



**KARINA SMIRNOFF AND MAKSIM CHMERKOVSKIY
OF ABC'S *DANCING WITH THE STARS*
PROMOTE THEIR GUEST STARRING ROLES
IN THE NEW BROADWAY DANCE SENSATION
BURN THE FLOOR
WITH A FOOTPRINT CEREMONY AT
PLANET HOLLYWOOD TIMES SQUARE
~ THURSDAY, AUGUST 6TH AT 2:00 PM ~**

WHO: **Karina Smirnoff** - - is one of the professional dancers on *Dancing with the Stars*. Born and raised in the Ukraine until age 14, Karina embodies the discipline, elegance and consistent success that Russian-born athletes are known to possess. She is a five time U.S. National Champion and also won titles at the U.S. Open, the Asian Open and the U.K. Open. At one time she was ranked the number two dancer in the world. During her professional career as a dancer she somehow found the time to earn two degrees from Fordham University in New York, where she moved at age 14 with her parents. Recently, Karina's ebullient personality and gift for gab led the producers at E! Entertainment to hire her as a special correspondent.

Maksim Chmerkovskiy (Maks) - - in addition to being a cast member on ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*, Maks is also a world renowned choreographer and dance instructor. His most recent association teamed him with famed performance and film director Franco Dragone revamping and updating the immensely popular performance show *Le Reve* at the Wynn Hotel in Las Vegas. Maks owns and operates Dance with Me and Rising Stars Dance Academy with locations in New Jersey and New York, and he sits on the board of the non-profit organization DanceTeamUSA, which promotes DanceSport amongst the youth of America

BURN THE FLOOR - - a breathtaking blend of Latin and Ballroom dance, created, directed and choreographed by Jason Gilkison, former World Champion Latin and Ballroom dancer and guest choreographer on *So You Think You Can Dance*. Housed in one of Broadway's most intimate venues, BURN THE FLOOR brings audience members thisclose to the action and passion of the dancers. ***For three weeks only, the cast of BURN THE FLOOR is joined by special guest stars Karina Smirnoff and Maksim Chmerkovskiy, through August 16 ONLY!***

WHAT: **Karina** and **Maks** will be at **Planet Hollywood Times Square** to promote **BURN THE FLOOR** with a footprint ceremony in the restaurant's main dining room. (Their footprints will later be displayed on the walls of a TBD Planet Hollywood).

WHERE: Planet Hollywood Times Square - - 1540 Broadway (corner of 45th Street)

WHEN: Thursday, August 6, 2009 at 2:00 pm

YOUR COVERAGE IS REQUESTED AT 1:45 PM

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