



SEPTEMBER SAW TWO excellent meetings. At the first, we were delighted to welcome Principal, **Marianela Nuñez** as our guest. As always, Marianela was a delight and kept the audience entertained with a very positive description of her career since she last spoke to us four years ago. She then spoke of her early years in Argentina and her move to London. We all look forward to seeing the film *All I Am*, in which she stars with her husband **Thiago Soares**, which is being released in 2013 and contains original choreography by **Liam Scarlett** as well as excerpts backstage from their performances. At our second meeting of the month, we welcomed the Royal Ballet's Guest Teacher **Olga Evreinoff**. Described afterwards by some members as one of the best meetings they had ever attended, Olga spoke about her development as a teacher, as well as highlights from her career, including working with Erik Bruhn, Rudolf Nureyev, Mikhail Baryshnikov and Natalia Makarova. She gave us insights, both into teaching and into staging a ballet, such as *La Bayadère*.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have also had our October meeting with guests **Laura Morera** and **Ricardo Cervera**. Undoubtedly this will have been a very entertaining evening. More about it in the next newsletter.

Unfortunately we have had to cancel the meeting planned for **19 October**. Please cancel this date from your diaries.

Future meetings

Our next meeting on **Tuesday 20 November** will be preceded by our AGM. We are very excited to welcome Royal Ballet Principal, **Zenaida Yanowsky** as our guest. It is over eight years since Zenaida last spoke to the Association, in which time she has started a family as well as performing many new roles. Raised in Spain, she joined the Royal Ballet in 1994 and was promoted to Principal in 2001. She has an extremely broad repertoire and has created many roles in new ballets, as well as featuring in the films *Duet*, *The Sandman* and *Riot at the Rite*. A lively speaker, we can expect a very enjoyable evening.

Carrying on the Spanish speaking theme, which appears to link most of our guests so far this season, we

are delighted to welcome former Royal Ballet Principal **Tamara Rojo**, Artistic Director of English National Ballet, to our meeting on **Friday 7 December**. Tamara is a regular guest of the Association and always provides us with an entertaining and thought provoking evening. She has a very varied repertoire and appears as a guest artist around the world. Later this season she will appear as a guest with the Royal, renewing her partnership with **Sergei Polunin** in *Marguerite and Armand*. Having recently announced her first programmes for English National Ballet, we can expect to hear a little about these, her move to becoming an artistic director and her roles since she last spoke to the Association. The evening will also give us an opportunity to present her with a leaving present from the Association.

Provisional dates for the rest of the season are: Thursday 10 January, Friday 18 January, Wednesday 6 February, Wednesday 6 March, Wednesday 13 March, Wednesday 20 March, Friday 22 March, Thursday 4 April, Thursday 18 April, Friday 31 May, Friday 7 June. All dates are subject to change.

We have removed Thursday 14 February, Thursday 16 May, Wednesday 19 June from the list given in the last newsletter as they clash with other events. As a result, we may add some alternative dates later.

Meetings, unless otherwise stated, begin at 7.30pm and are at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church which is at the eastern end of Shaftesbury Avenue, opposite the Shaftesbury Theatre. From Covent Garden you walk up Endell Street and cross over Shaftesbury Avenue. If you walk past the opticians you will see the church. Doors open at 6.45pm unless otherwise stated. Entrance is £4 for members, £3 for concessions, £8 for guests.

News

We have sent our congratulations to Soloist Samantha Raine who has been appointed Ballet Mistress of The Royal Ballet. We also congratulate Principal Roberta Marquez who married ENB Principal Arionel Vargas at the end of August. Pictures of the wedding can be seen in *Hello* magazine. The film *Love Tomorrow* starring Arionel and former Royal Ballet dancer Cindy Jourdain has been shown at the *Raindance*

Festival in London. Our apologies for not announcing this in advance, but the dates came too late for the last newsletter.

A reminder: our annual trip to BRB and Elmhurst School for Dance will be 19-20 June 2013. An application form will be attached to the next newsletter.

The Director's Appeal Birmingham Royal Ballet

As announced in the last newsletter, the Association has donated £450 towards this appeal. This entitles us to two tickets for BRB rehearsals. If you would like to be considered to represent the Association at one of these rehearsals, with a guest, please apply to the Chairman at the address at the bottom of the newsletter by post or email, indicating which rehearsals you are interested in. We will hold a draw for each rehearsal. Dates of the rest of rehearsals this season are: *Cinderella*, Tuesday 20 November at 7pm; *Aladdin*, Thursday 14 February 2013 at 7pm; *Giselle*, Tuesday 18 June at 7pm. Each is preceded by light refreshments from 6pm.

Membership

A reminder! It is the time of year when we ask you to renew your membership. A renewal form was attached to the last newsletter. If you haven't already done so, please return it to Sylvia Tyler, Membership Secretary, as soon as possible, but not later than the end of October. We are very grateful to those of you who have already renewed. If you joined the Association after the start of April 2012, your membership covers this coming season. Your membership card will have indicated this. If you currently receive your newsletters by post but have an e-mail address, please consider receiving them by e-mail in future. If you would prefer to pay by electronic transfer, please indicate on the form and Sylvia will get in touch with you.

Annual General Meeting

The meeting on Tuesday 20 November will be preceded by our AGM. Consequently the evening's proceedings will commence at 6.45pm and doors will open at 6.15. It will be held at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church.

The AGM will be followed at 7.30pm by our meeting with **Zenaida Yanowsky**.

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Financial Report
6. Election of Committee
7. Any Other Business

At this meeting we shall be electing Honorary Officers and Committee Members. The Committee for 2011-12 season was David Bain (Chairman and Organising Secretary), Sylvia Tyler (Deputy Chairman and Membership Secretary), Melanie Shipton (Treasurer), Liz Bouttell (Reporting Secretary), Rachel Holland, Geoffrey Griffiths, Chris Scott, Brian Don, Annette Fraser, and Chiara Gorodesky. All current members have indicated they wish to continue on the committee.

Association members wishing to nominate candidates for election or wishing to join the committee themselves should write to the Chairman, David Bain, by Thursday 20 October. No nomination can be received at the AGM. Candidates for election must be proposed and seconded, in writing, by members of the Association.

Anyone interested in joining the committee should phone David to discuss what it entails. The Organising Secretary, Reporting Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer and committee members will be elected at the meeting. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman are appointed by the Committee at their first meeting after the AGM.

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