FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SACRED STAGE: THE MARIINSKY THEATER
A LOVE LETTER TO A RUSSIAN THEATER
ON DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE

Los Angeles, CA – November 26, 2018 – Scientology Network's DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE, the weekly series providing a platform for Independent filmmakers to air films on important social, cultural and environmental issues, presents *Sacred Stage: The Mariinsky Theater,* a glorious celebration of a majestic dance and concert theater that survived the collapse of the Soviet Union, debuting November 30, 2018.

DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE premieres Fridays at 8 p.m. ET/PT on Scientology Network.

Director Joshua Waletzky explores the Mariinsky Theater, which since 1860 has been home to some of mankind's finest creations in music and dance for more than a century. Waletzkty takes viewers inside one of the premier artistic venues in the world.

The theater survived the Soviet Revolution and the Siege of Leningrad during the first half of the 20th century, but its future was left in doubt after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. One man reestablished the theater's reputation, and it now again attracts the world's finest ballet and opera companies, as well as arts patrons from around the world.

The story of this grand performance center, the drive to keep it alive and its splendid, jaw-dropping performances were captured by Waletzky in this film produced by entertainment veteran Lisa Kirk Colburn and narrated by award-winning actor Richard Thomas—best known for his roles in the TV series *The Waltons* and *The Americans.*

LISA KIRK COLBURN
A veteran writer and producer, Colburn has served on the Board of Trustees for the National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts, working in

conjunction with the Sundance Theatre Lab and the Utah Shakespeare Festival.

Colburn was appointed by the President of the United States to serve on the Presidential Advisory Committee on the Arts and has served on the Metropolitan Opera's Advisory Board, the Henry Mancini Institute and the Los Angeles Opera. She is a member of the Board of Directors for the International Documentary Association. *Sacred Stage: The Mariinsky Theater,* premiered at the Kennedy Center and Lincoln Center in New York, and is the first feature documentary she has produced.

Colburn's film captured not just the history of the theater, its restoration and salvation, but amazing performances, including the ballet of *Sleeping Beauty* by a Russian-based company, making its debut on film.

ABOUT DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE

Fundamental to Scientology is a humanitarian mission that extends to some 200 nations with programs for human rights, human decency, literacy, morality, drug prevention and disaster relief. For this reason, the Scientology Network provides a platform for Independent filmmakers who embrace a vision of building a better world.

DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE debuts films weekly from award-winning Independent filmmakers whose goal is to improve society by raising awareness of social, cultural and environmental issues.

For more information, visit **scientology.tv/docs**.

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The Scientology Network debuted on March 12, 2018. Since launching, the Scientology Network has been viewed in 237 countries and territories worldwide in 17 languages. Satisfying the curiosity of people about Scientology, the network takes viewers across six continents, spotlighting the everyday lives of Scientologists; showing the Church as a global organization; and presenting its social betterment programs that have touched the lives of millions worldwide. The network also showcases documentaries by Independent filmmakers who represent a cross section of cultures and faiths, but share a common purpose of uplifting communities.

Broadcast from Scientology Media Productions, the Church's global media center in Los Angeles, the Scientology Network can be streamed at

scientology.tv and is available through satellite television, mobile apps and via the Roku, Amazon Fire and Apple TV platforms.

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