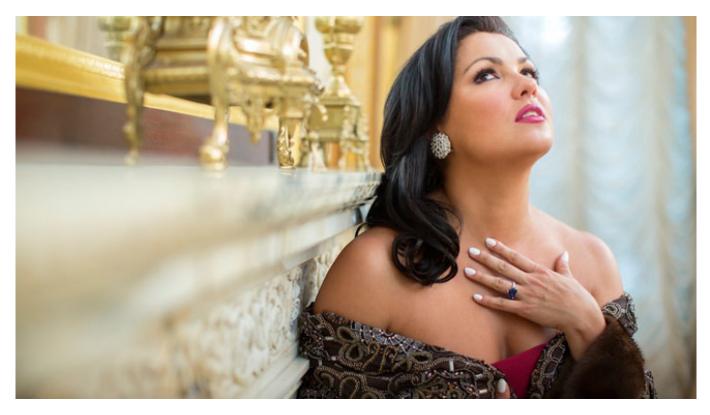# Opera Star Anna Netrebko in Hospital With Coronavirus

By [AFP](#)

September 17, 2020

Netrebko, who is in the hospital with coronavirus, had posted a photoset on Instagram, writing "I had two choices-1-to continue to stay at home and be afraid of getting infected, or -2 to start working, traveling, and performing at the risk of getting sick. I unconditionally chose 2 and do not regret anything."

Russian opera star Anna Netrebko said on Thursday she had contracted coronavirus and was in hospital with pneumonia after performing at the Bolshoi Theater's post-lockdown opening show.

The singer's illness comes as two top Russian theatres have suffered outbreaks of the virus shortly after reopening, raising fears over the safety of performers.

The 48-year-old soprano wrote on Instagram: "I've been in hospital for five days already with Covid pneumonia and will soon start recovering.

"I came to hospital in time and they're helping me. Everything will be alright, the devil is not

so black as he's painted," she added.

Related article: [Coronavirus Hits Moscow's Bolshoi Theater](#)

She said that her husband, Azerbaijani tenor Yusif Eyvazov, had tested positive for antibodies to the virus, showing he had been infected earlier. He is currently performing in "Queen of Spades" at the Bolshoi.

Netrebko performed on September 6 and 8 in "Don Carlos" at the Bolshoi, the legendary theatre's opening show after lockdown.

The Bolshoi had to cancel the third performance of the Verdi opera, set for Sep 10, after Russian bass Ildar Abdrazakov tested positive for coronavirus.

Netrebko's manager Maxim Berin told The New York Times that she had been unwell since September 9 but was now feeling better.

The news that Netrebko also caught the virus comes as the Bolshoi has mounted an ambitious new season including performances of Tchaikovsky's ballet "Swan Lake" later this month.

It has put social distancing measures in place for the audience including compulsory wearing of masks and spaced-out seating.

The Mariinsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg in mid-August suffered an outbreak of coronavirus affecting around 30 performers, most of them ballet dancers, with three people hospitalised, a city public health official told the state TASS news agency.

The theatre said it was cutting ballet dancers' rehearsal times as a preventative measure. It also had to postpone several ballet performances.

The Mariinsky Theatre, known as the Kirov Theatre in the Soviet era, held the first post-lockdown staging in its historic building on August 1.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/09/17/opera-star-anna-netrebko-in-hospital-with-coronavirus-a71475