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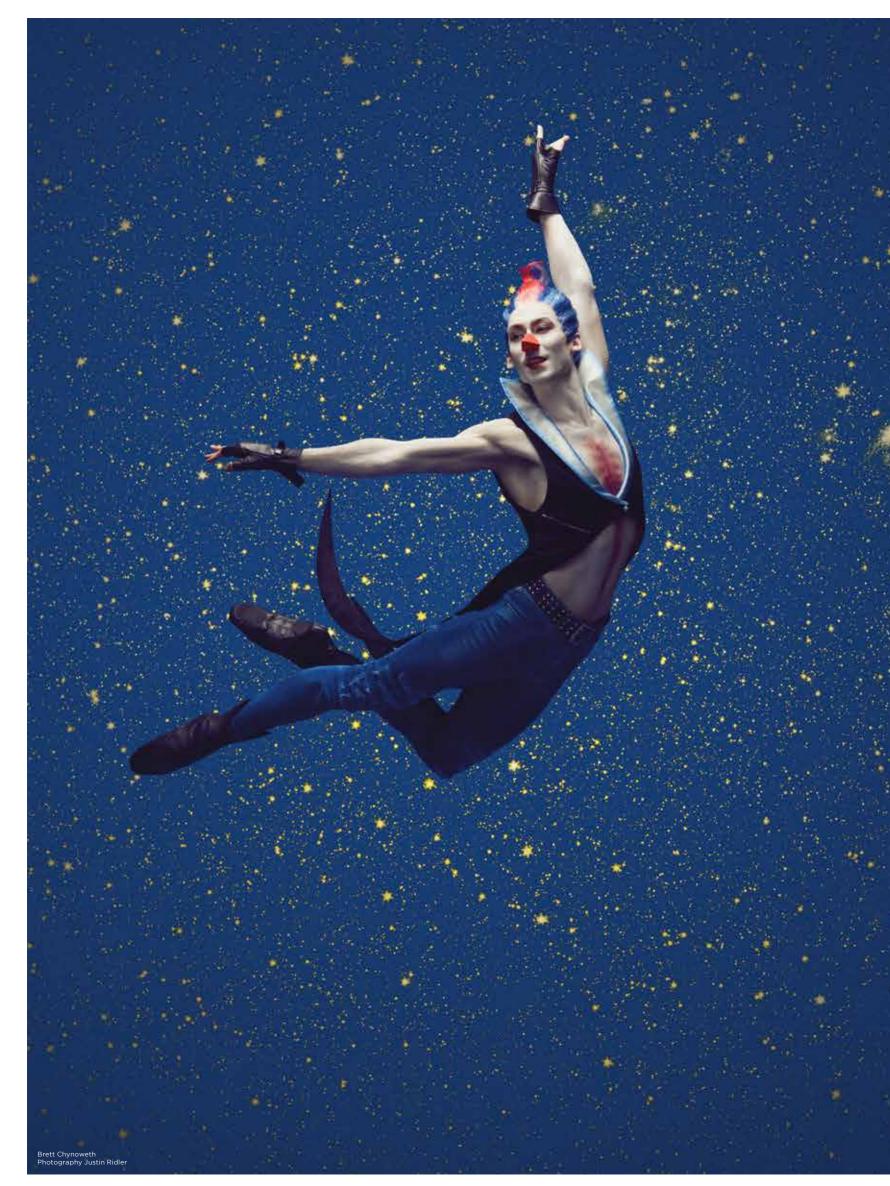
**OSCAR WILDE'S** 

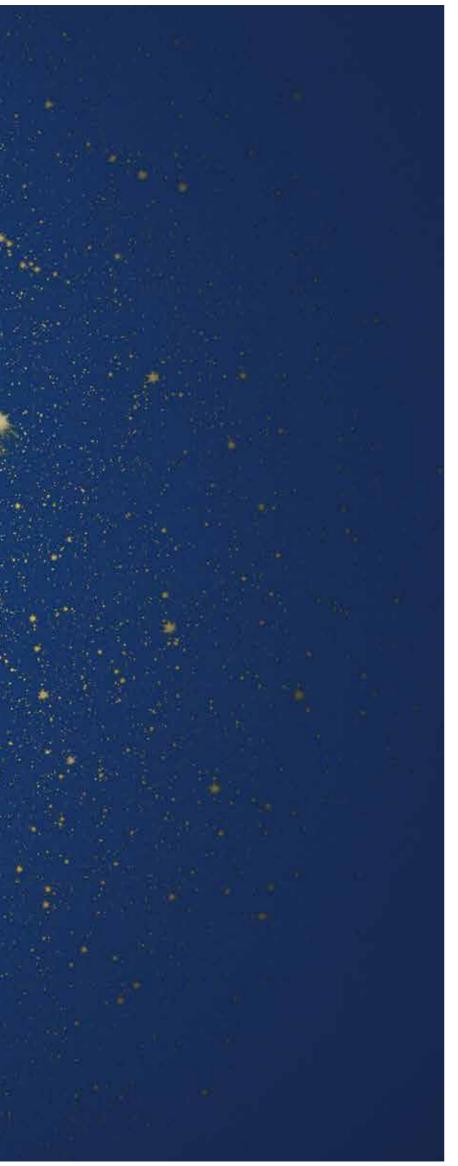
# HAPPY PRINCE

A BALLET BY GRAEME MURPHY

# 25 - 29 FEBRUARY | QPAC







#### NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



I am so pleased to welcome you to this world-premiere season of *The Happy Prince*. This much-anticipated ballet has been several years in the making, and we are thrilled to unveil it to our Brisbane audiences.

It seems fitting that in my final year as artistic director we premiere a new work by Graeme Murphy. Graeme was the first person I contacted 20 years ago, just after I was appointed director, to ask if he would create a new *Swan Lake* for The Australian Ballet's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. That work is now woven into the fabric of our company and we have performed it around the globe. *The Happy Prince* will be my last

production with Graeme and his artistic partner Janet Vernon, but I know their unique creative voice will resonate far into The Australian Ballet's future.

This production, inspired by Oscar Wilde's story, brings together some of Australia's finest talents. Kim Carpenter has been a devotee of *The Happy Prince* for many years and his beautiful theatre production was a revelation to all who saw it in Australia and overseas. Kim has not only given us the most extraordinarily vivid designs for The Australian Ballet's production but has been instrumental in transferring this poignant tale from the page to the stage. Christopher Gordon's music is the 'voice' of the ballet, and his sweeping score guides the characters' emotional journeys. Finally, *The Happy Prince* is blessed with luminous lighting by Damien Cooper, one of Graeme's long-term collaborators, and magical projections by Fabian Astore.

Our studios have been thrumming with the excitement of this new creation. Choreographers are the lifeblood of our art form, and Graeme has challenged us for decades with his endless innovation and heart-warming theatricality. The dancers always find more in themselves when they are building roles that are crafted uniquely for them. I know that Graeme's wonderful characters will showcase their artistry and talent both in this premiere season and in the subsequent Melbourne and Sydney seasons.

It has been a journey of imagination and passion to bring *The Happy Prince* to the stage and I am so looking forward to sharing these performances with our wonderful audiences. Oscar Wilde was a masterful writer and there was always much that was instructive both in his text and between the lines. May *The Happy Prince*'s themes of generosity and friendship stay with you long after the curtain has fallen, reminding us all that we too can make the lives of those around us that much better with our own gestures of kindness.

Damiel Mallist

David McAllister AM

#### NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Welcome to 2020, a year of transformation and celebration for The Australian Ballet.

This year we are paying tribute to our artistic director, David McAllister, whose stellar career has spanned four decades with the company.

In 2020, our Year of Limitless Possibilities, we feature five Australian premieres. We are delighted to present three works by our resident choreographers and to restage works created on the company.

We are excited to begin our year with this wonderful new production by Graeme Murphy, *The Happy Prince.* Graeme has been part of our

family for decades, firstly as a dancer and now as a regular choreographer. He is Australia's leading choreographer and a powerful storyteller, and he always brings out the best in our dancers and creative teams.

Just as we enjoy watching wonderful partnerships on stage, we are happy to have great corporate partners who share our passion for this extraordinary art form and our ambition for the company.

This year marks our 36<sup>th</sup> year of support and friendship with Principal Partner Telstra. This invaluable partnership has transformed the lives of so many Australians, from our dancers, through the Telstra Ballet Dancer of the Year Awards, to the hundreds of thousands of Australians who have enjoyed our annual regional tour, which Telstra supports.

Our special thanks go to our three Production Partners for *The Happy Prince*. Lead Partner Qantas, who make it possible for this touring company to travel the country and the world in comfort and safety, is the Production and Commissioning Partner for *The Happy Prince*. Major Partners Bloch and Kawai, both key supporters of the company and exemplars of artistic excellence, are also Production Partners for *The Happy Prince*. We also thank our Lead Partner Aqualand, the Australian luxury property company.

Since its inception in 1962, The Australian Ballet has been generously supported by our corporate and government partners and our philanthropic patrons as well as you, our loyal audience members. Our shared love of dance has made it possible for the company to grow and present world-class performances and exciting seasons. Quite simply we wouldn't be here without you. Thank you.

Quilie

Libby Christie





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# **The Happy Prince**

Based on the story by Oscar Wilde

Adapted by Kim Carpenter and Graeme Murphy

Choreography Graeme Murphy

Creative Associate Janet Vernon

Composer Christopher Gordon

Set and costume design Kim Carpenter

Lighting design Damien Cooper

Projection design Fabian Astore

With Queensland Symphony Orchestra

The Happy Prince is kindly supported by The Robert and Elizabeth Albert Music Fund, The Dame Margaret Scott Fund for Choreographers and a generous Queensland patron.

We thank Kim Carpenter's Theatre of Image for supporting the creation of *The Happy Prince.* 

#### SYNOPSIS

#### War is over.

To celebrate, the Mayor, Lady Mayoress and Councillors reveal the statue of the Happy Prince.

As winter approaches, the Swallow family flies south to catch the sun; but the Little Swallow, infatuated with Rita, a fickle Reed, decides to stay, only to be dumped for a dragonfly!

The Little Swallow flies to find his family. But the night is stormy, and he is forced to take shelter at the foot of a golden statue. Here he meets his opposite: the wise soul of the Happy Prince.

The Prince shows Swallow the palace of his childhood, where sadness was not allowed to enter, and soon Swallow begins to see the disparity between rich and poor. At the Prince's bidding he agrees to stay a while and distribute the Prince's jewels to a widowed Seamstress and her sick child, a struggling Artist and a little Match Girl. At the Prince's command the Swallow shares the statue's gold leaf between the city's poor.

The Prince and the Swallow develop a true friendship built on love and sacrifice.

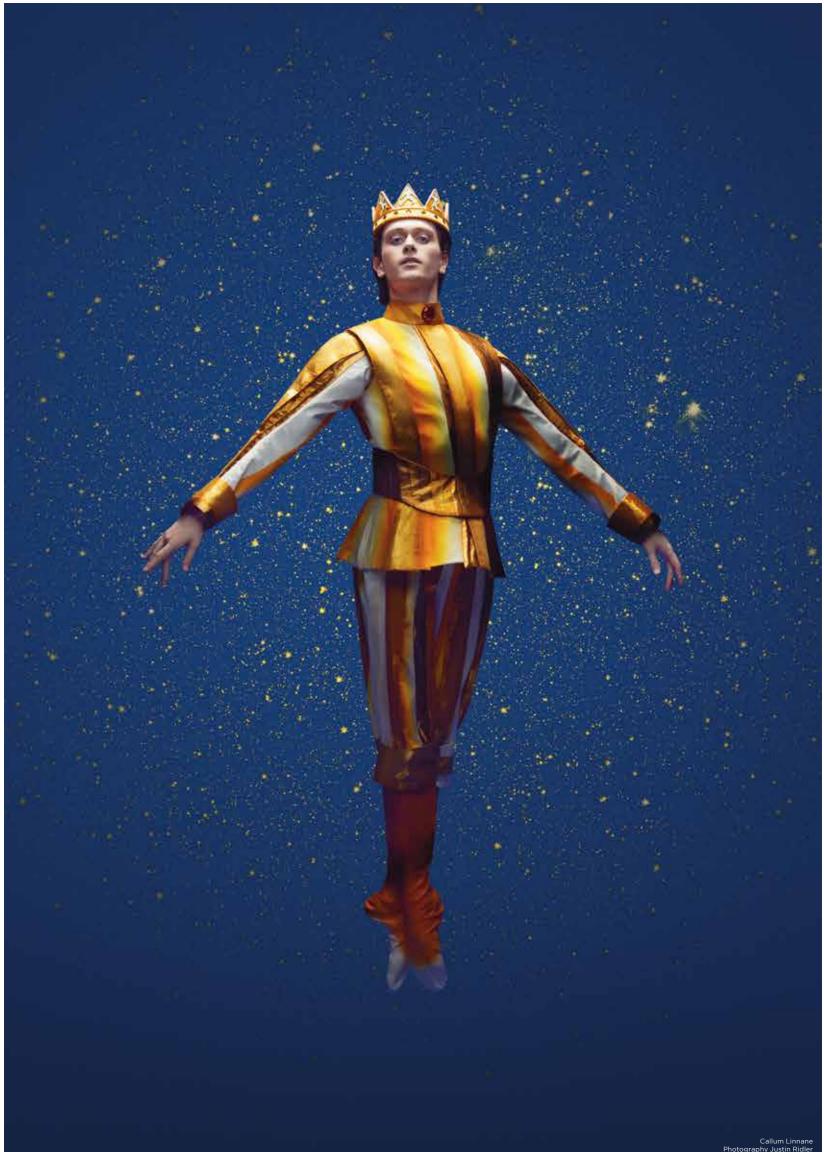
Sacrifice takes its toll: the Prince is left blind and grey and broken-hearted as his beloved Swallow succumbs to winter's cruelty.

However, in another life of heavenly light and warmth, The Happy Prince and the Little Swallow are forever united.

#### CHARACTER LIST

The Happy Prince The Little Swallow His Dad His Mum His Sister Rita Reed Lord Mayor Lady Mayoress Councillors Seamstress Her Son Her Husband's Ghost Artist His Doubt His Muse Little Match Girl Her Father Thugs

Townsfolk, Dragonflies, Reedettes, Breeze Brothers, Toys, Living Canvas, Beach Frolickers



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# **Darling Buds**

# GRAEME MURPHY, THE CHOREOGRAPHER OF *THE HAPPY PRINCE*, INTENDS HIS BALLET TO SPARK YOUNG MINDS. BY ROSE MULREADY



A teen Swallow who rides a skateboard. A Rockettes-style chorus line of swaying Reeds. An Artist locked in a struggle with his Muse and Doubt. Graeme Murphy's ballet of *The Happy Prince* certainly has some sly nods to an adult audience, but his primary aim is to capture children's attention – and to kindle their creativity.

"I want to cater to the tiny imagination bud inside children's heads, which needs just the tiniest bit of inspiration, of fertilisation, to burst into a million thoughts. If ten kids per show think 'I want to be part of this magic,' that would be my reward," he says. "I want the theatre to be buzzing with excited children."

As a small boy in a small Tasmanian town, Murphy's imagination was fed by the worlds at the top of the Faraway Tree, daydreams of flying, school concerts and *Oriental Cavalcade*, a Tivoli revue that featured acrobatic dance numbers. "There were, you know, slave girls chained together doing cartwheels, and I thought it was the most amazing thing I'd ever seen." Today's children, raised on iPads and CGI, might have slightly more jaded palates, but Murphy is still convinced that dance is the ideal way to reach them. "When you look at the classical canon – *The Sleeping Beauty, The Nutcracker* – how many ballets have actually been created for kids? But ballet still manages to attract and entrap children beautifully: little girls and boys are entranced by the phenomenon of it, the unreality, the glamour of princesses in pink. And, also, the physicality, watching grown-ups do things they would never do on the street. They're watching humans transformed into creatures who are not quite human."

Transformation and glamour are key elements of the Oscar Wilde story *The Happy Prince*, the inspiration for Murphy's production. Its main characters, the Prince and the Swallow, move from a carefree hedonism to a deeper understanding of compassion and loyalty. The story has the morality and simplicity of a fable, but Wilde's wit and swooningly poetic language lend it complexity and a lingering savour.

Murphy has had a decades-long love affair with Wilde. He has choreographed *Salome* both as an opera and a ballet ("doing the opera made me desperate to do it as a dance piece") and in 2004 made *Shades of Gray*, a modern version of *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, with Dorian as a star dancer who spirals into a debauched decline. In 1983, with his close collaborator and designer Kristian Fredrikson, he premiered a children's ballet of *The Selfish Giant*. When the director/ designer Kim Carpenter had the idea for a ballet of *The Happy Prince*, Murphy was an obvious choice.

Murphy and Carpenter have worked together before, on an ambitious interactive production called *Limited Edition*, which included performers from Murphy's Sydney Dance Company and the National Institute of Dramatic Art, where Carpenter taught. "We had big adventures on it and big disasters and we survived it together and bonded," says Murphy. Both spent 30 years as an artistic director, Murphy at Sydney Dance Company and Carpenter at Theatre of Image. "We were sort of contemporaries in different worlds, but what we were doing was very related. His productions used words sparingly – his company was very much about images, puppetry, theatrical devices, and I love all that too."

With their young audience in mind, the two have worked together to pump up the comedy and action of The Happy Prince. "There are things in the characters and movement that are quite cartoonish, where I've enlarged reality and coloured it brightly," says Murphy. "And Kim really is the master of making a palette and a world that has so much fantasy and scope for imagination in it." There are a series of sets that allow the audience to 'zoom in' on the Prince's statue, a door in the statue's heart that lets the Prince's spirit out to dance, and a flight on wires for the Swallow. Murphy particularly loves Carpenter's cloth backdrops, which remind him of the pages of a book: "Kim illustrates so beautifully for children."

Because Murphy is Murphy - the choreographer who dreamed up Bolshevik rats for his version of *The Nutcracker*, and an institutionalised Odette for his *Swan Lake* - this *Happy Prince* has some fresh twists, like the chorus-girl Reeds and the Swallow, who's "a streetwise teen kid, defiant, a bit obnoxious, who learns to have empathy." The Christian heaven that waits for the Prince and the Swallow in Wilde's story is, in this version, a beautiful beach. "There are so many different visions of heaven in the world," Murphy reasons, "but a beach is heaven for everybody."

Twists aside, Wilde's vivid vision remains at the heart of Murphy's work, and of his process in the studio. "I'm a choreographer who talks poetry a bit - I think that's the best way into a dancer's mind, to give them insights into how I see the characters. I've encouraged the cast to listen to Stephen Fry's recording of the story, because I think he and Oscar are twin souls, and he reads it so beautifully, with such nuance. The dancers are thinking so seriously about what they're depicting and how to do that. I feel like everyone is on the journey with me ... I'm trying to use Wilde's poetry to elevate my choreography, through the dancers. That's what I've always done - you give the dancers movement and you rely on them to translate it into air and light and beauty."

Getting the essence of the movement right will also, Murphy hopes, make the ballet instantly relatable for kids. As he points out, children are reading body language before they can speak, and are probably better at it than adults, who have learnt to communicate on so many other levels.

Ultimately, the journey of the Prince and the Swallow, from heedlessness to empathy, holds a message for all ages. "That's the lesson of *The Happy Prince*," says Murphy. "Through kindness, we grow."

Rose Mulready is The Australian Ballet's content expert.









THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET

2020 SEASON





THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET



# A Happy Vision

SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER KIM CARPENTER WAS A DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE CREATION OF *THE HAPPY PRINCE*. BY JANE ALBERT

Kim Carpenter has been fascinated by the visual since he was a small child. He'd regularly collect fistfuls of unusual pebbles he'd find glinting in the sunlight, and would decorate the walls of the family home in Newcastle with his mother's lipstick whenever her back was turned. It was no surprise, then, that he grew up to establish a company called Theatre of Image.

It was in 1992, while he was adapting Oscar Wilde's celebrated tale *The Happy Prince* for the stage, that Carpenter was struck by the myriad dance possibilities conjured by its imagery, characters and pacy narrative. That production went on to become a popular children's show, debuting at the Sydney Festival with the Sydney Theatre Company before touring Australia and North America, but *The Happy Prince* still held Carpenter in its grip. He felt instinctively it had all the ingredients for a vibrant, captivating and sophisticated family ballet.

Who else to collaborate with on this vision than Graeme Murphy, the doyen of story ballets in Australia and himself a Wilde aficionado? Carpenter rang Murphy and the pair chatted at length about the different scenarios that could make Wilde's tale work in a dance context. Carpenter agreed to go away and refine their ideas before presenting them to Murphy and Janet Vernon, his creative associate and wife.

"I wrote an adaptation as visual storytelling, because I think ballet is the epitome of visual storytelling writ large, then I took it to Graeme and Janet, who sat on the couch at their home in Coogee and said, 'Read it to us.' They loved it and we went from there," Carpenter recalls. "There was a bit of argy-bargy about how to do it differently, because Graeme was very clear it should be different from my theatre production. There's a playfulness to our piece, and that's the common denominator between the two versions, but we started again with a whole different concept."

Carpenter's design for the new *Prince* is playful, with a cartoonish, whimsical feel. Interestingly, the setting was inspired by none other than Winston Churchill. During a particularly rainy holiday in New South Wales' southern highlands Carpenter turned to a number of books on Churchill that were lined up on the mantelpiece of the house where he was staying. He was immediately struck by the idea of setting the ballet in England immediately after World War II, a time of renewed hope and restoration.

"There's more reason to construct a golden statue in the town square as a symbol of hope and resolve and healing; it gives the story greater gravitas and more meaning to a contemporary



audience," Carpenter explains. Of course it wouldn't be a Murphy production without some cheeky humour, so together the pair conceived the idea to write in a whole family for the Swallow, with a backstory – they became a comic, B-grade showbiz family. Like so many in 1940s England, they choose to take advantage of the 'ten-pound Pom' scheme and head for Australia. The Swallow himself is nursing a broken heart after being rejected by a Reed, a member of The Reedettes (a Tivoli-esque all-female line-up). The town's mayor and mayoress are presented as buffoons, a direct nod to Wilde's skewering satires of bureaucrats and politicians.

"Wilde's story has beauty, playfulness and wit, qualities I wanted to combine in the storytelling through the design. So the design has a watercolour, hand-held feel. Many costumes are printed or dyed, giving a tactile and slightly playful naivety that's nevertheless coming through my hand and eye, so from an adult perspective," Carpenter says.

Despite the deliberately hand-made, homespun aesthetic, the production includes sophisticated technical wizardry that gives the show its 'wow' factor. "Swallow actually flies, which adds to the magic," Carpenter says. Colourful, evocative projections from his regular collaborator Fabian Astore will enhance the transitional sequences between post-war London and the beaches of Australia, where the production ends.

Although Carpenter designs primarily for theatre he is no stranger to dance, having worked with Australian Dance Theatre and Dance North; Theatre of Image regularly incorporated dance into its productions. In 2019 he collaborated with *Spartacus* choreographer Lucas Jervies on *Brett* & Wendy – a Love Story Bound by Art for the Sydney Festival.

"I'm familiar with the needs of dancers and how differently they tell the story to actors, through physicality," he says "In *The Happy Prince* some costumes are very stylised and larger than life, so there's less physicality in those than others."

The collaboration with Murphy has been – appropriately enough – a happy one. This is the second time the pair has worked together; they teamed up in 1982 for a full-length production, *Limited Edition*, with Sydney Dance Company, during Murphy and Vernon's long tenure running that company. An experimental work, it featured no less than 100 people, including NIDA students and the Rockdale brass band. "Graeme and I are a similar age so there's definitely a chemistry and a synergy and we both understand each other's roles. Because I've directed and designed I think I understand sometimes more than other designers the problem-solving needed, and the role of the director or choreographer. Graeme rings me daily and gives me an update, it's great," Carpenter says.

An even, dynamic partnership then, albeit one with enough creative tension to keep the brain firing. Murphy is the first to acknowledge he occasionally goes off on obscure tangents but Carpenter says if he really feels the need to challenge the choreographer he simply sits down and rationally works out his objections before discussing them with Murphy. "Janet is a good foil and between the two of us we'll often get it back on track. But we're all very much on the same wavelength," he says.

Crucially, both Carpenter and Murphy agree on the need for the show to speak to both children and sophisticated dance audiences in ways that will delight and provoke young audiences and challenge the more discerning.

"Although it is a work for children it operates on different levels because the Oscar Wilde story does - it's beautiful, it can be funny and ironic but also sad," Carpenter says. "Young people identify with the Swallow and his journey because he learns from the Prince the value and pleasure of giving and what you get back. The pair sacrifice their lives, it's a very moral story. Young children don't necessarily get the sadness of it, but adults do. I think there won't be a dry eye in the house."

Jane Albert is a journalist specialising in the arts







### Creatives



#### **GRAEME MURPHY AO**

#### Choreographer

Graeme Murphy was born in Melbourne and studied at The Australian Ballet School. He has danced with The Australian Ballet, Sadler's Wells Ballet (London) and Ballets Félix Blaska (France). In 1971, he received an Australia Council Grant to study overseas. He returned to Australia in 1975 as a freelance choreographer. The following year, he was appointed artistic director of Sydney Dance Company (then known as The Dance Company NSW), a position he held until 2007. During his 31-year tenure, he created more than 50 works, including 30 full-length productions.

Graeme is the recipient of an AO (2012) for distinguished service to the performing arts (having received an AM in 1982) and three honorary doctorates: Hon. D. Lit. Tas (1990) Hon. D. Phil. Qld (1992) and Hon. D. Lit. UNSW (1999). He was honoured at the Inaugural Sydney Opera House Honours (1993) and named a National Living Treasure (1999) by the National Trust of Australia. He received a Helpmann Award for Best Choreography, Body of Work - a Retrospective (2001); the prestigious James Cassius Award (2002); the Green Room Award for Concept and Realisation, Swan Lake (2003) and the Centenary Medal for Services to Society and Dance (2003). He was named Cultural Leader of the Year by the Australian Business Arts Foundation, receiving the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Award (2004); was listed among Australia's 50 Most Glamorous Exports at a special celebration hosted by the Australian Government and Austrade (2005); and received the Australian Dance Award for Lifetime Achievement (2006). He received the Award for Contribution to Cultural Exchange from the Ministry of Culture, the People's Republic of China (2008) and the Fred & Adele Astaire Award for Excellence in Choreography in Film for Mao's Last Dancer (New York, 2011).

Graeme's directing and choreographic credits include Beyond Twelve, Nutcracker - The Story of Clara, Swan Lake, Firebird, The Silver Rose, Romeo & Juliet, The Narrative of Nothing and Murphy (The Australian Ballet); Tivoli (a co-production of Sydney Dance Company and The Australian Ballet); VAST (The Australian Bicentennial Authority); Hua Mulai (a Sydney Dance Company and Shanghai Song and Dance Ensemble co-production); Die Silberne Rose (Bayerisches Staatsballett, Munich); Giselle (Universal Ballet, Seoul); Water (Shanghai Ballet); Forty Miles - A River of Dreams and The Time Together (Tasdance); The Frock (MADE); Embodied (Mikhail Baryshnikov): The Torvill and Dean World Tour Company; Metamorphosis, Turandot, Salome, The Trojans, Aïda, The Merry Widow and Madama Butterfly (Opera Australia) and Ainadamar (Adelaide Festival). He also choreo-graphed Death in Venice (Canadian Opera Company); Samson et Dalila (The Metropolitan Opera, New York): the film Mao's Last Dancer and the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical Love Never Dies.



#### JANET VERNON AM

#### **Creative Associate**

Adelaide-born Janet Vernon studied at The Australian Ballet School and has danced with The Australian Ballet, Ballets Félix Blaska (France) and Sydney Dance Company. In 1976 she was appointed, along with Graeme Murphy, to the artistic helm of Sydney Dance Company, where they remained for 31 years. Graeme has created numerous roles on Janet including *Shéhérazade, Daphnis and Chloé* (Lykanion), *Some Rooms* (The Bathroom), *After Venice, Nearly Beloved, King Roger* (Queen Roxanna), *Berlin, The Protecting Veil, Salome* (Herodias) and *The Trojans* (Andromeque), a collaboration with Opera Australia.

Creative associate credits include Swan Lake, Nutcracker - The Story of Clara, Firebird, The Silver Rose, Romeo & Juliet, The Narrative of Nothing and Murphy (The Australian Ballet); Tivoli (A Sydney Dance Company and The Australian Ballet co-production); Hua Mulan (a Sydney Dance Company and Shanghai Song and Dance Ensemble co-production); Die Silberne Rose (Bayerisches Staatsballet, Munich); Giselle (Universal Ballet, Seoul); Water (Shanghai Ballet); Forty Miles - A River of Dreams and The Time Together (Tasdance); The Frock (MADE); Ainadamar (Adelaide Festival); Aïda, The Merry Widow and Madama Butterfly (Opera Australia), the film Mao's Last Dancer and the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical Love Never Dies.

Janet's awards include an AM for Services to Dance (1989); Sydney Opera House Honours (1993); a Green Room Award for Concept and Realisation, *Swan Lake* (2003); Centenary Medal for Services to Society and Dance (2003); Lifetime Achievement, Australian Dance Awards (2006); Green Room Award, Outstanding Contribution to Dance (2006) and the Fred & Adele Astaire Award for Excellence in Choreography in Film for Mao's Last Dancer (New York, 2011).

# PLAYBILL ADS 19

# PLAYBILL ADS 20

## Creatives



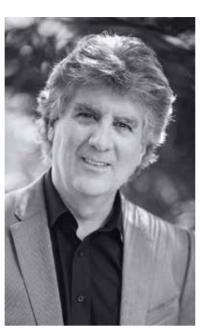
KIM CARPENTER AM

#### Adaptation of *The Happy Prince* Set and costume design

Kim Carpenter is the founder and artistic director of Theatre of Image. He is an established director/designer, and has created productions for most major drama, dance and opera companies in Australia. His designs have embraced puppetry and digital arts as well as conceptual sets, props and costumes. His art works and designs are represented in collections and exhibitions around the world.

Kim is a former co-artistic director of Nimrod Theatre (now Belvoir) and a former head of design at the National Institute of Dramatic Art. He makes distinctive visual theatre, often in collaboration with other companies including the Australian Youth Orchestra, Opera Australia, Kageboushi Theatre Company (Tokyo), Manitoba Theatre For Young People (Canada), Belvoir and Sydney Theatre Company. He is a Churchill Fellow and the recipient of two Helpmann Awards a Centenary Medal, four Sydney Theatre Critics Awards and three AWGIEs; he is a member of The Order of Australia. Most memorable productions for Theatre of Image include *The Book of Everything* (a collaboration with Belvoir), *The Happy Prince* (a play for Theatre of Image) and Monkey ... journey to the west (national tour).

A solo art exhibition of Kim's paintings and designs for *The Happy Prince* will be held at ARO Gallery William St, Sydney during the Sydney Opera House season of the ballet.



CHRISTOPHER GORDON

#### Composer

Christopher Gordon is based in Sydney and has received commissions from the Sydney Symphony Orchestra (including concertos for bass trombone and horn), Gondwana Voices, Synergy Percussion, Omega Ensemble, the Australian Chamber Orchestra and the Sydney International Brass Festival. In 2015 he wrote a full-length orchestral ballet, *Giselle and the Wraith Queen* (2015), for Graeme Murphy and Universal Ballet, Seoul.

Christopher has written scores for film and television, including Ladies in Black, Mao's Last Dancer, Adoration, June Again, Buckley's Chance, Adoration, Daybreakers, Out of the Shadows, Crawl, Salem's Lot, Moby Dick, On the Beach, When Good Ghouls Go Bad, Sanctuary, and Ward 13. He also co-composed the score to Peter Weir's Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World. His scores have received many accolades, including an AACTA award; 16 Australian Screen Music Awards, with a further twelve nominations; and an EMMY nomination.

Christopher has composed for many of Australia's major celebrations, including the opening ceremonies of the Commonwealth Games (2006) and the Rugby World Cup Sydney (2003), the official celebration of the Centenary of Federation of Australia (2001), and the Millennium Eve telecast; he has recently completed the music for the Sovereign Hill theme park. In 2006 he was commissioned by the Prime Minister of Australia to arrange the official version of the Australian national anthem.

In a parallel universe, Christopher has been a Councillor in the City of Ryde NSW since 2017.



DAMIEN COOPER

#### Lighting design

Damien Cooper (APDG) has designed more than 300 productions of dance, opera and theatre. For The Australian Ballet, Damien's designs include Graeme Murphy's *Swan Lake*, which has been presented in London, Paris, New York and Tokyo; *Murphy; The Narrative* of Nothing; The Silver Rose; Romeo & Juliet; Firebird; and Tivoli. Damien loves lighting for dance and designed Chunky Move's Mortal Engine; Bangarra Dance Theatre's Of Earth And Sky; Sydney Dance Company's Cinco & Neon Aether, [ab] intra, Ocho, Grand and Air and Other Invisible Forces; Force Majeure's You Animal You; and Australian Dance Theatre's Be Yourself and the extensively toured Birdbrain.

Career highlights include Neil Armfield's production of *The Ring Cycle* for Opera Australia, *Exit the King* on Broadway, starring Susan Sarandon, and *Keating! The Musical*, Australia's most successful subsidised theatre show ever. Most recently Damien has designed Opera Australia's *Madama Butterfly*, Sydney Chamber Opera's *Oscar & Lucinda*, Belvoir's *Counting & Cracking* and *Things I Know To Be True*, Melbourne Theatre Company's *Golden Shield* and Sydney Theatre Company's *White Pearl*.

Damien has won three Sydney Theatre Awards for Best Lighting Design, four Green Room awards for Best Lighting Design and two APDG awards for Best Lighting.



**FABIAN ASTORE** 

#### **Projection design**

Fabian is a digital media artist and motion graphics producer working in the fields of multimedia, performance, theatre, and video and has exhibited both in Australia and internationally. From 1997 - 2007 he produced motion graphics for ten main stage productions with Kim Carpenter's Theatre of Image, including an international collaboration with the Kageboushi Theatre Company of Tokyo, Japan, and finally the 2019 Sydney Festival production of *Brett & Wendy* - *A Love Story Bound by Art.* A number of these productions have toured nationally and internationally. In 2012 his video *The Threshold* was a joint winner of the Blake Prize.

Fabian has also taught media production at the University of Technology Sydney, Macquarie University and the University of NSW.

# **Do You Remember the First Time?**

WHY STAGE A BALLET CREATED SPECIFICALLY TO ENCHANT CHILDREN? BECAUSE OF EXPERIENCES LIKE THESE. SIX OF THE ARTISTS WHO SHAPE OUR COMPANY SHARE THE MOMENT WHEN THEIR CREATIVE JOURNEY BEGAN.

#### DAVID MCALLISTER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Before I was even in school. I went along with my brother and sister to the Hole in the Wall Theatre in Perth. which was just a tiny place in a suburban street - it didn't even look like a theatre. Before we went into the performance, we had to colour in a picture of a clock face: then they gave us one of those early 1970s plastic cups, the ones that are really crinkly, with a couple of beads in it. They taped the clock face to the top of the cup, so that we ended up with a little prop. I don't even remember what the show was, but there was a nasty person, and every time they came on, we had to squeeze the cup and rattle the beads. I just thought it was the greatest thing ever. There were people in costume, lights ... I used to wait every morning to see Playschool, and to me it was like being inside Playschool! I took that little cup with the beads in it home and kept it for weeks and weeks, until it disintegrated: I kept on scrunching and rattling that thing until it died.

The wonderful thing about childhood is that you really believe. I really did think that cup with the beads in it would keep the baddie away. You believe in the magic.

#### DAVID HALLBERG, RESIDENT GUEST ARTIST

I sat as a young bunhead, watching American Ballet Theatre's *Le Corsaire* in California. The sets, the dancers! Marcelo Gomes was debuting as the Slave. He was perfection! But what took my breath away was something altogether different: a real working fountain they brought out in the dream scene and set at the back of the stage. A REAL working fountain! ON stage! I was hooked and never looked back.

#### NICOLETTE FRAILLON, MUSIC DIRECTOR & CHIEF CONDUCTOR

There were musicians in my family, so I'd been learning an instrument, but like many twelve-yearolds I was getting frustrated with it. My friends would all be outside, at the beach, and I'd be inside practising. But then I went and played with a youth orchestra. All of a sudden my scratchy, horrible-sounding, annoying violin was completely transformed. When the brass, percussion and woodwind joined in, a world of colour literally opened up. Every hair of my body stood on end. I will never forget that as long as I live.

And then I thought, "Well, who gets to play with all these colours? Oh, that's the conductor. I want to do that!" So at age twelve I decided that's what I would do, without really understanding what it meant, or that women weren't 'supposed' to do it. But I knew that's what I had to do - it was very visceral.



#### ALICE TOPP, RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER

When I was about seven, my parents saw The Phantom of the Opera in Melbourne and they brought back the cassette tape for me and my sister. We learned all the words. A few years later, the production came back, and we got tickets as a gift. I found it so captivating. especially having known the music for so many years. Then there was the experience of being immersed in the magnetic energy of the theatre. It wasn't long after that I got a VHS tape of The Australian Ballet, with Miranda Coney, Christine Walsh and Lisa Pavane dancing excerpts. I had that on repeat until I drove my horse-riding sister batty; I loved it so much. By then I was dancing, so I'd put on my pointe shoes in the lounge room and learn the solos. I'd watch them, rewind them. play them again, rewind them, play them again, using the furniture as partners.

It's funny, sometimes one of the ballet pianists will play something from *The Phantom of The Opera* in class, and I'll think, "Oh, that's lovely." It still has a place in my heart.

#### STEVEN HEATHCOTE, BALLET MASTER

When I was nine years old, my school went to Perth Concert Hall to see West Australian Ballet perform *The Nutcracker*. There were busloads of kids and we would have been rowdy and horrible. I sat there, in the dark, watching something I'd never seen before, but strangely it resonated with me. I found myself wanting to get onto the stage: not to watch, but to do what they were doing. It looked like sport, and it was make-believe, and there was music, which were easily three of my favourite things when I was a kid. I knew I was loving it, but I didn't exactly know what 'it' was.

That was the real trigger for me, my first and most profound exposure to ballet. For me, the most meaningful thing about ballet is that energetic connection between the performance and the audience, and that was obviously humming for me when I was nine years old. It's something I've hung on to throughout my dancing career, and now in my role as a ballet coach.

#### FIONA TONKIN, ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE & PRINCIPAL COACH

I wasn't allowed to do dance lessons until I was seven years old, so the first time ballet really got to me was when I was a teenager, watching my very first performance. It was a production of Giselle by a semi-professional company in New Zealand called Southern Ballet. It struck something mystical in me - something magical. something ethereal. It was the way movement and music could come together to tell a story, and that beautiful, beautiful second act. At that moment I knew that ballet was going to be part of my life forever. It was a tingling; a feeling of being taken away. I'll always remember the Queen of Willis just floating across the stage - it will stay with me forever. As a dancer, you never want to lose sight of your ability to transport people like that.



# **The Gentleman Who Dreamed**

OSCAR WILDE'S STORIES, OSTENSIBLY WRITTEN FOR CHILDREN, ARE LOADED WITH SOCIAL COMMENT AND SOPHISTICATED BEAUTY. BY KATE SCOTT

Oscar Wilde was notorious for his scandalous love life, diamond-bright wit and decadent dandyism. Lush, intoxicating prose and memorable epigrams ("The only way to get rid of a temptation is to yield to it", "Anyone who lives within their means suffers a lack of imagination") have kept his flame burning bright in the public imagination for well over a century. But he also had a surprising attachment to writing poignant fairytales underpinned by strong themes of redemptive Christianity. This tension between the decadent and the devout, the sensual and the spiritual, even found outlet in Wilde's interior decoration: his rooms at Oxford were decked with peacock feathers, sunflowers. lilies and blue china, as well as portraits of Pope Pius IX and Cardinal Manning, two noted defenders of the Catholic faith.

The Happy Prince and Other Tales (1888) was Oscar Wilde's first published book of fiction. It stands between his debut, a volume of poems from 1881, and the works he's best remembered for today: The Picture of Dorian Grav (1890) and The Importance of Being Earnest (1898). The stories were written during the early flowering of Wilde's genius, following the birth of his sons Cyril (1885) and Vyvyan (1886). Wilde declared, with characteristic flourish, "It is the duty of every father to write fairy stories for his children," and Vyvyan recalled being told many of them when he was young. But the intended audience for these stories was debatable. A critic in the Saturday Review at the time of publication wrote that Wilde, "for no doubt excellent reasons, has chosen to present his fables in the form of fairy tales to a public which - though it should number persons who can appreciate delicate humour and an artistic literary manner - will assuredly not be composed of children." Another critic went further: "The stories were not so much composed for children - as for Wilde himself."

Fairytales were in Oscar Wilde's blood. His father, Sir William Wilde, was a prodigious collector of Irish folk tales, which were published by his mother, Lady Jane Wilde, in an exhaustive volume after William's death. Oscar – who may have accompanied his father on visits to collect them – drew heavily on these stories for *The Happy Prince and Other Tales*, after a period refining them with spirited retellings at parties. (In a 1923 introduction to *The Happy Prince and Other Tales*, W.B. Yeats said, "When I remember him with pleasure it is always the talker I remember ... The further Wilde goes in his writings from the method of speech, from improvisation with some especial audience, the less original he is, the less accomplished.")

Wilde's fairy stories have layers of intent, and have been interpreted in numberless ways. They have been called, variously, light entertainment, literary fairytales, satires, burlesques and parlour tricks. They've been described as fables for children, and worthy companions to Hans Christian Andersen's writings, but in the same breath "encoded narratives for homoerotic desire". They've been placed alongside Charles Dickens in the "sentimental reforming tradition" of 19th-century literature, and many have noted that the stories, with their focus on inequality, poverty and suffering, relate directly to the realities of Wilde's time, including the recent horrors of the Great Famine in Ireland. and the grim plight of London's poor. They have



#### Despite the complexities and very adult ideas embedded in Wilde's fairytales, one can't discount the influence of his own children. He was, by all accounts, a loving and involved father who delighted in telling them stories.

been said to have been written as performances "which explore fissures in Wilde's own complex fate: an Irishman turned English; dandy become father; husband concerted to illicit lover." And finally, in drawing their inspiration from the downtrodden – whether that be peasants, fairies, children, or the emerging gay subculture of the time – the tales are subversive while posing as innocent. As *The Cambridge Companion to Oscar Wilde* observes, "It is from the margins of society, from the perspective of the poor, the colonised, the disreputable and the dispossessed, that these stories must be read."

The clear throughline of these stories is an insistent Christian morality. Oscar Wilde was raised an Anglican. When he was a young child his mother, against his father's wishes, had him secretly baptised in a Catholic church, and Wilde converted to Catholicism on his deathbed. When he was a young man, he wrote to his friend W.W. Ward that Christianity helps man "grasp at the skirts of the Infinite". The disparity between conventional religion and the Aestheticism that Wilde espoused - involving a reverence of beauty, the pursuit of pleasure and a love of art for art's sake - would permeate his work and his life. As Joseph Pearce wrote in his biography The Unmasking of Oscar Wilde, "However much Wilde may have been struggling with his own faith, it always emerges triumphant in the stories.

The Happy Prince and Other Stories and House of Pomegranates, a second book of fairytales that followed in 1891, are rich in religious iconography and feature martyrdom, redemption and transfiguration. The Happy Prince contrasts obscene luxury with heartbreaking poverty, the Prince's gold leaf and sapphire eyes with the hunger, cold and disease of his subjects. Both the compassionate Prince and his loyal messenger the Swallow make the ultimate sacrifice for others and through this achieve a kind of perfect beauty. This theme recurs in *The Young King*: the riches and luxuries of the court are contrasted with the people who must make the jewels and serve the monarchy. The Young King, after being visited by the evils of Death, Avarice, the Plague and the Fever in a dream, wears peasants' robes and a crown of twigs to his coronation. Another sacrifice (albeit on a smaller scale than the Swallow's); another spiritual awakening, with distinctly Christlike imagery. However, although Wilde's tales are ultimately a vindication of Christian ethics, he obviously revels in the description of exotic, the decadent, and the wonders of far-off places.

As the Young King walks into his father's chambers for the first time he's overcome – in a very Wildelike way – "with a strange passion for beauty that was destined to have so great an influence over his life ... Pale poppies were broidered on the silk coverlet of the bed, as though they had fallen from

#### THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET

the tired hands of sleep, and tall reeds of fluted ivory bore up the velvet canopy, from which great tufts of ostrich plumes sprang, like white foam, to the pallid silver of the fretted ceiling ... Never before had he felt so keenly, or with such exquisite joy, the magic and the mystery of beautiful things."

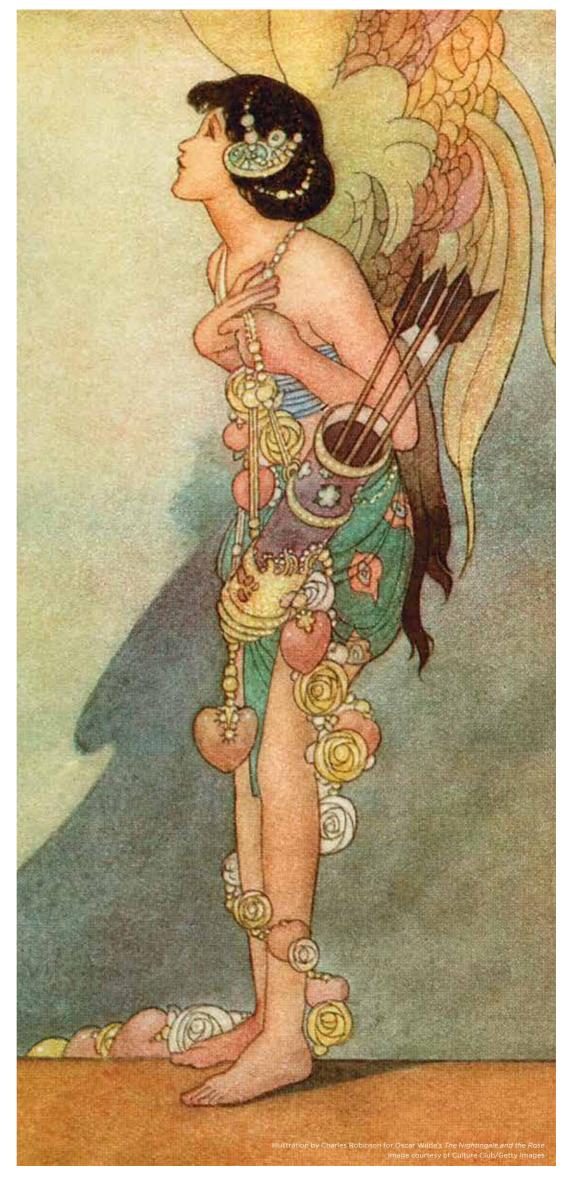
The tales of Egypt that the Swallow shares with the Happy Prince are just as heady. "He told him of the red ibises, who stand in long rows on the banks of the Nile, and catch goldfish in their beaks; of the Sphinx, who is as old as the world itself, and lives in the desert, and knows everything; of the merchants, who walk slowly by the side of their camels, and carry amber beads in their hands; of the King of the Mountains of the Moon, who is as black as ebony, and worships a large crystal; of the great green snake that sleeps in a palm-tree, and has twenty priests to feed it with honey-cakes; and of the pygmies who sail over a big lake on large flat leaves, and are always at war with the butterflies."

Despite the complexities and very adult ideas embedded in Wilde's fairytales, one can't discount the influence of his own children. He was, by all accounts, a loving and involved father who delighted in telling them stories. Vyvyan wrote, "Most small boys adore their fathers, and we adored ours; and as all good fathers are, he was a hero to us both and we always looked forward eagerly to his frequent visits to the nursery. He had so much of the child in his own nature that he delighted in playing our games. He would go down on all fours on the nursery floor, being in turn a lion, a wolf, a horse, caring nothing for his usually immaculate appearance. And there was nothing half-hearted in his methods of play. When he grew tired of playing he would keep us quiet by telling us fairy stories, or tales of adventure, of which he had a never-ending supply."

Wilde himself recounted an anecdote in which his son Cyril asked him if he dreamed. Wilde apparently replied: "Why of course my darling. It is the first duty of a gentleman to dream." Of what, asked Cyril. "Oh, I dream of dragons with gold and silver scales, and scarlet things coming out of their mouths, of eagles with eyes made out of diamonds that can see over the whole world at once, of lions with yellow manes, and voices like thunder, of elephants with little houses on their backs, and tigers and zebras with barred and spotted coats." Seeing his son was unimpressed, Wilde asked what Cyril dreamed of. "His answer was like a divine revelation: 'I dream of *pigs*,' Cyril said."

Vyvyan remembered that when Oscar told them the story of *The Selfish Giant* he had tears in his eyes, because "really beautiful things" made him cry. And throughout these stories, as enchanting and lyrical as they are, is a deep sadness, the sadness of wounded children, of injustice, and of Wilde himself. He was imprisoned for gross indecency when Cyril and Vyvyan were ten and eleven years old. Despite many impassioned pleas to their mother, despite loving them "to idolatry", as he wrote, he would never see them again. It was an ending as tragic as any Wilde wrote.

Kate Scott is a writer and the editor of Luminous: celebrating 50 years of The Australian Ballet



# Free as a Swallow

COMPOSER CHRISTOPHER GORDON TELLS US ABOUT WORKING WITH GRAEME MURPHY ON *THE HAPPY PRINCE* AND WHY WRITING FOR BALLET IS LIBERATING.



#### Can you describe your previous work with Graeme, and what you enjoy about collaborating with him?

What can I say? He's Graeme Murphy! I'm just enjoying the ride!

I first met Graeme and Janet Vernon in 2007, at a creative pre-production meeting for Bruce Beresford's film *Mao's Last Dancer*. We were discussing what dance music I needed to compose before shooting began. At one point Graeme described his choreographic concept for one scene with a movement of his arm that was so beautiful and elegant that it stayed with me as an inspiration throughout the composition of the score, which was spread out, on and off, over ten months.

I also wrote the score for Graeme's *Giselle and the Wraith Queen*, which was premiered in Seoul by Universal Ballet in 2015. Graeme gave the men much more to do than in the traditional *Giselle* ballet and crikey those dead women were badass! The score called for a Gayageum, a Korean percussion section, as well as Western percussion instruments and a full orchestra. The Frock was written and choreographed by Graeme in 2017 for MADE (Mature Aged Dance Ensemble) in Tasmania. It was small production and I didn't write a note of music for it! Instead I worked with Graeme and Janet and engineer Christo Curtis to record and shape the narration, the licensed songs and the sound effects.

So *The Happy Prince* is our fourth collaboration, which in itself is testament to our great working relationship. We have in common a love and appreciation of a very wide spectrum of musical styles, tastes and cultures; anything is on the table when we are discussing a scene. We are also both storytellers, so the dramaturgy is always front of mind.

#### You often compose for film – what correlations can be made between writing for film and writing for ballet, and what is unique about writing for ballet?

Well, storytelling (literal or abstract) is what both ballet and film have in common. People often talk about the music expressing the emotion of a film and while there is truth in that, I feel that more importantly, music brings out the tempi of the film, the pacing and the shape. Film by its nature is episodic and music, regardless of style, gives a film fluidity and unity. But for a composer, film is a fascist art form because the music cannot follow its own internal logic, it must be an exact length to a 24<sup>th</sup> of a second, and if the film changes direction on a particular frame then the music must also. The upside is the ability to go close on someone's face and musically be a part of that character's unfolding feelings, or the wonderful experience of composing for mighty landscape shots.

There is much more freedom in pure music – concert music – to discover the amazing places that a musical idea can take you. But as in life, with freedom comes responsibility; there is no narrative to hang the music on, and the structure must be found within the music.

In a way I have found ballet composition quite liberating in that it combines the narrative, pacing and emotional aspects of film with the architecture of pure music. It is now possible to fly free as a swallow, to express a musical idea through to its logical end, and to take on the role of the storytelling without battling dialogue and sound effects.

### Conductors

### How do you go about shaping character through your music?

The most noticeable colourings in *The Happy Prince* are that of the piano, which represents the Swallow, and the solo cello, which is the Prince. These instruments come to the fore at key moments, sometimes dominating the score. There are also the transitional duos which, if this were an opera, would be recitatives. By the end of the ballet, when the Prince has taught Swallow compassion and sacrifice, the cello becomes the featured instrument. There are separate themes that identify with the different characters but these mostly appear as set pieces rather than interweaving leitmotivs.

Orchestral density plays an important role in the shaping of the drama. Often the orchestra is pared back to small chamber ensembles, in stark contrast to the full orchestral pieces. For example the full orchestral bombast of the Artist's Ego is followed by the chamber fragility of the Match Girl. And then there is the dance band for the Swallow family, who can never quite get their act right; the Golden Age of Hollywood sound for the Reeds; and the solo violin and brass for the thumping, preening Mayoress.

#### What is the process of composing for a ballet – how does the exchange between composer and choreographer work, and what is unique about Graeme's process?

Each work is different. In this case there was a lot of talk about character and durations, and of course we had Kim Carpenter's wonderful sketches. Then I just needed to put my head down and write 85 minutes of music. I had good-quality synth demos made of the music, which Graeme was then able to sit with to expand his choreographic ideas. The dancers rehearsed to these demos and so we were able add and delete music in a couple of places, knowing how it would fit practically on the stage.

What's great about Graeme's process is that he throws lots of ideas into the mix but leaves plenty of room for me to bring my own.

#### What is your relationship with the Wilde story – were you familiar with his work before beginning this project? Has his story played any part in your composition process?

As a child I had a recording of Orson Welles and Bing Crosby narrating the story. I did read the short story when I commenced composing and the memory of that recording came flooding back. But once the story is broken down into a scenario it's necessary to put the Wilde aside and find musical and dance solutions to flesh out as a ballet.

#### What music for ballet do you admire, and why?

Well it is hard to go past the Russians: Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky and Prokofiev. Then there is *West Side Story*. I would love to see what could be done with some of the contemporary American composers like John Adams, Missy Mazzoli and Nico Muhly, or Iceland's Anna Thorvaldsdottir. What would Chris Thile come up with? I keep mentioning to Graeme that we should do a prog metal ballet ... any takers?



#### NICOLETTE FRAILLON AM

#### **Music Director & Chief Conductor**

Nicolette Fraillon began her music studies on violin and piano at an early age. At 16 she conducted her first concert with the Victorian Junior Symphony Orchestra. She graduated on viola from Melbourne University in 1982, gaining an equal first place in her year in Performance. From 1984-87 she furthered her instrumental studies at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna and from 1987-88 in Hannover. During her time in Germany and Austria Nicolette toured with many orchestras, including the Salzburger Chamber Ensemble and the Chamber Orchestra of Bassano, and was a member of the Haydn Quartet, based at the Esterhazy Palace in Eisenstadt.

In 1990 Nicolette moved to the Netherlands, where she became assistant musical director for the 1991-92 season of Les Misérables in Amsterdam and The Hague. In 1992 she was admitted to the Netherlands Broadcasting Association's International Conductors Masterclass, resulting in a performance with the Dutch Radio Symphony Orchestra in the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. This led to an invitation to conduct for the Nederlands Dans Theater. She was then invited to become music director and chief conductor of the National Ballet of the Netherlands, working with such renowned choreographers as Hans van Manen. Toer van Schayk, Rudi van Dantzig and Krzysztof Pastor, and conducting numerous world premieres. During the following five years she worked with the North Holland Philharmonic Orchestra, the New Sinfonietta Amsterdam, Noord Nederlands Orchestra, the Gelders Orchestra in Arnhem, the Limburg Symphony Orchestra, the Residentie Orchestra in The Hague, the Kanazawa Chamber Orchestra in Japan, and the Finnish Ballet.

In 1998 she took up the position of Director at the School of Music, Australian National University, and continued her conducting work with the West Australian Ballet, the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, the Australian Youth Orchestra and the Canberra Symphony Orchestra.

She debuted with The Australian Ballet in 2002, conducting *Spartacus*, and was then invited by David McAllister to become music director and chief conductor, beginning in January 2003. Since joining the company, Nicolette has conducted all programs for The Australian Ballet, including all of its overseas tours, and has been a guest conductor for San Francisco Ballet. Following The Australian Ballet's 2005 tour to the UK, Nicolette was, in 2006, invited back to conduct *The Sleeping Beauty* with Birmingham Royal Ballet's 2018 tour of Japan. In 2007 she guested with New York City Ballet. In 2008 she returned to the Birmingham Royal Ballet's Gal in Skopje with the Macedonian Philharmonic Orchestra. In early 2011 Nicolette guested with San Francisco Ballet, conducting their production of *Giselle*; in 2014 she guested with New York City Ballet. In 2016 she conducted the opening night of Birmingham Royal Ballet's production of Peter Wright's *The Nutcracker*, which was also the choreographer's 90th birthday.

Since 2014, Nicolette has also been artistic director of Orchestra Victoria, establishing new concert series, education programs and two regional music festivals.



#### SIMON THEW

#### Conductor

Simon Thew has undertaken conducting studies in Sydney, Vienna, Berlin, and Barcelona with mentors including Sebastian Weigle, Nicolette Fraillon, Harry Spence Lyth, Richard Bonynge, and John Hopkins.

In 2007 Simon was awarded the Dame Joan Sutherland/Richard Bonynge Travel Scholarship, which enabled further study in Europe, culminating in his position as musical intern at the Bayreuth Festival in 2008.

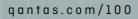
In 2010 he was awarded the Hephzibah Tintner Fellowship, which gave him performance and mentoring opportunities with The Australian Ballet, Opera Australia, and the Sydney Symphony. Simon was The Australian Ballet's Conducting Fellow in 2011, and in the same year was awarded a Churchill Fellowship. This enabled him to undertake professional development opportunities with ballet companies, opera houses and orchestras in London, Birmingham, Vienna, Berlin, and New York across 2012.

Simon was an assistant conductor with Opera Australia from 2007 - 2010. In 2010 he conducted Opera Australia's Oz Opera regional tour, and in the same year made his conducting debut with The Australian Ballet. In 2012 he acted as assistant conductor on the company's New York tour.

Simon was a regular guest conductor with The Australian Ballet between 2013 and 2016. He conducted performances in most of the company's seasons during that time. In 2017 he accepted an invitation to become The Australian Ballet's assistant conductor. He has also worked as a guest conductor for English National Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and Houston Ballet.

He has an active concert-conducting career and is committed to the education of young conductors and instrumentalists.

#### THE HAPPY PRINCE





# 

YEARS OF INSPIRING JOURNEYS



# **Close Up: Serena Graham**

SERENA, WHO JOINED OUR CORPS DE BALLET IN 2018, TALKS TO CHLOE GORDON ABOUT COMPANY LIFE AND WORKING ON *THE HAPPY PRINCE*.

#### You spent part of your childhood in Switzerland. What are your memories of that time?

We lived in a little town called Gansingen: it means Goose Town. Every town has their flag, and on Gansingen's there's a picture of a goose.

When we first moved there we were complete foreigners: these Australians who had sandwiches for lunch (over there, you go home each day for a cooked lunch). Some people thought that was really weird, and some people loved it and welcomed us.

I recently went back, after twelve years. The location in Europe is beautiful, and I took that for granted when I was younger. There's a nice nostalgic feeling in the town, and the arts culture there is really big.

# What is your earliest memory of seeing a live ballet?

Funnily enough it was The Australian Ballet doing *The Nutcracker*, at the Sydney Opera House. I must have been about eleven. My younger brother was in the production as one of the kids. I'd never really seen ballet as a professional thing. I loved it; it was really cool to see something like that live, not just on YouTube!

#### What has it been like to work on *The Happy Prince* with Graeme Murphy and Janet Vernon?

It's been so much fun to be part of the creation process. They're very down to earth. Graeme gives you the courage to really push yourself, and lets you explore. There's no fear and no boundaries, which I love. I've been working on pas de deux with some of the more senior dancers, and that's been a wonderful experience and really exciting.

I'm dancing the Reed, and she is a seductive temptress; she flirts with the Swallow and with the Wind. Every movement is slinky.

#### What do you enjoy about life as a company member with The Australian Ballet?

The music, the travelling ... all of it. Being able to move every day, and to work with people in the studio. I'm lucky to be doing work that's really fulfilling.

Now I've settled into the company, I feel like I can set goals. I've finished school, and can develop as an artist. I like to set goals almost weekly: in class, I'll push myself to do an exercise more than once, or to have the courage to put myself in the front – respectfully!

#### What is your pre-show routine?

It changes season to season. Just doing your make-up before the show is a kind of meditation. Some girls put their shoes on first, but I put them on last. I'm always running to the rosin box in costume, holding my shoes. I'm afraid that my ribbons will come untied onstage, so I put rosin on them. Once they're on my feet I don't think about it!

### What have you enjoyed performing with the company so far?

As a corps de ballet member it's really fulfilling doing ballets like *Giselle*, which use the corps so much. It's nice to do something like the Wilis, and then go home feeling physically and emotionally content. It was also fun dancing the quirky characters in Alexei Ratmansky's *Cinderella*, playing around with the mime. When I was new, it really helped me make friends with my colleagues.

It's been challenging, because every season has been new for me; I'm learning each ballet for the first time. In my first year we went to China and performed *The Sleeping Beauty.* That was being thrown in the deep end, because most of the dancers had already learnt it. That's the way it is in the company, compared with the School: it's go-go-go. And you get better at managing that.

Chloe Gordon is a communications specialist with a focus on the arts



# **Principal Artists**



DIMITY AZOURY

#### "deliciously precise" Simon Parris: Man in Chair

Dimity Azoury began dancing at the age of four in her home town of Queanbeyan, NSW. She studied for eleven years at the Kim Harvey School of Dance in Canberra before moving to The Australian Ballet School in 2005. She was accepted into The Australian Ballet in 2008, where she had the opportunity to travel to Paris, London, New York, Japan, San Francisco and Los Angeles. She has loved working with many choreographers including Nicolo Fonte, Graeme Murphy, Tim Harbour, Stephen Page and Stephen Baynes. Dimity was promoted to soloist in 2015 following her debut as Baroness von Rothbart in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake, to senior artist in 2017 and to principal artist in 2019.

#### Repertoire highlights

- Alice in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland<sup>®</sup> 2017
- Aurora in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2017
- Clara in Graeme Murphy's *Nutcracker The Story of Clara* 2017 Wayne McGregor's *Infra* 2017
- Swanilda in Peggy van Praagh's Coppélia 2016
- Baroness von Rothbart in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake
- 2016, 2015
- Tim Harbour's Filigree and Shadow 2015
- Twyla Tharp's In the Upper Room 2015
- Myrtha in Maina Gielgud's *Giselle* 2015 Jiří Kylián's *Bella Figura* 2013

#### Awards

- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award, 2014
- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2012
- Susan Morgan Scholarship 2012

#### You may not know ...

Dimity loves animals, especially wombats, giant anteaters and draft horses.



#### **BENEDICTE BEMET**

#### "sweetness, buoyancy and freedom" Arts writer Deborah Jones

Benedicte Bemet was born in Mackay in 1994, and started ballet at the age of three. She grew up on the Gold Coast and began her training at the Ransley's Ballet Centre. When she was ten her family relocated to Hong Kong, where she continued her balled training at the Jean M. Wong School of Ballet. She was accepted into The Australian Ballet School at age 14. In her time at the school she received the Award for Excellence in Level 6; in 2009 she was sent to New York and Canada to represent the schoo in the student exchange program. Benedicte toured with The Dancers Company in 2010 and 2011. She joined The Australian Ballet in 2012; she was promoted to corvphée in 2013, to soloist in 2016, to senior artist in 2018 and to principal artist in 2019

#### **Repertoire highlights**

- Swanilda in Peggy van Praagh's Coppélia 2016
- William Forsythe's In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated 2016 Viktor Gvosky's Grand pas classique 2016
- Second Region Pas de deux in Christopher Wheeldon's DGV®: Danse à grande vitesse 2016
- Third Movement Principal in George Balanchine's Symphony in C 2016
- Aurora and Princess Florine in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2015
- Peasant Pas de deux in Maina Gielgud's Giselle 2015
- Clara in Peter Wright's *The Nutcracker* 2014 Sérénade Variation in Serge Lifar's *Suite en blanc* 2014
- Soloist in Paquita 2013

#### Guest appearances

Paquita and Swan Lake Act III, The Dancers Company tour 2015

#### Awards

- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award 2015
- Khitercs Hirai Foundation Scholarship 2014 Green Room Award nomination for Clara in
- The Nutcracker 2014
- Telstra People's Choice Award 2013

You may not know ... Benedicte loves baking and cooking anything involving chocolate!



#### ADAM BULL

#### Philanthropy Ambassador

"tender and self-deprecating ... a true danseur noble"

#### The Observer, UK

Adam Bull's principal artist position is generously supported by Lachlan & Sarah Murdoch

Adam Bull was born in 1981 and began training at Dance World 301 with Brian Nolan before joining The Australian Ballet School. In 2000, he represented Australia in the Paris International Ballet Competition, before graduating from The Australian Ballet School with honours in 2001. Adam joined The Australian Ballet in 2002, going on to dance in many leading roles. After just six months as a senior artist, Adam was promoted to principal artist in June 2008, capping off a string of critically acclaimed lead performances. Adam has danced a vast range of the male classical repertoire; he has a fondness for works by George Balanchine, Sir Kenneth MacMillan, Graeme Murphy, Alexei Ratmansky, Christophe Wheeldon and Wayne McGregor. Performing in principal lead roles on the company's tours to Paris, London, New York, Los Angeles and Japan have been career highlights.

#### **Repertoire highlights**

- Albrecht in Maina Gielgud's Giselle 2015, 2006
- Prince Siegfried in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2008 2015
   des Grieux in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's Manon 2014, 2008
- The Prince in Peter Wright's The Nutcracker 2014, 2010, 2007
  - James in La Sylphide 2013, 2005
- The Prince in Alexei Ratmansky's Cinderella, 2013 Prince Siegfried in Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake 2013, 2012
- Onegin in John Cranko's Onegin 2012
- Bedroom Pas de deux from Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon* with American Ballet Theatre's Julie Kent, The Australian
- Ballet 50th Anniversary Gala, 2012 Danilo in Ronald Hynd's *The Merry Widow* 2011

#### Guest appearances

- Cinderella Pas de deux, Northern Ballet Sapphire Gala 2015 Prince Siegfried in Derek Deane's Swan Lake,
- Shanghai Ballet 2014
- 1st Chinese International Ballet Gala 2013
- Fall for Dance Festival, New York 2011 Stuttgart Ballet 50th Anniversary Gala 2011
- The Dancers Company tour 2006

#### Awards

- Green Room Award 'Year's Work' nomination 2009 Benois de la Danse Best Male Dancer nomination for
- Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2009
- Khitercs Hirai Foundation Scholarship 2009
- Green Room Award nomination for Albrecht in Giselle 2006

#### You may not know ..

"I have ticked off a lifelong dream of visiting the Antarctic continent, doing so in our summer break at the end of 2009. Landing at the same site as the famous Australian explorer Sir Douglas Mawson was an awe-inspiring and life-changing experience



**BRETT CHYNOWETH** 

#### "a very special artist" Arts writer Deborah Jones

Brett Chynoweth was born in Melbourne. At age five, he began training at a local ballet school. He soon moved to The Australian Ballet School, where he received, among other awards, the Dr HC (Nuggett) Coombes Travelling Scholarship, which enabled him to train in New York and Toronto. He graduated dux from The Australian Ballet School with honours and joined The Australian Ballet at the beginning of 2009; he was promoted to principal artist on stage at the end of the 2018 season in his home town of Melbourne. Since joining The Australian Ballet, Brett has performed a variety of classical and contemporary works by choreographers such as Carlos Acosta, Nacho Duato Tim Harbour, Jiří Kylián, Wayne McGregor, Graeme Murphy and Alexei Ratmansky, and his principal roles include works by some of the greats - Frederick Ashton, George Balanchine, Serge Lifar, Kenneth MacMillan, Christopher Wheeldon and Peter Wright

#### Repertoire highlights

- Prince Désiré in David McAllister's *The Sleeping Beauty* 2018, 2017, 2015
- Wayne McGregor's Infra (2017), Chroma (2014) and Dyad 1929 (2013)
- Viktor Gvosky's Grand pas classique 2017, 2016
  Franz in Peggy van Praagh's Coppélia 2016
- Puck in Frederick Ashton's The Dream 2015 \_
- The Prince in Peter Wright's *The Nutcracker* 2014 Lescaut in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon* 2014
- Mazurka in Serge Lifar's Suite en blanc 2014
- **Guest appearances**
- The Prince in Peter Wright's *The Nutcracker*, Birmingham Royal Ballet 2018

#### Awards

- Walter Bourke Scholarship 2013
- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award Nominee 2011 Maurice Sullivan Memorial Scholarship 2011/12

#### You may not know

Brett's favourite city is London: so much so, he once flew there for 24 hours just to see a show at the Royal Opera House



#### CHENGWU GUO

#### "explosive energy" The Age

Growing up in China, Chengwu Guo began dance classes at the age of eleven. He was accepted into the Beijing Dance Academy where he was able to combine his ballet training with academic studies. Chen's talent for ballet was soon evident when he received a gold medal at the Tao Li Bei of China Competition, and also at the Beijing International Competition. In 2006 Chen became a prize winner at the prestigious Prix de Lausanne competition in Switzerland, receiving a full scholarship to complete his vocational ballet training. He chose to take up this scholarship at The Australian Ballet School. During his time at the School Chen toured regional Australia with The Dancers Company, and received glowing reviews for his roles in The Sleeping Beauty, Graduation Ball and Coppélia, Chen joined The Australian Ballet in 2008 and was promoted to principal artist in 2013.

#### Repertoire highlights

- Albrecht in Maina Gielgud's *Giselle* 2015 Puck in Frederick Ashton's *The Dream* 2015
- Solor in Stanton Welch's La Bayadère 2014
- The Prince in Peter Wright's The Nutcracker 2014
- Basilio in Rudolf Nureyev's Don Quixote 2013
- Principal Man, Mazurka, in Harald Lander's Études 2012
- Mercutio and Tybalt in Graeme Murphy's Romeo & Juliet 2011
- First Red Knight in Ninette de Valois' *Checkmate* 2011 Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Concerto* 2011
- Graeme Murphy's Firebird 2009

#### Guest appearances

The Dancers Company tour 2008

#### Awards

- Green Room Award nomination for Don Quixote and La Sylphide 2013
- Maurice Sullivan Scholarship 2013 Telstra Ballet Dancer Award and Telstra People's
- Choice Award 2011

#### You may not know ...

Chengwu likes to watch Japanese anime in his spare time



#### AMY HARRIS

"flawless technique" The Daily Telegraph

Amy Harris was born in Ararat, Victoria and began jazz and tap classes at her local ballet school at the age of three. From the age of ten, Amy trained in the Cecchetti method with the Carole Oliver School of Ballet in Ballarat, and as a Cecchetti scholar she won bronze and silver medals. In 1999, aged 15, Amy successfully auditioned for The Australian Ballet School. She joined The Australian Ballet in 2002 and was promoted to coryphée in 2007, soloist in 2011 and senior artist in 2012. In 2018 she was promoted to principal artist on stage after her performance as Tertulla in the world premiere of Lucas Jervies' Spartacus.

#### **Repertoire highlights**

- The Queen of Hearts in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland® 2017
- Wayne McGregor's Infra 2017
- Aurora and the Lilac Fairy in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2017
- The Stepmother in Alexei Ratmansky's Cinderella 2016
  - Baroness von Rothbart in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2016
  - William Forsythe's In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated 2016
- Swanilda in Peggy van Praagh's Coppélia 2016 Romola in John Neumeier's Nijinsky 2016
- Twyla Tharp's In the Upper Room 2015
- Hanna in The Merry Widow 2011

#### Guest appearances

Principal Lady in Paquita and Odile in Swan Lake, The Dancers Company tour 2013

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dancer Award 2012 Telstra People's Choice Award 2008, 2010

#### You may not know ...

Amy is married to fellow dancer Jarryd Madden; they have a daughter, Willow, and a son, Phoenix.

# **Principal Artists**



**ROBYN HENDRICKS** 

#### "serene beauty" Arts writer Deborah Jones

South African-born Robyn Hendricks began ballet classes aged eight after her grandfather observed her dancing on her toes all the time. Growing up in an academic family, Robyn was the first family member to pursue a creative passion. Training in the Cecchetti Syllabus, Robyn travelled to Melbourne in 2001 to participate in the annual Cecchetti International Competition. During the competition, she was approached by The Australian Ballet School and was asked to audition formally for entrance into the prestigious national school. During her time at The Australian Ballet School, Robyn was one of four students selected to participate in a student exchange to Canada. where she studied for four weeks with the National Ballet School in Toronto, She joined The Australian Ballet in 2005; she was promoted to soloist in 2011, to senior artist in 2016, and to principal artist the same year

#### Repertoire highlights

- Alice in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland® 2019, 2017
- Odette in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2018 Giselle in Maina Gielgud's Giselle 2019, 2018
- Flavia in Lucas Jervies' Spartacus 2018 Odette/Odile in Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake 2016
- Gamzatti in Stanton Welch's La Bayadère 2014
- Wayne McGregor's Infra (2017), Chroma (2014) and Dyad 1929 (2009)
- Cigarette' solo in Serge Lifar's *Suite en blanc* 2014 2nd Ballerina in George Balanchine's *Ballet Imperial* 2014
- Christopher Wheeldon's After the Rain® 2011

#### Guest appearances

- Fall for Dance Festival 2014, 2012 The Dancers Company tour 2014, 2008

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2015, 2011, 2009, 2007 You may not know .

#### Robyn is interested in the horse-breeding industry

and owns a horse with her husband Charles Thompson, a former member of The Australian Ballet.



#### **KEVIN JACKSON**

#### "Jackson is a delightfully impulsive Romeo, all boyish charm and passion" The West Australian

#### Kevin Jackson's principal artist position is generously supported by Lynnette Harvey

Born in Perth, Kevin commenced his dance training at the age of seven with the Shirley Farrell Academy of Dance. In 2002 he graduated from The Australian Ballet School; he joined The Australian Ballet in 2003 and was promoted to principal artist in 2010. In his time with the company, he has performed many lead roles in both classical and contemporary works by choreographers including John Neumeier, Alexei Ratmansky, Wayne McGregor, Jiří Kylián and Graeme Murphy. Kevin enjoys the technique and artistry demanded by many different works but holds the story ballet closest to his heart

#### Repertoire highlights

- Vaslav Nijinsky in John Neumeier's Nijinsky 2016
- Prince Désiré in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2015
- Albrecht in Maina Gielgud's Giselle 2015
- Oberon in Frederick Ashton's The Dream 2015 Onegin and Lensky in John Cranko's *Onegin* 2012
- des Grieux in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's Manon 2014, 2008
- Prince Siegfried in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2014, 2013,
- 2009
- Romeo in Graeme Murphy's Romeo & Juliet 2011
- Jerome Robbins' A Suite of Dances 2008 - George Balanchine's Apollo 2007

#### Guest appearances

- The Prince in Stanton Welch's The Nutcracker, Houston Ballet 2016
- des Grieux in Kenneth MacMillan's Manon, American Ballet Theatre (exchange artist) 2014
- Lucas Jervies' Human/Abstract, JACK Productions, 2010

#### Awards

- Nomination for the Benois de la Danse award for Jack/Knave in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland®, 2017
- Helpmann Award for Best Male Dancer, Nijinsky, 2017 Telstra Ballet Dancer Award 2008
- Khitercs Hirai Foundation Scholarship 2007

Choreographic works Encomium for Bodytorgue.Muses 2011 - Enter Closer for Bodytorque.2.2 2009

#### You may not know ..

Kevin holds a Vocational Graduate Diploma in Elite Dance Instruction from The Australian Ballet School, and has a keen interest in teaching the next generation of dancers



#### ANDREW KILLIAN

"immaculate and debonair" Dance Australia

Melbourne-born Andrew Killian, a student of The Australian Ballet School, joined The Australian Ballet in 2000 and was promoted to principal artist in 2011. During his time with The Australian Ballet Andrew has thoroughly enjoyed performing leading roles in the company's extensive classical repertoire including Lescaut in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon*, the Prince in Peter Wright's *The Nutcracker*, Prince Siegfried in Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake and the Cavalier in George Balanchine's Ballet Imperial. Andrew has also been involved in the creation of many new works including Stephen Baynes' *Constant Variants* and Tim Harbour's *Wa*, and has performed in most of The Australian Ballet's Bodytorque seasons. He enjoys working closely with choreographers and offers a unique versatility that places him in high demand. Andrew has toured with The Australian Ballet to Auckland, Tokyo, Shanghai, New York, Los Angeles, London and Paris.

#### Repertoire highlights

- Prince Siegfried in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2015, 2014
- Wayne McGregor's *Chroma* and *Dyad* 1929 2014, 2013 Lescaut in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon* 2014, 2008 \_
- - Jiří Kylián's *Petite Mort* and *Bella Figura* 2014, 2013 Christopher Wheeldon's *After the Rain*© 2011, 2007
- The Prince in Peter Wright's The Nutcracker 2010 Jerome Robbins' A Suite of Dances and The Cage 2008
- Stephen Page's Rites 2008
  - Jiří Kylián's *Stepping Stones* 2005 and *Forgotten Lan*d 2016, 2005

#### Guest appearances

- Fool's Paradise with Morphoses 2009
- The Nutcracker with Houston Ballet 2007

#### Awards

Green Room Award 'Year's Work' nomination 2012 - Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2009, 2006

#### You may not know .

Andrew is still struggling to learn how to cook and cried like a baby at his best friend's wedding

#### **PRINCIPAL ARTISTS** GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY LES ÉTOILES

NSW/QLD Hayley Baillie Mrs Barbara Bedwell Mrs Susan Chisholm Mrs Bar Cohen Mrs Shaneen Crouch Mrs Gordon Douglass AM

Mrs Jane Freudenstein Bozena Gawart Mrs Lynnette Harvey **Roland Howlett** Mrs Frances Ingham Sarah Ingham Mrs Loraine McLaren

Deborah McMurtrie Mrs Helen O'Neil Mrs Roslyn Packer AC Dr Valmai Pidgeon AM Mrs Nancy Reardon Fonseca Mrs Kelly Wyborn

vic Mrs Mary Barlow Mrs Di Bertalli Lisa Bolte Ms Natasha Bowness Ms Robin Campbell Angie Carter

Mrs Annette Davis Alane Fineman Prue Gillies AM Ms Val Harding Ms Linda Herd Mr Ian Hicks AM Mrs Susie Hicks

Rosie Lew Ms Jodie Maunder Lady Potter AC CMRI Linton Soderholm



TY KING-WALL

#### "attains impressive heights" New Zealand Theatre Review

Born in Waihi, New Zealand, Ty King-Wall started dancing at the age of seven. He received his early ballet training at the Dance Education Centre in Tauranga. A Junior Associate of the New Zealand School of Dance, he left New Zealand at 16 to study full-time at The Australian Ballet School. Upon graduating dux with honours, Ty was accepted into The Australian Ballet in 2006. Since joining the company, Ty has danced numerous principal roles, and had the role of Ceyx created on him in Tim Harbour's *Halcyon*. He was promoted to soloist in 2010, to senior artist in 2011, and to principal artist in 2013.

#### Repertoire highlights

- Albrecht in Maina Gielgud's *Giselle* 2015 Solor in Stanton Welch's *La Bayadère* 2014
- Basilio in Rudolf Nureyev's Don Quixote 2013 Principal Man in Harald Lander's Études 2012
- Prince Siegfried in Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake 2012
- Lensky in John Cranko's *Onegin* 2012 Pinkerton in Stanton Welch's *Madame Butterfly* 2011
- The Prince in Peter Wright's The Nutcracker 2014, 2010
- Franz in Peggy van Praagh's Coppélia 2010 Prince Florimund in Stanton Welch's The Sleeping Beauty 2015

#### Guest appearances

- Prince Siegfried in Russell Kerr's Swan Lake with Royal New Zealand Ballet 2013
- Les Sylphides and Aurora's Wedding, The Dancers Company tour 2008

#### Awards

- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award 2010
- Khitercs Hirai Foundation Scholarship 2013
- Lissa Black Scholarship 2011 Silver Medal, Asia Pacific International Ballet Competition 2005
- PACANZ Young Performer of the Year Award 2002

#### You may not know ..

Ty is an avid follower of cricket, rugby union and AFL. He is also a long-time fan of Hergé's The Adventures of Tintin comics, and wants to start brewing his own beer.



#### AKO KONDO

#### "poised and elegant" The Age

Ako was born in Nagoya, Japan in 1991. At three years old she began her training at the Shiho Kanazawa Ballet Studio. In 2005 Ako won second prize at the Japan Grand Prix, and in 2006 she studied at The Royal Ballet School's International Summer School. In 2007 she was awarded The Australian Ballet School Tuition Scholarship, which was announced at the Youth America Grand Prix. Ako toured with The Dancers Company in 2008 and in 2010 joined The Australian Ballet. She was promoted to principal artist in April 2015 following her debut as Giselle becoming The Australian Ballet's first Japanese principal artist. Since joining The Australian Ballet, Ako has performed a variety of classical and contemporary works by choreographers such as Forsythe, McGregor, Murphy, Ratmansky and Wheeldon, and danced principal roles in ballets by choreographers such as Ashton, Balanchine, Lifar, MacMillan and Wright.

#### Repertoire highlights

- Alice in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland® 2017
- Wayne McGregor's Infra 2017 Aurora in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2017, 2015
- Swanilda in Peggy van Praagh's Coppélia 2016
- Odette/Odile in Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake 2016 William Forsythe's In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated 2016
- Cinderella in Alexei Ratmansky's *Cinderella* 2015 Giselle in Maina Gielgud's *Giselle* 2015
- Lescaut's Mistress in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon* 2014 Kitri in Rudolf Nureyev's *Don Quixote* 2013

Guest appearances Odette/Odile in Derek Deane's Swan Lake, Shanghai Ballet 2017

- Yokohama Ballet Festival 2017, 2016
- The Dancers Company tour 2012, 2011

#### Awards

- Helpmann Award for Best Female Dancer for Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland® 2018
- Nomination for Australian Dance Award for Outstanding Performance by a Female Dancer for Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland® 2018
- Nomination for the Benois de la Danse for Alice in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland<sup>®</sup> 2017
- Australian Dance Award for Outstanding Performance by a Female Dancer in Peggy van Praagh's *Coppélia* 2016 Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2015, 2012
- Susan Morgan Scholarship 2013

You may not know ... Ako is currently learning her third language, Chinese, and plans to learn more languages in the future



#### AMBER SCOTT

"alluring calmness and superb artistry" Fjord Review

#### Amber Scott's principal artist position is generously supported by Barbara Duhig

Amber Scott joined The Australian Ballet School at age eleven. After graduating as dux, she joined The Australian Ballet in 2001. In 2003 she spent four months on a dancer exchange at the Royal Danish Ballet, giving her the opportunity to learn the Bournonville technique firsthand. Amber was promoted to principal artist in 2011 after performing the Second Movement from Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Concerto*. Career highlights include working with Wayne McGregor on Dyad 1929 and Chroma; dancing with Robert Tewsley during the 2008 Manon season, Damian Smith in Christopher Wheeldon's After the Rain® Pas de deux in 2012 and David Hallberg in Alexei Ratmansky's Cinderella in 2013.

#### **Repertoire highlights**

- Swanilda in Peggy van Praagh's Coppélia (with David Hallberg of American Ballet Theatre) 2016
- Aurora and the Lilac Fairy in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2015
- Giselle in Maina Gielgud's Giselle 2015
- Nikiya in Stanton Welch's La Bayadère 2014
- The Sugar Plum Fairy in Peter Wright's The Nutcracker 2014, 2010
- Odette/Odile in Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake 2013, 2012
- Odette in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2004 2015
- Manon in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon* 2014, 2008 Tatiana in John Cranko's *Onegin* 2012
- Hanna in Ronald Hynd's The Merry Widow 2011

#### Guest appearances

- Odette/Odile in Derek Deane's Swan Lake with the Shanghai Ballet 2014
- National Ballet of China International Gala 2013 Odette/Odile in Russell Kerr's Swan Lake with Royal New
- Zealand Ballet 2013
- Fall for Dance Festival, New York City (Glen Tetley's Gemini) 2011 The Stuttgart Ballet's 50th Anniversary Gala (Molto Vivace Pas de deux) 2011

#### Awards

- Helpmann Award nomination for Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake 2013
- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award and Telstra People's Choice Award 2004
- First Place Junior Asian Pacific Competition, Tokyo 1999 Adeline Genée Awards, bronze medal 1998

#### You may not know .

Amber first danced with David Hallberg, principal dancer of American Ballet Theatre, in The Australian Ballet's 2013 Sydney season of Alexei Ratmansky's *Cinderella*. In 2016, she again partnered David in the company's Sydney season of Coppélia, his first performances after a two-and-a-halfyear break recovering from injury

# Senior Artists



#### JARRYD MADDEN

#### "superb" The Daily Telegraph

Encouraged by his danceteacher mother, Jarryd Madden started dancing at the age of three at his local dance school in Wauchope New South Wales. He remained there until 2005 when, aged 16, he joined Melbourne's National Theatre Ballet School. After a guest stint with The Australian Ballet during the 2007 season of Peter Wright's The Nutcracker, Jarryd officially joined the company at the beginning of 2008; he was promoted to coryphée in 2011, to soloist in 2015 and to senior artist in 2017. A versatile artist, Jarryd has performed in every Bodytorque season since joining the company

#### Repertoire highlights

- Jack/Knave of Hearts, Mad Hatter and Caterpillar in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland© 2017
- Doctor/Beloved Officer in Graeme Murphy's Nutcracker - The Story of Clara 2017
- Wayne McGregor's Infra 2017 — Franz in Peggy van
- Praagh's Coppélia 2016 William Forsythe's In
- the Middle, Somewhat Elevated 2016
- Twyla Tharp's In the Upper Room 2015 Jirí Kylián's Bella Figura
- 2013 Wayne McGregor's Dyad
- 1929 2013, 2009 Nacho Duato's Por Vos Muero 2009
- Nicolo Fonte's Possibility Space 2008

#### Awards

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- Telstra People's Choice Award 2016
- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2012 Green Room Award for
- Year's Work 2019

You may not know .. Jarryd is an avid comic-book collector, movie buff and music lover. He has a daughter Willow and a son Phoenix with fellow dancer Amy Harris



#### CRISTIANO MARTINO

"fresh and alluring" Bachtrack

Cristiano Martino began ballet in his hometown of Adelaide at The Barbara Javne Dance Centre. He moved to Melbourne in 2009 to join The Australian Ballet School, where he trained for four years before graduating as dux. He joined The Australian Ballet in 2013; he was promoted to corvphée in 2015, to soloist in 2017 and to senior artist in 2018

#### Repertoire highlights Spartacus in Lucas Jervies

- Spartacus 2018 The Prince in Alexei Ratmansky's Cinderella
- 2018 Prince Désiré and the Bluebird in David McAllister's The Sleeping
- Beauty 2017 Wayne McGregor's Infra 2017
- The Golden Slave/Faun in John Neumeier's Nijinsky 2016
- Benno in Stephen Baynes Swan Lake 2016
- Viktor Gvosky's Grand pas classique 2016
- Oberon in Frederick Ashton's The Dream 2015 Frederick Ashton's
- Symphonic Variations 2015 Jiří Kylián's Petite Mort 2014

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2014

You may not know ... Cristiano is still best friends with his first dancing partner, whom he's known from the age of ten; she often comes to see him dance.



#### MARCUS MORELLI

"fleet-footed precision" Sydney Morning Herald

Marcus Morelli was born in Melbourne and started dance classes at the age of ten. He studied at the Jane Moore Academy of Ballet and The Australian Ballet School, and toured with The Dancers Company in 2013. He joined The Australian Ballet in 2014; he was promoted to coryphée in 2015, and to soloist in 2017, after dancing the Bluebird in The Sleeping Beauty. He was promoted to senior artist after the 2018 season of Spartacus.

#### Repertoire highlights

- Stanislav Nijinsky in John Neumeier's Nijinsky 2016
- Actéon in *Diana and Actéon* Pas de deux 2016
- The Bluebird in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2015
- Puck in Frederick Ashton's The Dream 2015 Peasant Pas de deux in
- Maina Gielgud's Giselle 2015 Earl's Equerry in Graeme
- Murphy's Swan Lake 2015 Trepak in Peter Wright's
- The Nutcracker 2014 Agni the Fire God and Fakir in Stanton Welch's
- La Bayadère 2014 Pas de cing in Serge Lifar's Suite en blanc 2014

#### Awards

Telstra People's Choice Award 2015

#### You may not know ...

Marcus enjoys playing video games, watching TV, and skateboarding in his spare time

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET

#### SHARNI SPENCER

#### "elegant and sophisticated" Arts writer Deborah Jones

Sharni Spencer was born in Lismore NSW and grew up in Tamworth and Newcastle She began dance classes when she was three years old and studied at Sally Kefts School of Dance and Marie Walton Mahon Dance Academy before joining New Zealand School of Dance Sharni joined The Australian Ballet at the beginning of 2008 and was promoted to coryphée in 2012. She was the recipient of the Khitercs Hirai Foundation Scholarship in 2012, and used it to spend three months rehearsing and performing Giselle with Dutch National Ballet. She was promoted to soloist in 2017 and to senior artist in 2020

#### Repertoire highlights

- Alice in Christophe Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland© 2019 Peasant Pas de deux in
- Maina Gielgud's Giselle 2019
- Giselle in Giselle (Regional Tour) 2017 The Fairy of Generosity
- in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2017, 2015 Cinderella in Alexei
- Ratmansky's Cinderella 2018 Valencienne in Ronald
- Hynd's The Merry Widow 2018 The Countess in Stephen
- Baynes' Swan Lake 2016 'White Couple' in Jiří Kylián's Forgotten Land
- 2016 Fourth Movement Soloist in George Balanchine's Symphony in C 2016
- Cygnet in Graeme Murphy's and Stephen
- Baynes' Swan Lake 2012 -2015

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2017, 2013 Khitercs Hirai Foundation

#### Scholarship 2012 You may not know ..

Sharni has swum with manta rays in Hawaii

#### DANA STEPHENSEN

#### "a true delight" Bachtrack

At the age of three Dana Stephensen began her training in ballet, jazz, tap and singing with Davidia Lind in her hometown of Brisbane. She later trained with Mary Heath and Sandra Ashlev Dana joined The Australian Ballet School in 2002, She joined The Australian Ballet in 2005. She has since enjoyed international tours to Los Angeles, New York, UK, Auckland, Shanghai, Tokyo, and Paris. Her Khitercs Hirai Scholarship enabled her to gain invaluable experience training with numerous ballet companies in Europe. Dana was promoted to coryphée in 2010 and later that year won the Telstra Ballet Dancer Award, Dana was promoted to soloist in 2012 and to

#### Repertoire highlights Swanilda in *Coppélia* (The Australian Ballet

- Regional Tour) 2019 Stepmother in Alexei
- Ratmansky's Cinderella 2018, 2013

senior artist in 2018

- Tertulla in Lucas Jervies' Spartacus 2018
- Tim Harbour's Filigree and Shadow 2018 Valencienne in Ronald
- Hynd's The Merry Widow 2018
- Princess Florine and the Fairy of Temperament in David McAllister's The
- Sleeping Beauty 2018, 2017 Giselle in Giselle (The Australian Ballet's Regional
- Tour 2016) Lescaut's Mistress in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's
- Manon 2014 Rose Fairy in Peter Wright's
- The Nutcracker 2014 Wayne McGregor's Infra (2017), Chroma (2014) and
- Dyad 1929 (2013, 2009)
- **Guest appearances** Kitri in Don Quixote The
- Dancers Company tour 2010

#### Awards

2020 SEASON

- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award 2010
- Khitercs Hirai Foundation Scholarship 2008

You may not know .. Dana has a young son called Jasper who is the light of her life



#### VALERIE TERESHCHENKO

"magnificent" The Border Mail

Valerie Tereshchenko was born in Kiev Ukraine She immigrated to Australia with her family when she was six years old and a year later took her first ballet class. She trained at various Melbourne dance schools including West Point Ballet Academy, Ballet Theatre of Victoria, the Australian International School of Coaching and The Australian Ballet School. She joined The Australian Ballet in 2009: she was promoted to coryphée in 2015, to soloist in 2017 and to senior artist in 2018.

#### Repertoire highlights The Queen of Hearts in Christopher Wheeldon's

Alice's Adventures in

Spartacus 2018

Giselle 2017

classique 2016

Elevated 2016

2012

2015

2016 - 2014

tour 2015

Award 2017

Awards

Wonderland© 2019, 2017

Tertulla in Lucas Jervies

Giselle in The Australian

Ballet's Regional Tour of

The Lilac Fairy in David

McAllister's *The Sleeping Beauty* 2017, 2015

Wayne McGregor's Infra 2017

Viktor Gsovsky's Grand pas

William Forsythe's In the Middle, Somewhat

Russian Dancer in Stephen

Baynes' Swan Lake 2016

Myrtha, Queen of the Wilis

in Maina Gielgud's Giselle

Stepmother in Alexei

Guest appearances

Telstra Ballet Dancer

Telstra Ballet Dancer

Award nominee 2013

You may not know ..

member of Ballet Without

Borders, a not-for-profit

organisation that aims to

bring ballet education and

pathways to all children,

economic circumstance

regardless of socio-

or geography.

Valerie is a board

Ratmansky's Cinderella

Paquita and Swan Lake Act ///, The Dancers Company



#### JADE WOOD

#### "graceful strength" Dance Australia

Jade Wood was born in Cairns, Queensland, and started dancing at the age of three at the Jillanne Reynolds School of Dance. After moving with her family to Portugal for a year when she was ten, she returned to Cairns and joined The Australian Ballet School's Interstate Junior Programme traveling to Melbourne a few times per year. In 2004, Jade relocated to Melbourne to attend The Australian Ballet School. She toured with The Dancers Company in 2009 and 2010, and joined The Australian Ballet in 2011. She has toured internationally with the company to New York, Los Angeles, Berkeley, Beijing, Shanghai and London. She was promoted to coryphée in 2015, to soloist in 2017 and to senior artist in 2018.

#### Repertoire highlights

- Cinderella in Alexei Ratmansky's *Cinderella* 2018
- Princess Florine and the Fairy of Musicality in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2018, 2017, 2015
- Alice in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland<sup>®</sup> 2017
- Giselle in The Australian Ballet's Regional Tour of Giselle, 2017
- Valencienne in Ronald Hynd's The Merry Widow 2018
- Firebird in Graeme Murphy's Firebird 2018 Viktor Gvosky's Grand pas
- classique 2017 4th Movement Principal \_
- in George Balanchine's Symphony in C 2017 Agrippina Vaganova's
- Diana and Actéon Pas de deux 2016 'Bomb Squad' Ballerina in
- Twyla Tharp's In the Upper Room 2015

#### Awards

- Telstra Ballet Dancer
- Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2016, 2014

#### You may not know ...

Jade and her fiancé are proud owners of two long-haired miniature dachshunds named Bentley and Winter



# CHRISTOPHER RODGERS-WILSON

"poised and regal" Sydney Morning Herald

Christopher Rodgers-Wilson was born in England but grew up in Melbourne, starting ballet classes at the age of six. He trained at the Camberwell District Ballet School before moving to London to study at The Royal Ballet School, Christopher joined the Birmingham Royal Ballet in 2007, and toured with the company to Japan, China and the USA. He joined The Australian Ballet in 2011: he was promoted to coryphée in 2013, to soloist in 2016 and to senior artist in 2019.

#### Repertoire highlights

- The Prince in Peter Wright's *The Nutcracker* 2019
- The Shepherd in Stanton Welch's Svlvia 2019 Crassus in Lucas Jervies
- Spartacus 2018 Camille in Ronald Hynd's
- *The Merry Widow* 2018 Jack/Knave in
- Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland© 2017
- Franz in Peggy van Praagh's Coppélia 2016 The Bluebird in David
- McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2015
- Frederick Ashton's Symphonic Variations and The Dream 2015
- Wayne McGregor's Chroma 2014
- Jiří Kylián's Petite Mort 2014

#### Guest appearances

Swan Lake Act III and Paquita, The Dancers Company tour 2014, 2013

#### Awards

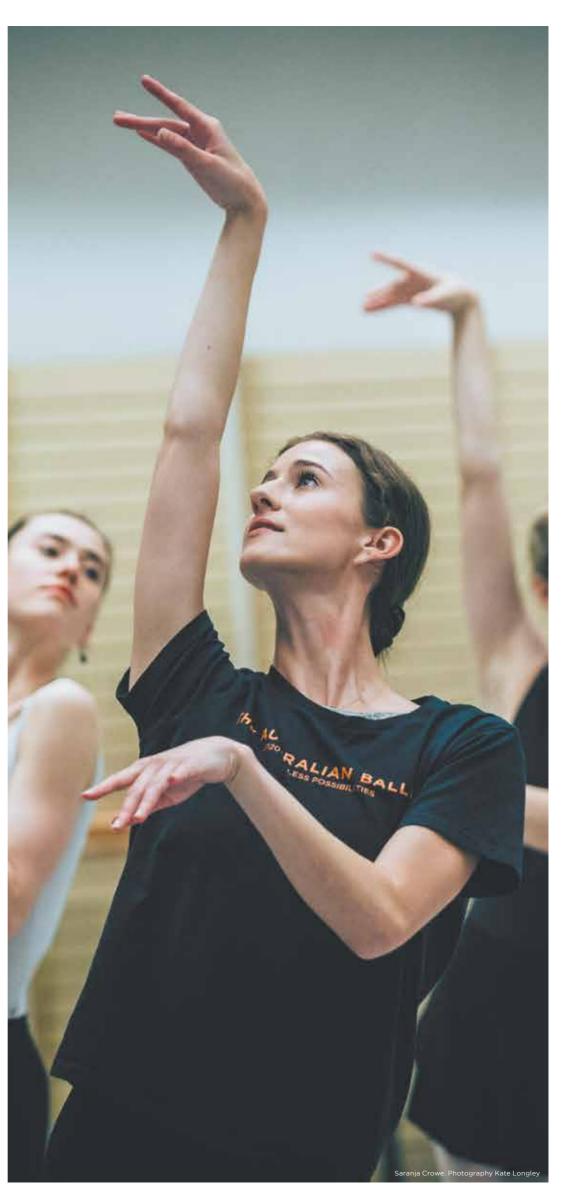
Telstra Ballet Dancer Award 2013

#### You may not know ..

Christopher loves an outdoor adventure, and recently hiked through Patagonia.

- Award and People's Choice Award 2018

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET



## Soloists



NATHAN BROOK

#### Nathan Brook's Soloist position is generously supported by the Stephanie Fairfax & Hayley Baillie Fund

Nathan was born and raised in Avalon Beach, New South Wales. He started dance classes at the age of seven after his parents recognised that, no matter what the music, Nathan was always dancing. He trained at Lamont Dance School in Avalon Beach, with Aryana Lamont, until the age of 14, when he moved to Melbourne to attend The Australian Ballet School, After graduating, Nathan joined Queensland Ballet's Young Artist Program, where he had the opportunity to perform in George Balanchine's Serenade© and Sir Kenneth McMillan's Romeo and Juliet He joined Queensland Ballet proper in 2015, touring with the company to Toronto, Canada and London. Nathan ioined the corps de ballet of The Australian Ballet in 2016; he was promoted to corvphée in 2018 and soloist in 2019.

#### Repertoire highlights

- Jupiter in Alexei Ratmansky's Cinderella 2018
- Scorpius in Lucas Jervies' Spartacus 2018 Graeme Murphy's
- Schéhérazade 2018 Kromow in *The Merry Widow* 2018
- Stephen Baynes' Constant Variants 2018
- The Caterpillar in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland© 2017 Aerial trio in David
- Bintley's Faster 2017 The New Dancer/Léonide
- Massine in John Neumeier's Nijinsky 2016 Second Movement Soloist in George Balanchine's
- Symphony in C 2016 Stephen Baynes' Imaginary Masque 2016

#### You may not know ..

Nathan is the youngest of three boys. Growing up on the beach, both his older brothers became competitive surf boat rowers; Nathan prefers to scuba dive



**IMOGEN CHAPMAN** 

Imogen was born in Perth, Western Australia. She began ballet at the age of three, and at the age of eleven moved to Melbourne to continue her training at The Australian Ballet School, In 2007 she moved to London to accept a place at The Royal Ballet School, graduating in 2010. During her time at The Royal Ballet School, she performed with The Royal Ballet in productions including La Bayadère, Giselle and Cinderella, toured to Japan with the School, and was chosen (in her second year of training) to tour with Carlos Acosta, performing Apollo in Valencia, After her graduation she joined the Scottish Ballet before joining The Australian Ballet in 2011. She was promoted to coryphée in 2016 and to soloist in 2018.

#### Repertoire highlights Prayer in Peggy van

- Praagh's Coppélia 2016 Guardian Swan in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2016,
- 2015 Lead Swan in Stephen
- Baynes' Swan Lake 2016 William Forsythe's In the Middle. Somewhat Elevated 2016
- Venus in Alexei Ratmansky's Cinderella 2016 2015
- Fairy of Joy in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2015
- Twyla Tharp's In the Upper Room 2015 Tim Harbour's Filigree and Shadow 2015

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dancer People's Choice Award 2014

### You may not know ... Imogen is very fond of

animals, the bush, live music and spending time at her family home in Perth's hills.



NICOLA CURRY

Ashton's The Dream, a Big

Swan in Kevin McKenzie's

in Natalia Makarova's La

of other featured roles in

Bayadère, along with a variety

ballets by George Balanchine,

Twyla Tharp, John Neumeier

and Alexei Ratmansky. She

has toured with American

Ballet Theatre to Moscow.

Muscat, Oman, Abu Dhabi

London, Paris, Tokyo, Beijing,

Seoul, Taipei and numerous

US cities. Nicola joined The

**Repertoire highlights** 

Tertulla in Lucas Jervies'

The Lilac Fairy in David

McAllister's *The Sleeping Beauty* 2018, 2017, 2015

Myrtha, Queen of the Wilis

in Maina Gielgud's Giselle

The Queen of Hearts in

Christopher Wheeldon's

Australian Ballet in 2015.

Spartacus 2018

INGRID GOW Nicola Curry grew up in Ingrid Gow was born in Colorado Springs, USA. At the age of 14, she moved to Randwick, Sydney in 1987. She knew from the age of four that she wanted to grow up to be a ballerina. Her Toronto to train at Canada's National Ballet School, where she received the Erik Bruhn Memorial Award for Excellence in Ballet. At the age of 18, Nicola moved to New York City to join American Ballet Theatre, where she danced for ten years. While at ABT, she performed featured roles such as Hermia in Frederick

### Myrtha, Queen of the Wilis

- 2019 The Queen of Hearts in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in
- McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2015
- Lake 2015
- Symphonic Variations 2015
- 2014 Jiří Kylián's Bella Figura
- Ratmansky's Cinderella 2016, 2015, 2013
- Murphy's Romeo & Juliet 2011
- 2011

#### Telstra Ballet Dancer

Award nominee 2014

You may not know .. Ingrid loves reading and adding to her high-heel collection.

**Guest appearances** Paguita and Swan Lake Act III, The Dancers Company

2016

tour 2015

**BRODIE JAMES** 

Brodie James was born

in Perth and began his

dance training with jazz

and acrobatics at the Jody

in 2001. He trained at The Graduate College of Dance

direction of Dawn Weller, He

was offered a scholarship to

attend The Australian Ballet School in 2008; while there

student. He toured with The

Dancers Company in 2011

and joined The Australian

Ballet in 2012. In 2014 he

participated in a dancer

exchange, performing with

the Royal Ballet of Flanders

to coryphée in 2017, and to

Repertoire highlights

Wright's The Nutcracker

Orion in Stanton Welch's

The Prince in Peter

The Prince in Alexei

Ratmansky's Cinderella

Tim Harbour's Filigree and

Christopher Wheeldon's

Viktor Gsovsky's Grand pas

Alice's Adventures in

Wonderland® 2017

classique 2017, 2016

(Regional Tour) 2016

'White Couple' in Jiří

Frederick Ashton's

in Stanton Welch's

La Bayadère 2014

Kylián's Forgotten Land

*Monotones II* 2015 Garuda the Dream God

Albrecht in Giselle

soloist in 2018.

2019

2018

Svlvia 2019

Shadow 2018

The Caterpillar in

in Antwerp. He was promoted

he spent time studying at

Canada's National Ballet

School as an exchange

Marshall Dance Company

from 2005 under the

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dance Award nominee 2018, 2016 You may not know

Brodie is currently studying a bachelor of media and communications online



#### **CALLUM LINNANE**

Callum Linnane grew up in Ballarat, Victoria, where he began tap-dancing classes at the age of seven. He started ballet classes when he was eleven. He trained with Lauren Young before being accepted into The Australian Ballet School in 2008. Callum toured with The Dancers Company in 2013 and 2014; he joined The Australian Ballet in 2015. He was promoted to corvphée in 2017 and to soloist in 2018

#### Repertoire highlights

- The Prince in Alexei Ratmansky's Cinderella 2018
- Albrecht in Maina Gielgud's Giselle 2018
- Jack/Knave of Hearts in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland© 2017
- Second Movement Principal in George
- Balanchine's Symphony in C 2017 Vaslav Nijinsky in John
- Neumeier's Nijinsky 2016 William Forsythe's In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated 2016
- First Movement Principal in George Balanchine's
- Symphony in C 2016 Stomper in Twyla Tharp's
- In the Upper Room 2015 Tim Harbour's Filigree
- and Shadow 2015

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dancer Award 2016

#### You may not know ...

Callum is related to Lieutenant-Colonel Vivian Bullwinkel, AO, MBE, ARRC, ED FNM, an Australian Army nurse during the Second World War and the sole surviving nurse of the Bangka Island Massacre, which took place on 16 February 1942. Vivian was an Australian hero

training began at Academy Ballet in Sydney and continued at the New Zealand School of Dance. In 2007 Ingrid successfully auditioned

for Royal New Zealand Ballet, where she danced for three years. Ingrid joined The Australian Ballet in 2010: she was promoted to coryphée in 2013 and to soloist in 2018.

### Repertoire highlights

- in Maina Gielgud's Giselle
- Wonderland® 2019 The Fairy of Grace in David
- The Princess Royal in Graeme Murphy's Swan
- Frederick Ashton's
- Jiří Kylián's Petite Mort
- 2013
- Skinny Stepsister in Alexei
- Lady Capulet in Graeme
- Grand Matriarch in Ronald Hynd's The Merry Widow

#### Awards

- Alice's Adventures in Wonderland® 2017 Bronislava Nijinsky in John Neumeier's Niiinsky 2016
- Lead Swan in Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake 2016 William Forsythe's In the Middle. Somewhat
- Elevated 2016 Stomper in Twyla Tharp's In the Upper Room 2015

#### Awards

2018

Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2016

#### You may not know

Nicola is a qualified Pilates instructor. She can also be seen performing in the ballet class scenes in the 2010 Oscar Award-winning film Black Swan.

#### Swan Lake, Her Stepsister in James Kudelka's Cinderella, Lady Capulet in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's Romeo and Juliet, and Tall Pas d'Action



#### JAKE MANGAKAHIA

Jake was born on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, As soon as his parents discovered that their baby was bopping his little head to any music he heard, they put him into dance classes. At the age of ten Jake successfully auditioned for The Australian Ballet School. At the age of 18 he joined The Australian Ballet. He was promoted to coryphée in 2017 and to soloist in 2018.

## **Repertoire highlights** Tim Harbour's *Squander*

- and Glory 2017 Vaslav Nijinsky in John
- Neumeier's *Nijinsky* 2016 Stephen Page's *Waramuk* -
- in the dark night 2012 Graham Murphy's Beyond Twelve 2012
- Gary Stewart's Monument 2011

#### Awards

2016

Telstra People's Choice Award 2017, 2012

#### You may not know . In 2014 Jake made the decision to take a two-year sabbatical and fulfil a life-long dream to serve as a Christian missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day-Saints He served in the Toronto mission and returned to The Australian Ballet in

Symphony in C 2017 Wayne McGregor's Infra 2017 Red Pas de deux in Jiří

deux 2017

Kylián's Forgotten Land 2016

**KAREN NANASCA** 

Karen Nanasca was born

Hailing from an athletic

from the age of seven.

Her natural talent was

immediately noticed and

She won the New Zealand

2004, followed by a placing

in the semi-finals of the Prix

2006 she was the recipient

of the Elizabeth McDonald

cross the Tasman and join

Scholarship, allowing her to

The Australian Ballet School.

Karen became a member of

The Australian Ballet's corps

de ballet in 2009 and was

promoted to coryphée in

soloist in 2018.

2012; she was promoted to

**Repertoire highlights** 

Giselle in Giselle (The

Fairy of Temperament

in David McAllister's The

Diana and Actéon Pas de

- 3rd movement Soloist in George Balanchine's

Tour) 2017, 2016

Australian Ballet's Regional

Sleeping Beauty 2017, 2015

National Ballet Award in

de Lausanne in 2005. In

nurtured by her teachers at the Mt Eden Ballet Academy.

in Auckland, New Zealand,

family, she followed in their

footsteps by studying ballet

- Stomper in Twyla Tharp's In the Upper Room 2015
- Cvanet in Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake 2012 -2015
- Clara in Peter Wright's The Nutcracker 2014 Wayne McGregor's Dyad

Awards Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2011

1929 2013, 2009

#### You may not know ..

In 2015 Karen participated in an exchange with the Royal Swedish Ballet and performed in Rudolf Nureyev's production of Don Quixote.



#### **RINA NEMOTO**

Rina Nemoto was born in Tokyo, Japan, and began dancing at the age of three At the age of 15, she travelled to Paris for two years of classical ballet training with Daini Kudo and Dominique Khalfouni. In 2009, Rina was awarded a Prix de Lausanne scholarship and joined The Royal Ballet as an apprentice dancer. She joined The Australian Ballet in 2011; she was promoted to corvphée in 2016 and to soloist in 2018.

- **Repertoire highlights** Alice in Christopher Wheeldon's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland<sup>®</sup> 2017 Fairy of Grace and Fairy of Generosity in David
- McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2017, 2015 Pas de trois from Stephen
- Baynes' Imaginary Masque 2017 Pas de deux from Stephen
- Baynes' Molto Vivace (Ballet Under the Stars 2017)
- La Sieste in Serge Lifar's *Suite en blanc* (Adelaide Gala Spectacular 2017) 2nd Movement Soloist
- in George Balanchine's Symphony in C 2017 Dawn in Peggy van
- Praagh's Coppélia 2017 Countess, Lead Swan and Russian Dancer in Stephen Baynes' Swan Lake 2016

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2018, 2014

#### You may not know ..

Rina is interested in pottery, and would like to explore it when she has more time.



#### JILL OGAI

Jill Ogai was born in Sydney in 1993, and grew up on Bondi Beach. At the age of four she and her twin brother, after watching a ballet video. surprised their parents by asking if they could start ballet classes. She began at The Ballet Class Rose Bav When her family moved to Adelaide she continued training with Sheila Laing and Elayne Cherry before moving to Melbourne at age 14 to begin full-time studies at The Australian Ballet School Jill toured with The Dancers Company in 2010 and 2011 and joined The Australian Ballet in 2012. She was promoted to soloist in 2018

#### Repertoire highlights

- Fairy of Temperament and Princess Florine in David McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty 2017, 2015
- Tim Harbour's Squander and Glory 2017 Diana and Actéon Pas de
- deux 2017, 2016 The Duchess in Stephen
- Baynes' Swan Lake 2016 William Forsythe's In the Middle, Somewhat
- Elevated 2016 Tim Harbour's *Filigree and Shadow* 2015
- Twyla Tharp's In the Upper Room 2015
- Dumpy Stepsister in Alexei Ratmansky's *Cinderella* 2015, 2014
- Moth in Frederick Ashton's The Dream 2015 First Shade variation in Stanton Welch's La

Bayadère 2014

#### Guest appearances

Expressions Dance Company Solo Festival of Dance, Tim Harbour's Extro 2

#### Awards

Telstra Ballet Dancer Award nominee 2016

You may not know .. Jill paints, draws and makes her own clothing

## Coryphées





SHAUN ANDREWS

JACQUELINE CLARK









DREW HEDDITCH









MASON LOVEGROVE<sup>^</sup>



LUKE MARCHANT

AMANDA McGUIGAN

ALICE TOPP







YUUMI YAMADA





KARINA ARIMURA



SARA ANDRLON



EVIE FERRIS



LARISSA KIYOTO-WARD



JETT RAMSAY

38

EMMA KOPPELMAN



RILEY LAPHAM



MATTHEW BRADWELL

JOSEPH ROMANCEWICZ

LILLY MASKERY

DANIEL BRYNE

BENJAMIN GARRETT

KATHERINE SONNEKUS



SERENA GRAHAM



COCO MATHIESON



BELLE URWIN



ELLA HAVELKA

YICHUAN WANG



ISOBELLE DASHWOOD



CAMERON HOLMES



SOPHIE MORGAN



AYA WATANABE



LUCIEN XU WOOD







JACOB DE GROOT











JESSICA























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## Artistic Staff



#### **FIONA TONKIN OAM**

Artistic Associate & Principal Coach

Fiona Tonkin began her career at the Roval New Zealand Ballet in 1979. At the invitation of Marilyn Jones Fiona joined The Australian Ballet in 1980. By 1987 she had become a principal artist renowned for her interpre tative artistry, classicism and technical versatility

Career highlights include dancing Aurora at the Roval Opera House London. Juliet at the Kirov Theatre St Petersburg, Flavia and Giselle at the Metropolitan Opera House New York, and opening the company's 1992 London season as Giselle She appeared as a guest artist with the Kirov Ballet in Swan Lake and on the Rudolf Nureyev Farewell Tour, and danced the title roles in the ABC Television broadcasts of La Fille mal gardée and Romeo and Juliet. Fiona received Green Room Awards in 1988 and 1989

During her 14 years with the company Fiona performed in over 70 ballets including all the major classics as well as ballets such as Onegin, Song of the Earth. Monotones Suite en blanc, Serenade, Symphony in C, Ballet Imperial, Four Temperaments, The Concert, Return to the Strange Land, Forgotten Land and Pillar of Fire

Fiona graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1998 while guest-teaching in New Zealand and Australia. In 1999 she completed The Australian Ballet School's Teachers Course and was awarded the Australian Multicultural Foundation Scholarship.

In 2000 Artistic Director Matz Skoog appointed her Rehearsal Director of the Royal New Zealand Ballet She continued to work with Skoog in London as assistant artistic director of the English National Ballet in 2002. Fiona returned to The Australian Ballet in 2003 at the invitation of David McAllister, and celebrated 25 years with the company in 2013.



#### **STEVEN HEATHCOTE** AM

**Ballet Master &** Regional Touring Associate

Born in Western Australia, Steven Heathcote took up ballet lessons at the age of ten. He was accepted into The Australian Ballet School at the age of 16 and was offered a contract with The Australian Ballet in 1983.

Steven experienced a rapid rise to the rank of principal artist, a position he sustained for 20 years. He was invited to perform as quest artist with some of the world's major ballet companies. including American Ballet Theatre, Birmingham Royal Ballet, the Royal Danish Ballet and the Mariinsky Ballet

After retiring from the dance stage in 2007 as The Australian Ballet's longest serving principal artist, Steven appeared in the 2009 feature film Mao's Last Dancer and has been actively engaged in specialised coaching for dancers, public speaking presenting and acting.

In 2010 Steven conceived and directed a new production of Handel's Julius Caesar, for Victorian Opera. In 2012 he returned to opera as choreographer and assistant director to John Bell for the Victorian Opera's new production of Stravinsky's The Rake's Progress.

In 2013, Steven performed the title role of Don Quixote in The Australian Ballet's production of the ballet, and was assistant director to John Bell for Opera Australia's new production of Tosca.

Steven lives in Melbourne with his wife Kathy: they have two adult children

In 2014, at the invitation of David McAllister, Steven returned to The Australian Ballet as a ballet master and regional touring associate.



#### **ELIZABETH TOOHEY**

Rallet Mistress & Repetiteur

Elizabeth was born in Newcastle and joined The Australian Ballet after graduating from The Australian Ballet School in 1979. She remained with the company until 1990. In 1985 she and David McAllister entered the 5th International Ballet Competition in Moscow Following this, they were invited to perform Don Quixote with the Bolshoi Ballet in 1986 and the Kirov Ballet in 1988. They performed Walter Bourke's Grand Tarantella in galas around the former Soviet Union, cementing an enduring partnership

She has been a guest artist with Norwegian National Ballet and a resident quest principal with English National Ballet, Career highlights include dancing the Peasant Pas de deux in Maina Gielgud's Giselle at New York's Metropolitan Opera House and the Bluebird Pas de deux at London's Covent Garden before the Queen, both with David McAllister.

Following her retirement. Elizabeth completed an Arts Administration apprenticeship with English National Ballet she is also an internationally certified Stott Pilates Instructor. In 2008 she joined the Roval Swedish Ballet's rehabilitation team, where she worked with injured dancers and expectant mothers. During this time she developed a program, Barre for the Centre, which focuses on safe biomechanical build-up during a professional barre. She was also the company's ballet mistress and rehearsal director.

In 2017, Elizabeth accepted David McAllister's invitation to become a ballet mistress and repetiteur of The Australian Ballet: she has also performed as a guest artist, in roles such as the Queen in McAllister's The Sleeping Beauty. In 2019, Christopher Wheeldon entrusted her with the task of staging his Alice's Adventures in Wonderland® for the company

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET



#### PAUL KNOBLOCH

**Rallet** Master

Paul Knobloch was born in Canberra and began his dance training at the Canberra Dance Development Centre before graduating from The Australian Ballet School with honours in 1997.

Paul joined The Australian Ballet in 2002 and rose to the rank of soloist before embarking on an international career. In 2009 he took up the invitation to join Béjart Ballet Lausanne as a premiere danseur and has performed all over the world as a member of distinguished companies including English National Ballet, West Australian Ballet, Alonzo King LINES Ballet USA and Sydney Dance Company.

Paul has danced many principal and soloist roles in the works of celebrated choreographers and has performed on the most . illustrious stages in the world including Palais Garnier London Coliseum and Tokyo Bunka Kaikan

He has built a strong identity as both a leading artist and choreographer and has a string of accolades to his name. Paul has caught the eye of many renowned choreographers and has had numerous roles created on him as a dancer; he has also forged his own choreographic voice, creating works for The Australian Ballet, Ballet Victoria and leading schools and institutions across Australia, Canada and the USA

He has had professional teaching appointments at companies including Sydney Dance Company, Bangarra Dance Theatre, and Hong Kong Ballet.



#### **MEGAN CONNELLY**

Rallet Mistress & Rehabilitation Specialist

Megan Connelly joined The Australian Ballet in 1991 under the direction of Maina Gielgud, and performed in many works including The The Merry Widow, La Fille mal gardée, The Taming of the Shrew and Symphony in C. She was appointed assistant to the ballet staff before taking up the position of principal teacher at the Music Festival, Berlin. She has performed with Victoria State Opera and Opera Australia; her choreographic for the 2000 Australian Dance Awards, and Voices accompanied by Melbourne Bulgarian Women's Choir. She has been a guest teacher at Sydney Dance Company, Queensland Ballet, Victorian College of the Arts, Ballet Philippines, Royal Flemish Opera Ballet School, Staatheatre St Gallen. Michael Clark Company and Cecchetti Society

At the invitation of David McAllister, Megan returned to The Australian Ballet in 2001 as assistant to the artistic director, and soon after added the work of ballet coach to the role. During this time, Megan co-authored Bodywise for ABC books and qualified as an APMA Pilates Instructor

In 2009 Megan was appointed ballet technique & rehabilitation specialist for The Australian Ballet and returned to the stage as the Mother in Alexei Ratmansky's Scuola di ballo. In 2010 she joined the teaching staff of The Australian Ballet School. in addition to her work with the company, and in 2012 completed a Vocational Graduate Certificate in Elite Dance Instruction. In 2014 she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship.

Sleeping Beauty, Don Quixote, Giselle, Romeo and Juliet, Christine Walsh Dance Centre In 1999 she was appointed ballet mistress on the Year 2000 project for the Sansouci works include Between Space

# PLAYBILL ADS 41

# PLAYBILL ADS 42

# **Sharni's Shoes**

NEWLY PROMOTED SENIOR ARTIST AND BLOCH PROFESSIONAL SHARNI SPENCER TALKS US THROUGH HER POINTE-SHOE ROUTINES.

#### What kind of pointes do you wear?

I wear a Bloch Heritage custom shoe, size 5 and a half, with a heel pin.

I first started in a Bloch Sylphide and I've also worn their European Balance and trialled some of their other shoes, but I'm now quite attached to my Heritage. It's my 26<sup>th</sup> variation of my customised shoe and that is printed on the inside: SS26 (the SS is my initials). Each dancer's shoe is quite personalised and every dancer has different specifications. I have a heel pin to give a tiny bit of extra room in the heel. It gives it a bit more length and gives the heel a nice shape. I also have a tiny foam cushion to protect my toes.

#### Do you have any pointe-shoe rituals?

I always like to keep a little store of shoes that I think are at a perfect stage of preparation or will be perfect for a certain role. So that I can tell them from my other shoes, I mark them on the inner sole with a little symbol: a tick or a star or a smiley face. If they're for a certain role, I'll indicate that with a word, like 'Sugar' for Sugarplum Fairy, 'Snow' for 'Snow Fairy' - when I was dancing the Fairy of Generosity in *The Sleeping Beauty* it was 'Jenny'. Once I've performed in that pair of shoes, I'll 'retire' them and use them for rehearsals or class.

#### How do you prepare your shoes?

I don't do a lot to my shoe to break it in. I usually squish the box in a door hinge to flatten it out - it gives me more space and softens the box a little. I feel like I can use my intrinsic muscles more this way, without squishing my metatarsals together. I wear a Pro Pad from Bloch inside my shoe to protect my toes and provide more comfort.

I use two pieces of thick elastic to criss-cross over my arch. I sew one end of the elastic to the sides of the heel and the other end to the seam on the shoe at the arch, so that it lifts the satin up where I want it to be. The criss-cross also helps my ankle and foot to feel stable in the shoe.

Finally, I attach an Elastorib ribbon, which I also get from Bloch, at the same point as the elastic on the diagonal side seam. I place the satin ribbon on the arch seam before placing the elastic on top and then sewing them on together with a thick darning thread, looping through the ribbon and the canvas of the shoe but being careful of not going through to the satin on the outside.

## How many pointe shoes do you go through per performance?

It depends what I'm dancing – it can be two pairs per performance for a big full-length ballet. For other shows you might wear the same pair for almost a week! On average, with class, rehearsals and performances, I go through about 50 pairs a year.

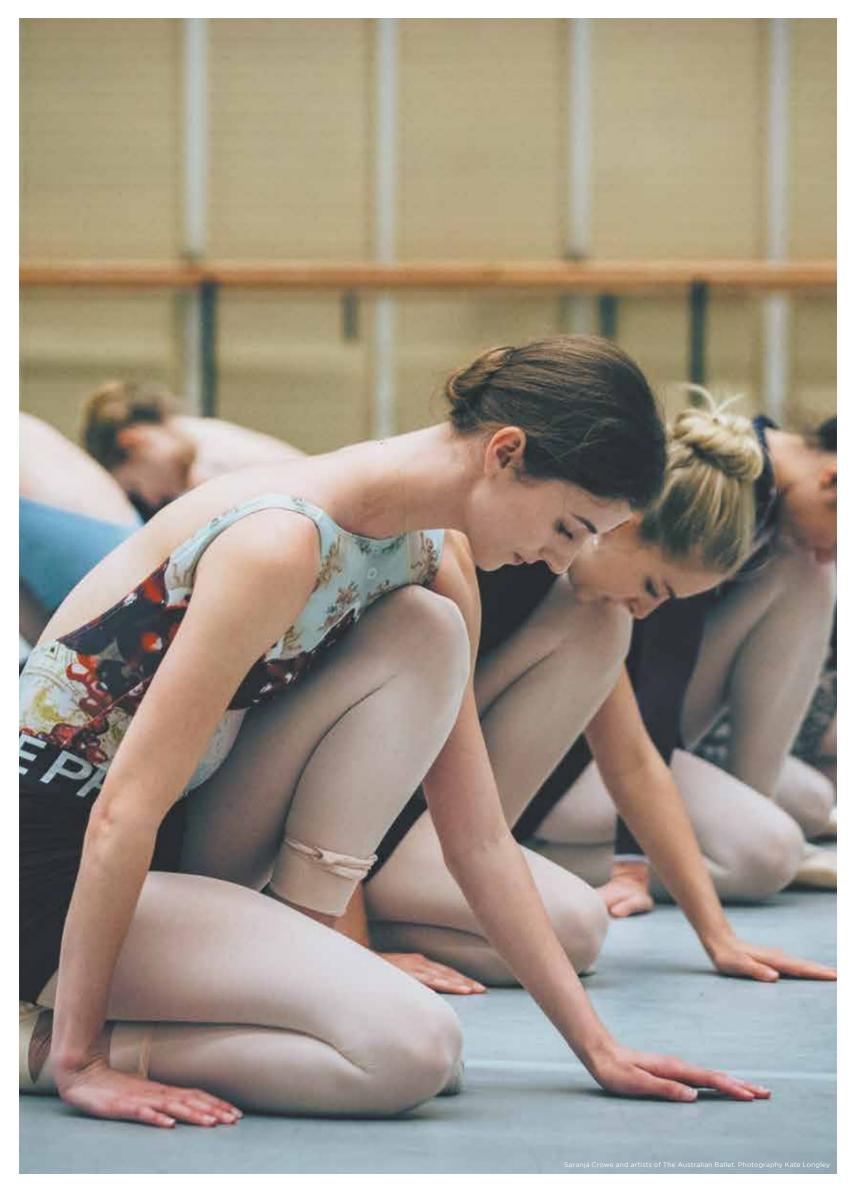
Official Pointe Shoe Partner





#### THE HAPPY PRINCE

Photography Kate Longley





#### A NOTE FROM EDWINA McCANN

On behalf of the Foundation Board, welcome to an extraordinary time in The Australian Ballet's history, a time of transformation and excitement, as we celebrate David McAllister's directorship, announce a new artistic director and look towards the company's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022.

The Foundation Board was established in 2010 with the principal objective of providing support to raise the funds necessary to realise The Australian Ballet's goals. We care deeply about the company and its future as the premiere performing arts organisation in Australia and we will continue to work hard with our community to build a strong financial base for future success.

The Australian Ballet was born of this country's deep and enduring love of dance almost 60 years ago and right from the beginning we have had patrons to support the company every step of the way.

We are thrilled that this all-Australian world-premiere production of *The Happy Prince* has been supported by a wonderful donation from one of our dearest Queensland patrons, who wishes to remain anonymous. The music score was commissioned with the assistance of The Robert and Elizabeth Albert Music Fund and The Dame Margaret Scott Fund for Choreographers has supported Graeme Murphy as he created the ballet. This is a perfect example of how philanthropy has helped the company realise a dream – our wonderful patrons help us shine brighter than gold.

dunia Mann

Edwina McCann Chair Foundation Board

#### FOUNDATION BOARD

Edwina McCann *Chair* 

Jane Freudenstein Chair, Northern Chapter

Robin Campbell Chair, Southern Chapter Nina Aberdeen Arun Abey AM Hayley Baillie Mary Barlow Di Bertalli Bill Bowness AO Natasha Bowness Prue Brown Colin Carter AM Georgina Curran Cara Elslev Suellen Enestrom Frances Ingham Sarah Ingham Nicola Kaldor Gail Marshall Jodie Maunder Jane McLachlan Karen Morrison Maria Pannozzo Lynne Wright

#### LIFETIME COMMITMENTS

#### We celebrate the individuals and foundations whose generosity has had a significant and transformative impact on the history of The Australian Ballet.

#### \$1,000,000 PLUS

Mr Robert Albert AO RFD RD & Mrs Elizabeth Albert The late Betty Amsden AO The Australian Ballet Society Mr William Bowness AO Joan and Peter Clemenger Trust Mr Jim Cousins AO & Mrs Libby Cousins Mrs Barbara Duhig Friends of The Australian Ballet (NSW) Ltd Frances Gerard AM The Glendonbrook Foundation Estate of Anne Robertson Gluvas Estate of Reginald Edward Gregory Estate of Lionel Frederick Hann & Harry John Colligan Mrs Lynnette Harvey Ms Linda Herd Mr Ian Hicks AM **Bevelly Mitchell** Lachlan & Sarah Murdoch Estate of Arthur & Roma Norcott Mrs Roslyn Packer AC Dr Valmai Pidgeon AM The Ian Potter Foundation Lady Potter AC CMRI James & Diana Ramsay Foundation Mr Kenneth R Reed AM The Ross Trust Sandra Taylor-Bowman Graeme Uthmeyer & Lisa Bolte Zambelli Family

#### \$500,000 PLUS

Mrs Mary Barlow Mrs Jennifer Brukner & the late Mr John Brukner Ms Robin Campbell Mrs Susan Chisholm & the late Sam Hewlings Chisholm AO Estate of Keith M Christensen **Colonial Foundation Limited** Ethel Margaret Ewing Cutten Foundation Friends of The Australian Ballet (SA) Inc Gandel Philanthropy Estate of George William Gregson In memory of Mrs J J Holden Mrs Susan Morgan Mrs Helen O'Neil Bruce Parncutt AO The late Lady (June) Porter Estate of Peter & Barbara Shearer Christine Smedley & the late Peter Smedley AM Mr Dick Smith AC & Mrs Pip Smith AO Lady Southey AC & the late Sir Robert Southey AO CMG Talbot Family Foundation Ray Wilson OAM

#### \$300,000 PLUS

Estate of Christine Ann Brown Mr John A Calvert-Jones AM & Mrs Janet Calvert-Jones AO Mr Colin Carter AM & Mrs Angie Carter Ms Laurie Cowled Estate of Melba Cromack Craig Dunn & Bozena Gawart Estate of Susan Fitzpatrick Mr & Mrs Henry Greenfield Ms Val Harding Mr John C. Higgins AO & Ms Jodie Maunder Ian & Jeannie Johnson David McAllister AM Mr Peter Reilly & Mr Linton Soderholm **Renaissance Tours** Thyne Reid Foundation Mrs Marjorie White

Italics denotes this commitment includes a bequest to The Australian Ballet We also wish to acknowledge and thank those individuals who have chosen to remain anonymous

#### THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET FOUNDATION

The acts of generosity that sustain The Australian Ballet Foundation will support the company's aspirations for generations to come. Major gifts from individuals and organisations underpin all of the company's activities, from our outreach and access projects to developing a new generation of choreographers and supporting our dancers as they enter the next stage of their careers. Specific-purpose major gifts, grants and endowments have built, and will continue to build, an incredible platform from which the company will present the best the art form has to offer.

#### FUNDS WITHIN THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET FOUNDATION

#### **MAJOR GIFT** The Ian Potter Foundation

#### ACCESS & OUTREACH

Margaret May Attwood The Colin Peasley OAM Fund for Education

#### ADMINISTRATION

The Richard & Barbara Allert Fund The Australian Ballet Future Fund endowed by Bevelly Mitchell The Kathleen Gorham Fund established in her memory The Neil Hopkins Fund The Ian McRae AO Fund The Nöel Pelly AM Fund The Marigold Southey Fund

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International touring was an original objective of The Australian Ballet, and the company continues to be a proud cultural ambassador for Australia on the world stage. The International Touring Fund was established by Frances Gerard AM after experiencing opening night of Graeme Murphy's Swan Lake at the London Coliseum in 2005. It has considerably strengthened our touring program, enabling our dancers to perform regularly on the world stage. This important financial base gives The Australian Ballet the resources to take the best of the country's artists to theatres across the globe.

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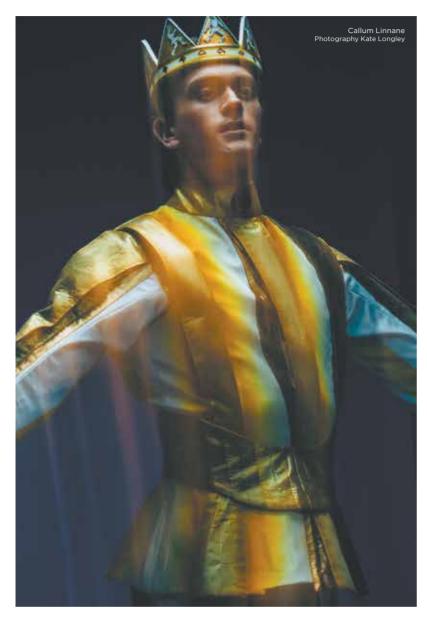
#### **REGIONAL TOURING FUND**

Touring across Australia has been a fundamental component of The Australian Ballet's annual activities since 1962. The creation of the Regional Touring Fund demonstrates our commitment to making Australia's national ballet company accessible to all, inspiring, delighting and challenging audiences.

"The Australian Ballet is one of the principal pillars of cultural activity in Australia. I believe it is important, indeed essential, that rural and country audiences away from the big cities are provided with the opportunity to see the company's repertoire – to experience the contribution that the ballet is making to our cultural life." Lord Glendonbrook

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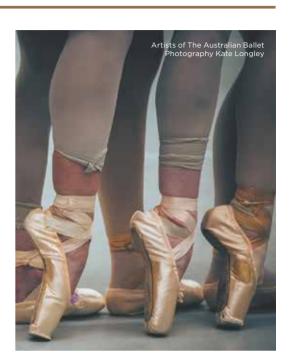
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Initiated in 2014 by The Australian Ballet's Global Ambassador Sarah Murdoch, our Ballet Ambassador program connects an international network of individuals, leaders of a new generation of ballet lovers advocating for the company around the world. Through intimate 'behind the curtain' access, our ballet ambassadors become deeply committed to the development of the art form and promotion of the company to new audiences.



Major Partner Van Cleef & Arpels

"The Australian Ballet is truly central to my passion for ballet and I am committed to representing the company as Global Ambassador. I want every Australian, whether in Australia or around the world, to look up to our company and be proud. Our dancers and our productions are a true representation of who we are."

**Sarah Murdoch** Global Ambassador

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#### DANCE WITH US - THE PRIMROSE POTTER AUSTRALIAN BALLET CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

The renovation of The Primrose Potter Australian Ballet Centre will have both an immediate and a far-reaching impact on our dancers' health and wellbeing; the development of new ballets; and ultimately, our performances.

The contributions of our Ballet family have been the keystone of this once-ina-generation project, and we gratefully acknowledge those individuals and organisations whose generosity is celebrated in the new spaces of The Primrose Potter Australian Ballet Centre.

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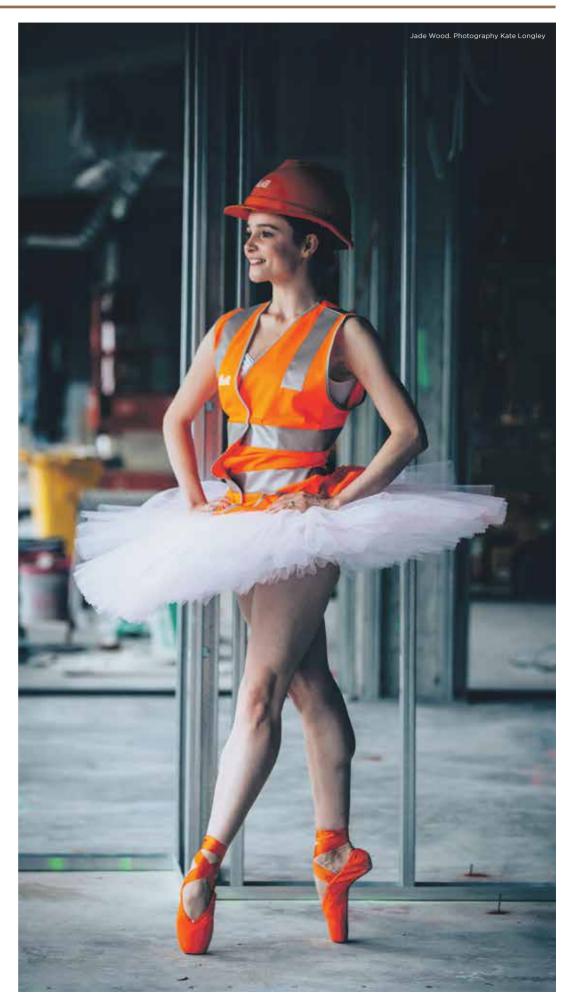
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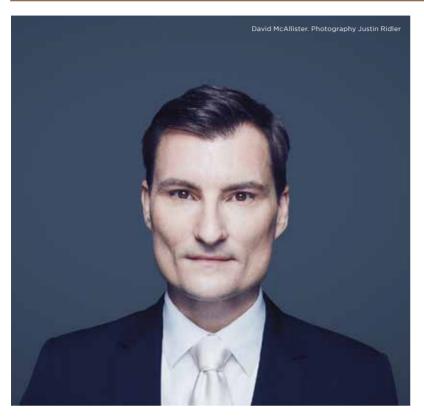
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The impact of making a gift in your will to The Australian Ballet is truly profound, and will continue to benefit generations of ballet lovers and dancers, as well as the art form we all love and admire. Nearly 300 members of the Ballet family have confirmed a bequest to The Australian Ballet.

"The Australian Ballet has not only been my career but also my life's passion, so by including the company in my will I hope I can assist many others to experience the wonderful joy of dance."

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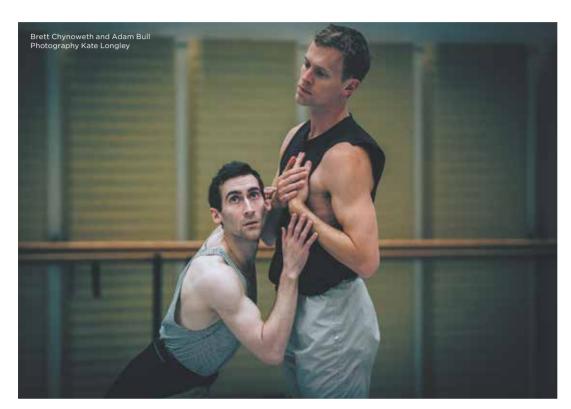
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## FOR A CONVERSATION ABOUT PHILANTHROPY PLEASE CONTACT:

Ben Lee

#### Kenneth Watkins

Philanthropy Director 03 9669 2780 kennethw@australianballet.com.au



Sonia Grebenshikoff Philanthropy Manager NSW, ACT & QLD 02 9253 5317 soniag@australianballet.com.au





**Liz Ruggieri** Planned Giving Manager 03 9669 2782 lizr@australianballet.com.au



Andrew Wright Planned Giving and Patrons Representative NSW, ACT & QLD 02 9253 5316 andreww@australianballet.com.au

CONTACT PHILANTHROPY AT THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET Phone: 1300 752 900 Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm Online: www.australianballet.com.au/donate Email: philanthropyservices@australianballet.com.au Mail: The Australian Ballet Philanthropy Department Primrose Potter Australian Ballet Centre Level 6, 2 Kavanagh St Southbank VIC 3006

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#### QUEENSLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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ASSOCIATE CONCERTMASTER Alan Smith

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Gail Aitken ~ Wayne Brennan ~ Katie Betts Jane Burroughs Faina Dobrenko Simon Dobrenko Delia Kinmont Natalie Low Tim Marchmont Nicholas Thin Helen Travers

#### VIOLA

Imants Larsens ~ Yoko Okayasu >> Charlotte Burbrook de Vere Nicole Greentree Bernard Hoey Kirsten Hulin-Bobart Jann Keir-Haantera Graham Simpson Nicholas Tomkin

#### CELLO

HyungSuk Bae = Matthew Kinmont + Tim Byrne Kathryn Close Andre Duthoit Matthew Jones Kaja Skorka Craig Allister Young

#### DOUBLE BASS

Phoebe Russell ~ Dušan Walkowicz >> Anne Buchanan Justin Bullock Paul O'Brien Ken Poggioli FLUTE

Alison Mitchell ~ PICCOLO Kate Lawson

OBOE Sarah Meagher >> COR ANGLAIS

#### Vivienne Brooke \* CLARINET

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BASSOON David Mitchell = CONTRABASSOON

Claire Ramuscak

#### FRENCH HORN

Malcolm Stewart Vivienne Collier-Vickers + Timothy Skelly + Lauren Manuel

#### TRUMPET Richard Madden = Paul Rawson

TROMBONE Jason Redman ~ Ashley Carter >>

BASS TROMBONE Matthew McGeachin ^

TUBA Thomas Allely \* ΤΙΜΡΑΝΙ

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The Australian Ballet Level 4 10 Hickson Road. The Rocks Sydney 2000 Telephone (02) 9253 5300 The Australian Ballet ABN 57 004 849 987

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