

# Dancing times

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Britain's leading dance monthly  
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A focus on style

## FRANCE

## VIEW FROM THE BARRE

ballet classes  
for adults

## ALL FOR LOVE

Prominent figures reveal  
their passion for dance

## PLUS

De Valois  
in Dublin

Dance Again  
Foundation

## LIFE ON BOARD

Dancing on cruise liners

Sister to  
*Dance Today*



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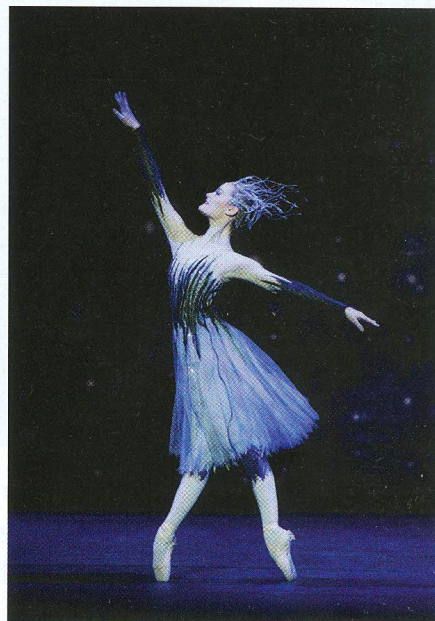
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Delia Mathews as Fairy Winter in Birmingham Royal Ballet's production of *Cinderella*, which can be seen at the Birmingham Hippodrome this month. Photograph by **Bill Cooper**.

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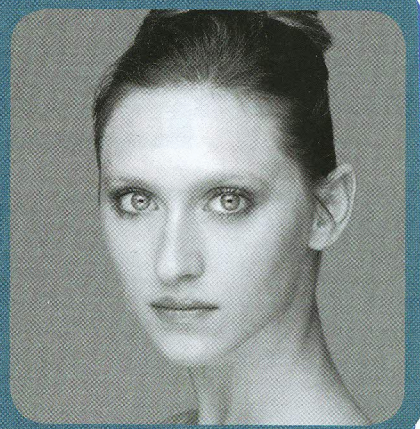
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# Editorial



As 2012 draws to a close, we reflect on a year that saw a number of changes within the UK dance world. There were three new artistic directors of leading UK dance companies, cuts in Arts Council funding and threats to the inclusion of arts subjects in the new English Baccalaureate exams from 2015 (see page 75). One reason to be cheerful, however, was the formation of the National Institute of Dance Medicine and Science, on which we reported in our February 2012 issue. We have, as always, an array of news, views and reviews in this latest issue, but I would like to take the opportunity here to mark two other events relevant to *Dancingtimes*. December 16 is the centenary of the birth of James Monahan, poet, BBC administrator, former director of The Royal Ballet School from 1978 to 1983, and dance critic for *The Guardian* from 1935. Monahan had a distinguished military career during World War II and, before his death in 1985, contributed extensively and authoritatively to the pages of this magazine for many years. We salute the memory of a multi-talented man. Finally, as well as offering our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, we also offer congratulations to Katie Gregory, former editorial assistant to this magazine as well as former editor of *Dance Today*, and to her husband, James, on the birth of their son, Charlie George, on September 30, 2012.

JONATHAN GRAY

## Contributors

**Paul Arrowsmith** studied at the University of Kent, where he designed productions of works by Ibsen, Sophocles and Shakespeare. The first ballet he saw, *The Fountain of Bakchisarai* performed by the Bolshoi Ballet in 1975, created an indelible impression. A career in international public relations has allowed opportunities to witness dance performances in the US, South Africa, France, Italy and Russia, from where he has contributed reviews for *ballet.co*. A former development director of Spitalfields Market Opera he is currently a director of Parrabbola, a community theatre production company.

**Caitlyn Lehmann** is a freelance dance writer and cultural historian based in Victoria, Australia. She is completing a PhD at the University of Melbourne on fashionable society's patronage of ballet in late 18th-century London. She also contributes to *Dance Australia*.

**Frederick Lewis** is a bibliophile and freelance writer. His work has appeared in literary journals such as the *Scottish Book Collector* and the *Virginia Woolf Bulletin*. Specialising in authors with a close connection to their printed works, including the Hogarth Press, his essays explore the intricate relationship between writer, book and audience.

**Patricia Linton** joined The Royal Ballet in 1964 as a dancer, and went on to become assistant ballet mistress and company teacher. In 1974 she joined The Royal Ballet Lower School at White Lodge as a teacher, remaining there until 2001. She co-authored *The Young Dancer* with Darcey Bussell and in 2003 set up Voices of British Ballet, an oral history archive. She teaches at Central School of Ballet and guest teaches elsewhere.

**Graham Watts** is a freelance dance writer and critic, and chairman of the dance section of the Critics' Circle in the UK and of the National Dance Awards. He holds the MA module in dance writing and criticism from the University of Chichester. He was captain of the British sabre team at the 1992 Olympic Games and won a commonwealth medal in 1990. He managed the British fencing team at the Athens (2004) and Beijing (2008) Olympics. He was awarded an OBE in 2008.