



ALUMINUM. SOARING GRACE

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History page

The decision to build a single complex of sports facilities in Luzhniki was made on December 23, 1954 by the Council of Ministers of the USSR

By this time, sports in our country began to develop rapidly. Soviet athletes have already entered the world arena and took part in the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki. The Soviet national team brought 71 medals (22 of which were gold) back home. Further development of our success required the emergence of a new sports complex that would meet all international standards.



The design of the future sports complex, in which more than 20 different organizations took part, began in January 1955 and was completed in just 90 days.

On July 31, 1956, the grand opening of the Central Stadium named after Vladimir Lenin took place. The stadium was built in a record time - in just 450 days.

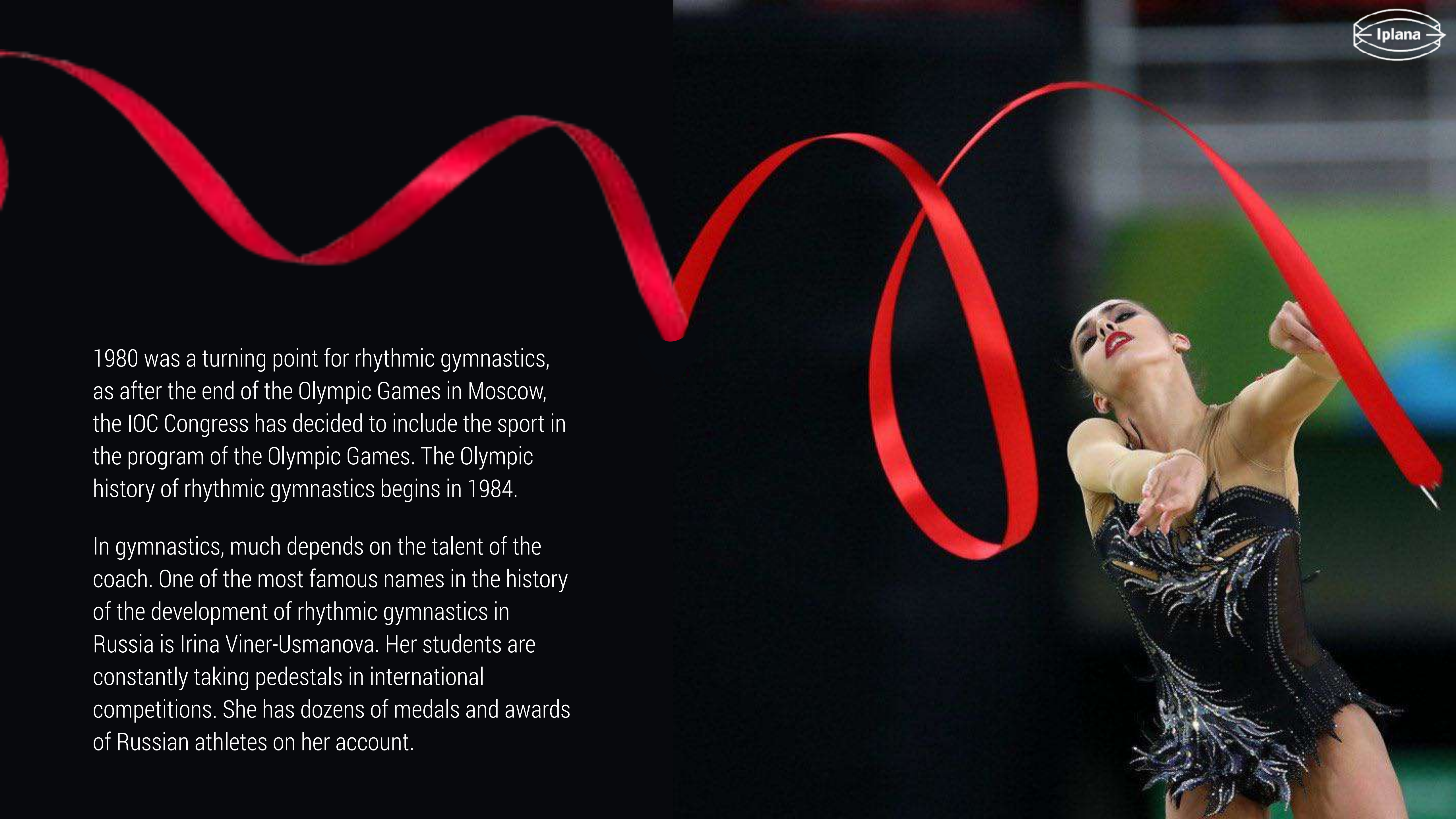
At the Big Sports Arena, the main building of the sports complex, a grandiose celebration took place with the participation of gymnasts, acrobats and athletes.



Central V.I. Lenin stadium consisted of the Big Sports Arena, the Small Sports Arena, the Sports Palace, the Swimming Pool and several outdoor sports grounds. The sports complex hosted competitions and trainings in 20 sports.

Rhythmic gymnastics was undoubtedly one of the most graceful sports presented at the complex. In 1945, the first rhythmic gymnastics section was created, later transformed into a federation. In 1948, the first USSR championship in rhythmic gymnastics was held. Since 1949, these championships have been held annually.

After the gymnasts began to perform outside of the USSR, rhythmic gymnastics has received recognition from the International Gymnastics Federation and officially began to be considered a sport.



1980 was a turning point for rhythmic gymnastics, as after the end of the Olympic Games in Moscow, the IOC Congress has decided to include the sport in the program of the Olympic Games. The Olympic history of rhythmic gymnastics begins in 1984.

In gymnastics, much depends on the talent of the coach. One of the most famous names in the history of the development of rhythmic gymnastics in Russia is Irina Viner-Usmanova. Her students are constantly taking pedestals in international competitions. She has dozens of medals and awards of Russian athletes on her account.

As part of a large-scale reconstruction of the Luzhniki Olympic Complex, in May 2017, at the initiative of the President of the All-Russian Association of Rhythmic Gymnastics, coach Irina Viner-Usmanova, construction of the Rhythmic Gymnastics Center began. The five-story building was erected according to an individual project using BIM technologies. The unique roof has become its recognizable symbol - it is made in the form of a fluttering gymnastic ribbon.

The implementation of the idea of a unique facade of the building became possible due to the joint efforts of the team of authors of the PRIDE architectural bureau, the chief architect of Moscow Sergey Kuznetsov, Iplana group of companies and the world leaders in the production of facade systems - Schüco and Reynaers companies.



The path of construction was thorny and sophisticated, many decisions were taken during the construction of the building. Thus, the roof made of gold anodized aluminum triangular cassettes appeared after numerous variations.



The design and construction process of the Rhythmic Gymnastics Center has been a complex interaction of specialists from different fields.



The creative search was accompanied by non-standard engineering solutions. The results of the application of innovative BIM technologies were consolidated by the most complex tests of the facade elements for aerodynamic properties.





One of the goals of the visual perception of the exterior of the building was its lightness and airiness. Therefore, “light” materials for the facades were chosen - aluminum translucent systems and anodized aluminum panels.

Another complex task was to create a flying golden ribbon that would highlight the gold victories of Russian gymnasts and become a logical completion of the facade from all its different sides.

Each side of the facade is unique in its own way.

Dormitories for athletes are located in the northeastern part of the building, and therefore it was important to make the windows reliable, warm and durable. They are made of powder coated Reynaers aluminum profiles.

Gracefulness of the facade is emphasised by silver anodized aluminum panels.



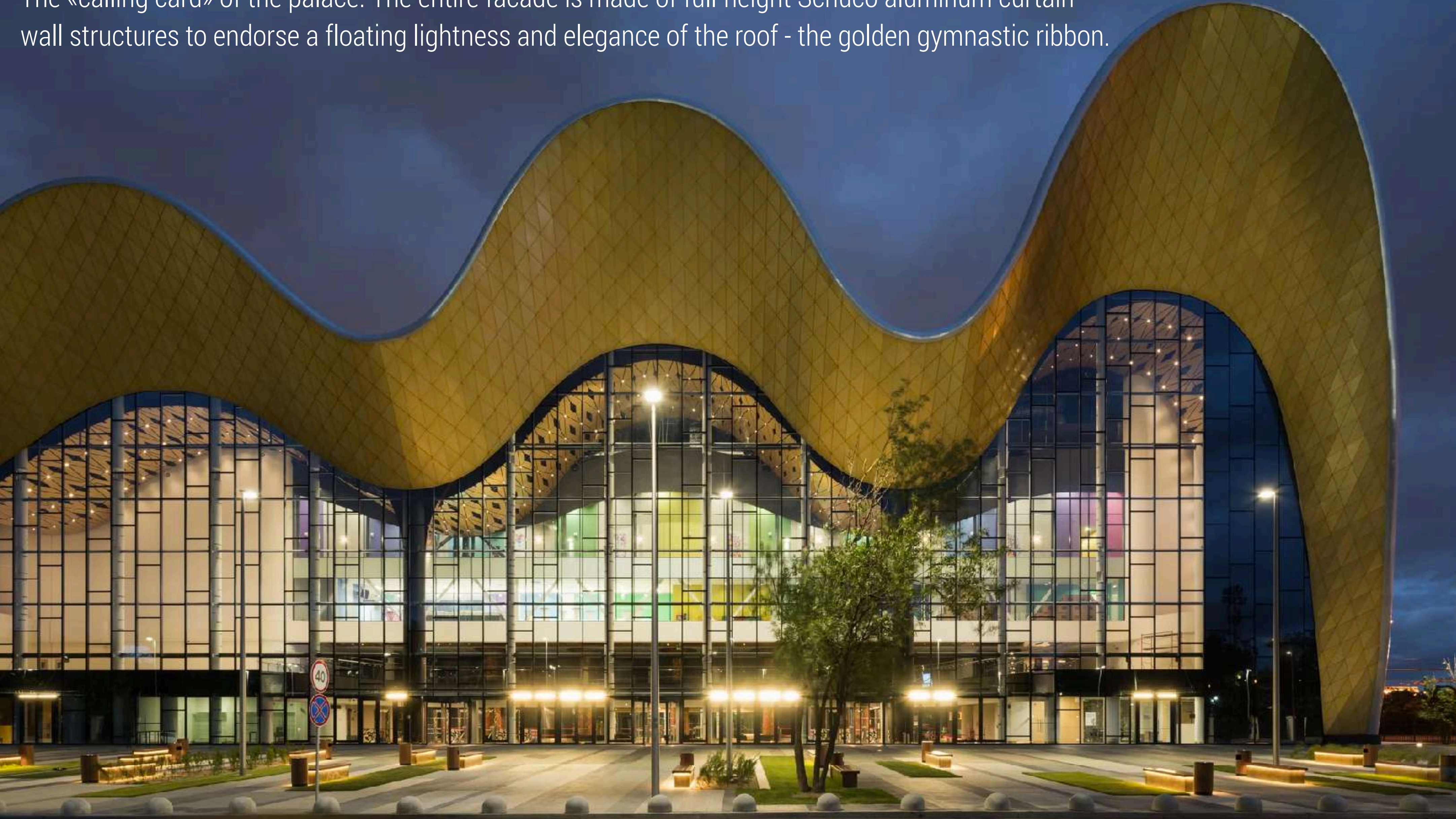
Northeastern facade

Northwestern facade



The northwestern side keeps up with the visual concept of the northeastern side and combines facade elements in gold and silver anodized aluminum. Vertical strips of aluminum cassettes alternate with Schüco curtain wall system.

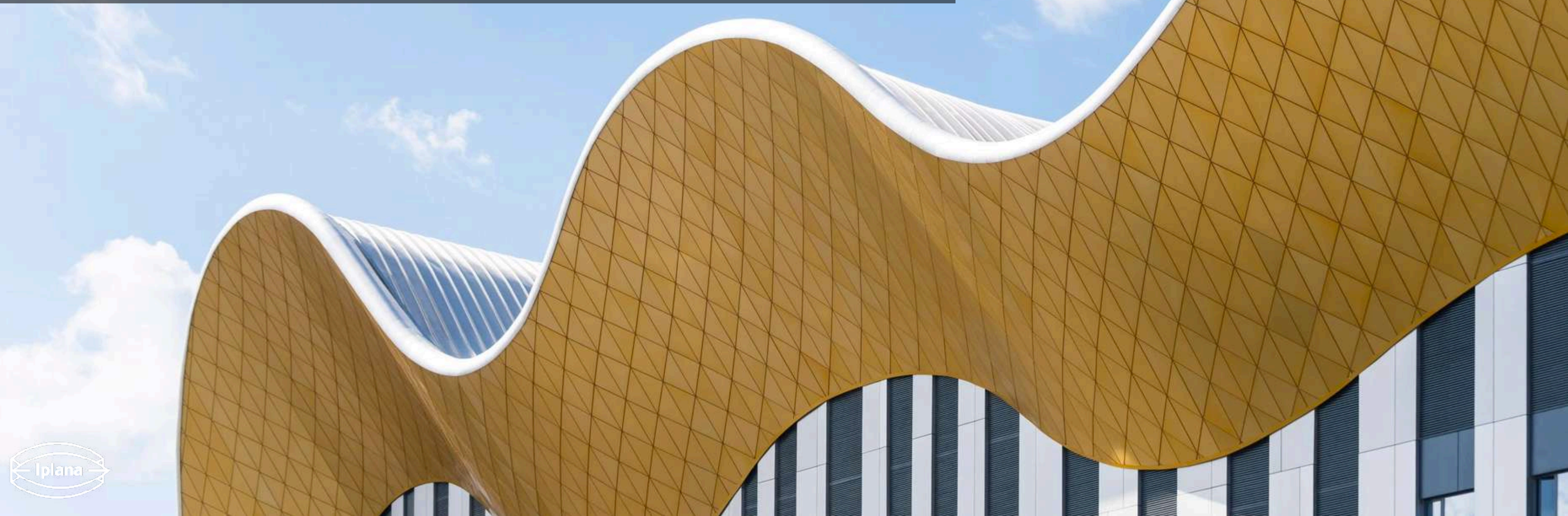
The «calling card» of the palace. The entire facade is made of full-height Schüco aluminum curtain wall structures to endorse a floating lightness and elegance of the roof - the golden gymnastic ribbon.



Southwestern facade



Successful implementation of this complex project is the result of the right decisions and coordinated actions of all participants of the construction. It is mostly due to the unique facade that the palace has won numerous domestic and international awards, namely: the winner of the BIM Technologies 2016 competition in the Best BIM Project; Sports Facilities nomination of the Grand Prix of the AlumForum; Aluminum in Architecture 2019 competition for the best implemented project with the use of aluminum; Shortlist of the World Architecture Festival in the Sport nomination; finalist of the MIPIM Awards in the Sport and Culture nomination; winner of the Moscow Architectural Prize 2020 in the Best Architectural and Urban Planning Solution for Sports and Entertainment Facilities.



Thus, the large-scale reconstruction of the Olympic Complex has not only restored the historical appearance of the main sports facility of the capital of Russia, but also immortalized the achievements of rhythmic gymnastics with a new structure with a unique look. Pleasure knowing that this has been made possible by a floating, graceful metal - aluminum.

