

# Dancing times

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## TRUE BRIT

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Royal Ballet's  
Natasha Oughtred

**BALLET  
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forging ahead

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National Dance  
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David Drew at 75

What if... there were  
no Martha Graham?

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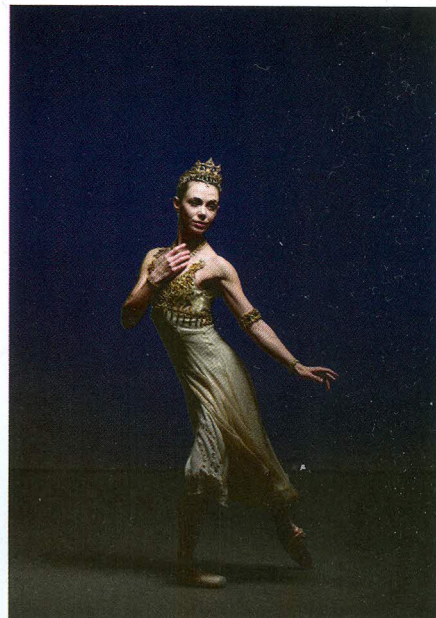
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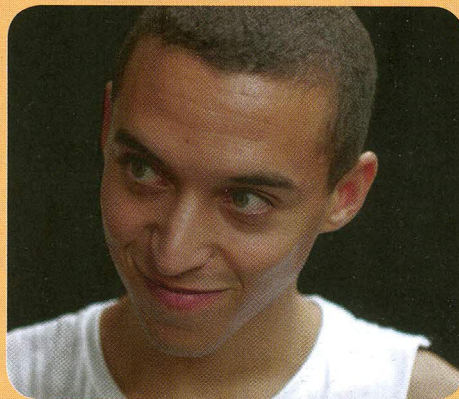
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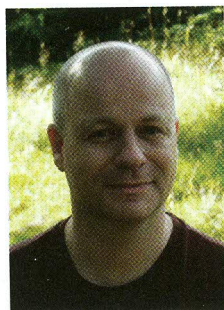
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# Editorial



In this bumper issue of *Dancingtimes*, I would first like to say “welcome” to all the visitors to *MOVE IT* 2013, the annual dance exhibition held at London’s Olympia, who might be seeing this magazine there for the very first time! We hope you like what you see, and if you do, why not take out an annual subscription? You can find details of how to do so on page 77.

As ever, *Dancingtimes* offers a wide range of up-to-date news, interviews, features, and reviews that reflect the many aspects of the UK dance scene. On page 23, we publish the results of the Critics’ Circle National Dance Awards for 2012,

and on page 25, Daniel Pratt considers what makes that intrepid dance company, Ballet Black, so special in the run-up to its new spring season. Gerald Dowler talks to Birmingham Royal Ballet principal Natasha Oughtred about her career on page 14, illustrated with some specially-commissioned photographs by former dancer Tim Cross, and on page 41 we publish the first part of our A Level Study Aid on Jerome Robbins’ *West Side Story*. Finally, if you are eager to see more dance, you can find out what is happening in a theatre near you in our extensive Calendar pages.

JONATHAN GRAY

## Contributors

**Jeannette Andersen** is a Danish dance and art writer currently living in Munich. She works as cultural correspondent for the Danish daily newspaper, *Jyllands Posten*. She also writes for various Danish and international magazines; contributes to the ballet programmes for the Bavarian State Ballet; and makes radio shows for Deutsche Welle, a radio station producing programmes from Germany for Denmark. From 1985 to 1991 she lived in New York from where she reported on dance and the art scene for different Danish newspapers.

**Tim Cross** is a dance and theatre photographer specialising in studio, portrait and reportage photography. Formerly a dancer with Sadler’s Wells Royal Ballet and Birmingham Royal Ballet from 1988 to 2003, he now collaborates and shoots for community projects, companies and organisations requiring high-quality images of dance.

**Daniel Pratt** was born in south London, and trained with Janie Harris and Stella Farrance. He attended The Royal Ballet School Associates Programme, and then Central School of Ballet. He has danced with Northern Ballet and New English Theatre Ballet, and has also written a number of articles for *Dancingtimes*. He joined Sarasota Ballet in September 2012.

**Igor Stupnikov** is a professor at St Petersburg University, doctor of arts, ballet historian and critic for the Kirov/Maryinsky Opera and Ballet. He is author of several books on the Kirov, notably *Leningrad Ballet: 1917–1987* (1988) and *St Petersburg Ballet: 1903–2003* (2003). He has contributed scores of articles to *Ballet Encyclopedia* (Moscow, 1981), *International Dictionary of Ballet* (London, 1993), and the *Dictionary of Russian Ballet* (Moscow, 1997).

**Margaret Watson** is a professional librarian, whose early ballet training was with June Christian in Oxford. She read classics at Wadham College, and now works in the Bodleian Law Library. She still regularly attends ballet classes in her spare time with Laura Addison at Oxford Academy of Dance, Penny Cullerne-Brown at East Oxford School of Ballet and Susan Crow, and also writes for the Oxford Dance Writers blog [oxforddancewriters.wordpress.com](http://oxforddancewriters.wordpress.com).