, Bluegrass to Gypsy music, Ragtime to romances. **Every season offers new programming, discoveries of merging music from around the world.**

“We were able to offer our audiences this rare combination of musical sounds, piano and balalaika. Audience spirits were high, and their applause clearly showed great appreciation.”
— Concert presenter, M. Zuckerburg, NY

HISTORY - Duo Balalaika holds the distinction as the only touring balalaika-piano duo performing in North America – from Canada to Florida, Minnesota to Texas, and from Massachusetts to Oregon. In 2017, they were invited to perform in Kirov, Russia.

Since 2007, whether in concert, or selected to showcase performances and educational venues, Duo Balalaika occupies a position of expertise and experience that delivers successful outcomes and delightful surprise for presenters, educators, and audiences across the board. Duo Balalaika was selected to showcase at the [Chamber Music America](#) National Conference in N.Y.C., at the Ohio Arts Professionals Network and Pennsylvania Presenters, and has continued to be featured on the Ohio Arts Council, Ohio Teaching Artists Roster.

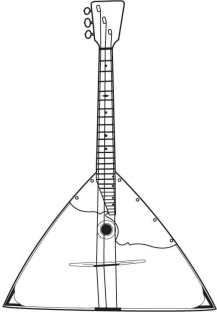
“Explosive talent ... see these dazzling musicians in action” - The Hartford Advocate



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Artist Biographies

Oleg Kruglyakov, balalaika, was born in Omsk City, Siberia, Russia in 1966. Many of his early experiences growing up centered around singing together with family members. He has a keen ear for musical styles and a deep respect for cultural tradition. He is fascinated by the history of the Russian people and well-versed in the etymology of the Russian language.

Oleg began playing the balalaika at age 7 and later was educated at the renowned Ekaterinburg Conservatory, studying conducting as well as teaching balalaika. He is a protégé of Yevgeny Grigorovich Blinov, the foremost balalaika virtuoso of the Soviet Union, who performed the world over and added many beautiful pieces of music to the balalaika-piano duo repertoire. While in conservatory Oleg had the opportunity to perform with many types of ensembles, including an ethnic music singing group.

Oleg has performed as balalaika soloist with many Folk Russian groups. From 1989-91 he toured Moscow, St. Petersburg, Siberia and Ukraine with the Urals State Folk Choir. For three years Oleg played with the band "Siberian Mosaic" touring the Irkutsk region of Siberia. Between 1993 and 1998, he traveled with the Urals Folk Ensemble "Prikamie" performing in France, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Malta and Turkmenistan. Oleg has also appeared with the Russian Folk instrument quartet "Golden Russia." He has participated in many International Festivals, among them the 1997 Folklore du Monde Festival de Bray-Dunes. He had the honor of performing at the United Nations when he came to the US.

In addition to his many talents, Oleg has also participated in theatre productions. He took the role of a cello-playing prisoner in the State Tumen Drama Theatre. He had a cameo appearance performing in Chekhov's "Three Sisters" with the Chagrin Falls Performing Arts Academy, coaching the cast in Russian folk songs and choreography. Oleg moved to the United States in 1998 to become part of "Moscow Nights" touring extensively in Canada, Alaska and 45 states in the Continental United States.

Oleg has been commissioned to create arrangements and compose music for Kulture Kids theater productions as well as Kevin Kammeraad/Cooperfly Puppets' new album and video. In March 2016, he was invited to perform at Otterbein University "Guitar and its Fretted Friends" Festival. Oleg was invited to perform at the "2016 International Day of the Balalaika" in Yekaterinburg, Russia and participated again in 2017. He had a spotlight role in the Akron Symphony Orchestra's educational concerts. In December 2020, Oleg served on the Jury for the Russian folk instrument competition "String Extravaganza" hosted by the Republican Music College of Izhevsk, Russia. Oleg has four albums to his credit: one with his ensemble in Russia, one with "Moscow Nights," two with "Russian Duo" and is featured in the 5th edition of "World Music - A Global Journey" (Miller & Shahriari). He is a skilled audio and video editor and is available for balalaika lessons in person and on Skype.



Terry Boyarsky, pianist, is a movement specialist, singer and ethnomusicologist who believes that every person is musical. Her search for musical collaboration led her into chamber music, choral singing, folk dance, coaching, accompanying dance and creating ceremony. She has collaborated with singers and dancers across the four continents.

Terry holds a BA in psychology from Reed College, a BM in Eurhythmics from Cleveland Institute of Music, and an MA in Ethnomusicology from Kent State University. Her piano teachers include Fred Rothchild, Rebecca Penneys, Jeaneane Dowis, James Tannenbaum, and coaching with Vitya Vronsky Babin. She has training from the Dalcroze School in New York City, two levels of Orff Schulwerk, and was one of sixteen Ohio artists selected to participate in the Kennedy Center for the Arts Seminars “Artists as Educators” from 2004 - 2007. She is certified by the National Center for Creative Aging and has been in “Who’s Who” since 2000.

Terry has taught and created events for institutions such as the Dalcroze Society of America, American Orff-Schulwerk Society, Society for Ethnomusicology, Cleveland Institute of Music, Los Hippocampitos (Carrizal, Venezuela), University of Hawaii, Rowe Center (Massachusetts), Kasetsat University (Bangkok, Thailand), Bard College Conservatory of Music, and Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

Terry was a Teaching Artist for almost two decades with the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning. She was in the first group of artists selected for the Kennedy Center’s Ohio State-Based Collaborative Initiatives. Currently, she is on the [Ohio Teaching Artist Roster](#). She has published articles in the Orff Echo, American Dalcroze Journal, Seminars in Neurology, and Teaching Artist Journal. She presents workshops on arts integration, and Dalcroze Eurhythmics nationally. She has taught children, disadvantaged youth, amateur adults, learning disabled, refugees, educators, and conservatory students around the world. She sings with the Cleveland Orchestra Blossom Festival Chorus and Choral Arts Cleveland. Her solo piano program “Classical Expressions of the Folk Tradition” has been received with great acclaim.

In 2022 Terry received 12 hours of expert-led training from Lifetime Arts, the national leader in creative aging program development, as part of the Ohio Arts Council's *Ohio Intensive Creative Aging Training Initiative* to offer skills-based, sequential, and experiential arts activities for older adults.

Terry has taught at the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival in Tampa, Florida since 2019. Currently she teaches a course in Russian Song for Case Western Reserve University - a theoretical and practical ethnomusicological journey. She has been performing with Siberian balalaika virtuoso Oleg Kruglyakov as “Russian Duo” since 2007.

terryboyarsky.wordpress.com