

*Swan Lake* is a [ballet](#), *op.* 20, by [Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky](#), composed 1875–1876. The scenario, initially in four acts, by [Vladimir Begichev](#) and [Vasiliy Geltser](#) was fashioned from Russian folk tales<sup>[1]</sup> as well as an ancient German legend. It tells the story of [Odette](#), a princess turned into a swan by an evil sorcerer's curse. The choreographer of the original production was [Julius Reisinger](#). The ballet received its premiere on February 20, 1877,<sup>[2][3]</sup> at the [Bolshoi Theatre](#) in [Moscow](#) as *The Lake of the Swans*. Although it is presented in many different versions, most [ballet companies](#) base their stagings both choreographically and musically on the [1895 revival](#) of [Marius Petipa](#) and [Lev Ivanov](#), first staged for the [Imperial Ballet](#) on January 15, 1895, at the [Mariinsky Theatre](#) in [St. Petersburg, Russia](#). For this revival, Tchaikovsky's score was revised<sup>[*clarification needed*]</sup> by the St. Petersburg Imperial Theatre's chief conductor and composer [Riccardo Drigo](#).