

Moscow Nights & the Ukrainian Dancers (Radost)

Moscow Nights, an ensemble of talented Russian folk musicians, tours with the **Radost**, Ukrainian dancers from the Dnipropetrovsk region of Ukraine. Embarking upon a touring season across the United States and performing in venues as diverse as evening concerts, arts councils, festivals, and school shows, **Radost** and **Moscow Nights** are receiving rave reviews from across the country.

Led by **Vitaliy Bezrodnov** on Bayan Accordion, the Moscow Nights was initially formed under his direction in Kaluga, Russia in the late 1980's where Mr. Bezrodnov attended Kaluga Music Conservatory. After completing his conservatory studies, he successfully reorganized the group in the United States in 1996.

Initially touring the Western states and the Hawaiian Islands, the Moscow Nights met with great acclaim due to their considerable talents and natural exuberance. Their venues have been as varied as First Night New Year's Eve Celebrations to the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. They also initiated a charity program entitled *Music in Mission* and *Rotary Children's Fund* that raises money for the orphans of Russia.

Led by Tatyana and Dmitry Vasilyev, The 40-piece Ukrainian Dance Ensemble **Radost** was created in 1949, and they will be celebrating their 70th anniversary during the 2019-20 season. The ensemble has toured throughout Ukraine, Russia, Moldova, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Poland, Spain, France, Canary Islands, Romania, and Bulgaria.

The company has received multitudes of prizes and awards. Two of the most prestigious are the Bukovina Folk Dance Festival in Chernovtsy and the Marine Fantasy International Festival in Kiten, Bulgaria.