

Dancing Times

January 2014 • £3.50

www.dancing-times.co.uk



MARGOT AND RUDI

FONTEYN IN PANAMA • NUREYEV IN MOULINS

BRB'S MARION TAIT • BOLSHOI BALLET



Britain's leading dance monthly • Sister to *Dance Today*

Contents

January 2014 Volume 104 Issue 1241

Cover stories



14 / Feet firmly on the ground

Gerald Dowler meets Marion Tait, Birmingham Royal Ballet's assistant director. Photographs by **Tim Cross**

21 / Ballet in Panama

Margaret Willis travelled to the Central American country to see the relaunch of its national ballet company, as well as to discover its links with Margot Fonteyn

33 / Dressed to impress

Paul Arrowsmith explores the costume rails and travels to Moulins, France, to visit a new permanent exhibition dedicated to the life of Rudolf Nureyev

58 / Marco Spada

Marc Haegeman reviews a new Bolshoi Ballet production of Pierre Lacotte's ballet



Features

19 / MOVE IT 2014

The return of the action-packed dance exhibition

27 / Dancing in the US

Daniel Pratt gives a British view of what it's like to be a dancer in an American ballet company

Regulars

06 / Dance Matters

Bolshoi Ballet trial verdict, Sarasota Ballet announces Frederick Ashton Festival

11 / Letters

12 / Talking Point

Birmingham Royal Ballet's ballet master, **Dominic Antonucci**, ponders male ballet superstars

38 / Dance Scene

Reviews include The Royal Ballet, Michael Clark Company, Mark Morris Dance Group, Bolshoi Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet

61 / Letter from St Petersburg

Igor Stupnikov attends the 180th anniversary of the Mikhailovsky Theatre

63 / Notes from New York

Jack Anderson sees American Ballet Theatre perform at the Lincoln Center

65 / Dance Media

New books

67 / Dance People

Ann Sholem, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa



On the cover

The Bolshoi Ballet's Evgenia Obraztsova in *Marco Spada*.

Photograph: Marc Haegeman / Bolshoi Theatre

69 / Health

Debbie Malina looks into the importance of foot care, and the role of chiropodists and podiatrists

75 / Dance Education

Dance Proms, English Youth Ballet, Bird College

81 / Classifieds

82 / Where to Learn

91 / Calendar

Into Dance

85 / Dancer of the Month

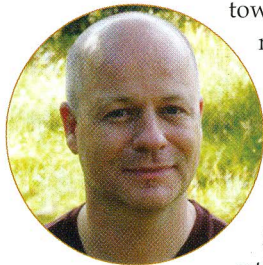
Margaret Willis meets Birmingham Royal Ballet's Mathias Dingman

88 / Stage Picture

Giselle by Zoë Anderson

Editor's Word

Well, here we are at the turn of another year, and everyone at *Dancing Times* would like to wish all our readers a very happy 2014. I like to think that this issue of the magazine is a kind of mini tribute to Birmingham Royal Ballet (BRB), that much-loved company with its legions of admirers. In Talking Point, BRB's ballet master Dominic Antonucci ponders the nature of male ballet superstars; Gerald Dowler meets BRB's assistant director and former ballerina Marion Tait; and our Dancer of the Month is BRB first soloist Mathias Dingman. Also in this issue, Margaret Willis travels to Panama to see the relaunch of its national



ballet company, as well as to discover its links with Margot Fonteyn, who lived in the country with her husband towards the end of her life. Paul Arrowsmith sees a new permanent exhibition dedicated to the life of Rudolf Nureyev in France, and Daniel Pratt gives a British view of what it is like to be a dancer in an American ballet company. Finally, in Dance Matters, we report on the verdict of the Pavel Dmitrichenko trial in Moscow following the acid attack on Sergei Filin, the artistic director of the Bolshoi Ballet, as well as the latest news from the Vaganova Academy in St Petersburg.

JONATHAN GRAY

Contributors

Jack Anderson

has contributed to *Dancing Times* since 1971 and also writes for the *New York Times*. He is the author of nine books of poetry.

Dominic Antonucci

trained at the School of American Ballet and performed with American Ballet Theatre from 1991 to 1994. He joined Birmingham Royal Ballet (BRB) in 1994 and became a principal dancer in 2003.

He has worked extensively with BRB's Department for Learning and has a wide experience of teaching and mentoring young people. He was appointed as BRB's ballet master in 2009.

Marc Haegeman

is a dance writer and photographer based in Belgium who has regularly contributed to *Dancing Times*. He is European correspondent of *Dance View* (Washington DC), *Dance*

International (Vancouver), and *Attitude* (New York), and has also contributed to *Dance Now* (London) and *Brolga* (Australia).

Daniel Pratt was born in 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 in 2012 joined Sarasota Ballet. He also writes for *Dancing Times*.

Margaret Willis

lived in the Soviet Union from 1976 until 1981, where she studied ballet and Russian folk dancing. She writes for several publications and websites and in 2010 her book, *Carlos Acosta, the Reluctant Dancer*, was published by Arcadia Books as part of their Black Amber scholastic series.

Contact

THE DANCING TIMES LIMITED, 45-47 Clerkenwell Green, London EC1R 0EB, t: 020 7250 3006 [f] 020 7253 6679, e] dt@dancing-times.co.uk, www.dancing-times.co.uk

EDITOR Jonathan Gray [e] jonathan@dancing-times.co.uk

EDITORIAL ADVISORS Clement Crisp, Ivor Guest D Univ MA FRAD, Jann Parry, Rachel Rist

PRODUCTION EDITOR Simon Oliver [e] simon@dancing-times.co.uk

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS Zoë Anderson [e] zoe@dancing-times.co.uk, Nicola Rayner [e] nicola@dance-today.co.uk

ADVERTISING MANAGER Ann Mottram [e] ann@dancing-times.co.uk

SUBSCRIPTIONS/SALES MANAGER Kim Thompson [e] kim@dancing-times.co.uk

FINANCE DIRECTOR Fiona Conway [e] fiona@dancing-times.co.uk

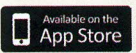
COMPANY DIRECTORS Fiona Conway, Jonathan Gray, Peter Shepherd

Printed in the UK by Warners Midlands plc. www.warners.co.uk

Some origination by APC Graphics, Blandford Forum, Dorset. [e] adrian@apcgraphics.co.uk

Distributed by Warners Group Publications plc, The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincs

The Dancing Times Founded in 1910 by Philip JS Richardson OBE FRAD
Mary Clarke R, FRSA Editor Emeritus



Subscribe

UK: 1 year £35.75 / 2 years £69.30 / 3 years £103.95 • OVERSEAS SURFACE: 1 year £42.75 / 2 years £85.50 / 3 years £128.25

• AIRMAIL WORLDWIDE 1 year £47.00 / 2 years £94.00 / 3 years £141.00

Pay by Visa/Electron/Mastercard/American Express/Maestro/Delta/JCB/Solo OR by cheque, postal order or direct debit.