

## **Press Conference**

### **Junior Ice Dance, after Free Dance**

#### **Avonely Nguyen/Vadim Kolesnik (USA), 2020 World Junior Champions**

Nguyen: It (the result from the ISU Junior Grand Prix Final) really motivated and pushed us, because all our competitors are very strong. But we just kept working and it just feels amazing right now. I've dreamed about this moment for so long and to know that our work finally paid off it just feels great. We're so happy, we're elated, we're just overjoyed. (on why she prefers classical music) We really felt the connection with this music when our coaches helped us to pick it. We're really glad that it worked out, because we really love this music and this program.

Kolesnik: Honestly, it's the biggest moment of my life happening right now. (on future plans) We honestly don't know yet, because we did almost everything in juniors, but we'll have to discuss with our coach if we are going to move to seniors or stay junior. We'll just work hard when we come back. Of course, we'll have some rest, but we'll get back to work as soon as we feel like it's time. (on why he prefers classical music) If you look at the champions from the past years, World Champions and Olympic Champions, they skated to classical pieces. We just try to achieve the same goals and we felt like classical are pieces are perfect for this. (on moving from Ukraine to the USA) Of course I really missed home. I left my parents and my friends that I had over there and I moved there (to the USA) when I was 14, by myself. It was a little hard, but I have my partner, I have my coaches who really helped me and I really appreciate that and want to say thank you one more time to them. I feel I'm already used to the American life.

#### **Maria Kazakova/Georgi Reviya (GEO), 2020 World Junior silver medalist**

Reviya: We skated well, we're basically pleased. We did everything that depends on us. The most important thing is that people enjoyed how we skated. We gave it our all, the audience was very supportive, a big thank you to the spectators who came to watch. The saying is, circumstances alter cases, right. We'll move on, the most important things are still to come. (on future plans) After returning to Moscow we'll continue to train, build new programs for next season, already in seniors. I'm getting too old for juniors. We'll mount new programs right away so that the two programs will be ready and broken in before our vacation. So we can enter the senior season with a confident, big step forward and step up. (on being originally from Russia but representing Georgia) When Masha and I teamed up, we didn't think about that we switched to a weak country, that we'll get low scores and that we need to prove something to someone. That is not the main task. We have to prove to ourselves that you can do it. That you come to the rink every day and you are doing that for yourself, not for someone else. We enjoy that. It is hard physically, but relaxing mentally. All our achievements are cool. We put a lot of energy into that, soul, our hearts. Our coaches, our parents, our federation are all helping us. Our federation did a lot for us, I don't think that any other federation is doing that for their athletes. A huge thank you to them. We won't stop, we'll move forward, we want to break through at the senior level. The next year will be very important for us, because we need to qualify for the Olympic Games. (on being the first Georgian Ice Dancers to win a medal at an ISU Championship) I am very glad that Masha and I did not let down the people that believed in us and that helped us. We are very proud to have achieved this result for Georgia, with combined forces, this is a huge achievement for us, for our country, our federation and everyone who was part of it.

#### **Elizaveta Shanaeva/Devid Naryzhnyy (RUS), 2020 World Junior bronze medalist**

Shanaeva: (on future plans) I think we'll prepare for next season. We still have a junior year left and we want to work on and polish what did not work out here, although for our first debut season we are very pleased, this is new for us. We got a lot of energy to show our maximum next season and to be ready to beat everyone.

Naryzhnyy: We really liked it here, it was an incredible experience for us. We are newcomers, it is our first season at this high level, therefore everything is new to us. Not everything worked out perfectly, but we've tried our best.