

**TIMING:** 38:00

**BALLET IMPERIAL**

Classical Ballet in Three Movements

**Choreography by** George Balanchine

**Staged by** Colleen Neary

**Music by** Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky  
(Concerto No. 2 in G for Piano and Orchestra, Op. 44)

**Scenery and costumes by** Rouben Ter-Arutunian

**Lighting by** Jennifer Tipton

George Balanchine's *Ballet Imperial*, like his *Theme and Variations*, evokes the era of czarist Russia's Imperial Ballet with its grandeur and elegance.

A classical ballet in three movements, *Ballet Imperial*, with scenery and costumes by Mstislav Doboujinsky, received its World Premiere by American Ballet Caravan at the Hunter College Playhouse, New York on May 27, 1941, danced by Marie-Jeanne, Gisella Caccialanza, and William Dollar. It entered the repertory of New York City Ballet, with scenery and costumes by Rouben Ter-Arutunian, in 1964, danced by Suzanne Farrell, Patricia Neary, and Jacques d'Amboise.

*Ballet Imperial* was restaged by New York City Ballet under the title *Piano Concerto No. 2* and received its first performance with that name on January 12, 1973, danced by Patricia McBride, Colleen Neary, and Peter Martins.

*Ballet Imperial* received its American Ballet Theatre Company Premiere on February 10, 1988 at the Auditorium Theatre, Chicago, Illinois, danced by Susan Jaffe, Ross Stretton, and Amanda McKerrow.

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