<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OUhJeyHjNT0>

David: I joined The Bolshoi Ballet in November of 2011. I was on tour in Moscow with American Ballet Theatre. And when the offer came in, the director, Sigey Philin, had been director for two weeks. His assistant came to me and said: Sergey would like to have lunch with you.

So I go to lunch and he said: we have two offers for you. One is that you coming, just a hallery, you do a Swan Lake. The second offer is more serious, he said: I want you to join the company as a full-… company member and be the first American Premier in the Bolshoi’s history.

I couldn’t believe that he was saying something like that. It’s something that I’ve never dreamed of, never desired, never thought that was possible and I… felt scared. Because I didn’t want to live in Moscow. I was happy in the American Ballet Theatre, you know… I love ABT. It took me 2 months to decide to come to the Bolshoi. And they were amazingly passionned, but towards the end they said: OK, we need an answer. I finally decided to take the plunge. I saw it as this Black sea, black water, and I was looking into this water and I had no idea whether the water was safe, whether there were sharks, whether there were… dolphins… God knows what! I was plugging my nose and, you know, diving in headfirst (вниз головой, очертя голову).

What met me in Moscow was… the absolute open arms of the entire company. Now I look back on it, two years later, I have absolutely no regrets. The theatre was so welcoming in the sense that everyone wanted practicing their English :) so for a while I didn’t learn any Russian.

So now it’s a sort of “a joke is over”, I realized that people need to practice their English, but I am the one, living in Moscow. “Мне нужно говорить по-русски сейчас”, “I need to speak Russian now”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5CvUt3SRjDs>

Переехать в Москву – самый трудный выбор в его жизни

«Я попытаюсь сделать Россию своим домом»

Завтрак: сок и йогурт, обеда почти никогда не бывает

Сергей Филин: Я подумал: а почему бы нет? Во всяком случае, как говорят в России, за спрос денег не берут. Я сделал Дэвиду предложение, не каким-то солистом, который станцует 1 или 2 спектакля, а вот прийти и стать членом большой нашей семьи

Дэвид: Он предложил мне войти в труппу Большого театра, как премьер. Я был шокирован. Я никогда не мечтал об этом. Я просто

Досмотреть.

Трогательность. Неуверенность, нервность, усталость.