

ROMEO and Juliet – ROMEO I ZHULIETTA

USSR, 1954/55

CREDITS

Director	Lev Arnshtam
Script	Bühnenaufzeichnung nach William Shakespeares Stück "Romeo und Julia"
Choreography	Leonid Lavrovsky
Production	Mosfilm
Director of Photography	Yu Lan Chen, Aleksandr Shelenkov
Set Design	Aleksei Parkhomenko
Music	Sergej Prokofjew
Principal Cast	Galina Ulanova, Juri Zhdanov, I. Olenina, Aleksandr Radunsky, Sergej Koren, u.a
Length	93 Min./ 24 fps



The historic performance, an adaptation of the timeless Shakespeare story, is a version of Prokofiev's ballet specially choreographed and staged for filming by the famous Leonid Lavrovsky. It is presented by the Bolshoi Ballet. The world legendary dancers Galina Ulanova, the leading ballerina at the Bolshoi Theater for nearly two decades after World War II, and Yuri Zhdanov essay the title roles for an unforgettable ballet experience.

'She is the genius of Russian ballet, its elusive soul, its inspired poetry. Ulanova imparts to her interpretation of classical roles a depth of expression unheard of in twentieth century ballet...'
Sergei Prokofiev

Sergei Prokofiev's music is one of the most beautiful musical adaptations. From romantic tenderness over juvenile hilarity up to profound tragedy - the music mirrors the diverse spirits of the plot.

At the 'Festival du Film' in Cannes this film was awarded with the 'Prix du film lyrique' (1955).

PLOT SUMMARY

The story of Shakespeare's tragic tale is about two young lovers and their warring families. The Montagues and Capulets, two families of Renaissance Italy, have hated each other for years, but the son of one family and the daughter of the other fall desperately in love...

INSTRUMENTATION

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