

SVETLANA NIKONOVA

Festival Orchestra Conductor



Svetlana Nikonova graduated from the Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory in St. Petersburg with a degree in conducting. She is a professional domra soloist, and played with the Andreyev Balalaika Orchestra in St. Petersburg. Before immigrating to the United States, Svetlana and her husband, bayan virtuoso Vladimir Zakharevich, traveled and performed throughout Europe as a musical duo. She is a gifted arranger and conductor and is currently the Artistic Director of the Washington Balalaika Society. Svetlana also plays domra with the St. Petersburg Trio (with bayanist Vladimir Zakharevich and contrabass balalaikist Andrei Saveliev).