

# NZ 8<sup>th</sup> International Summer School 4-16 Jan 2016

## Faculty Biographies

### **Gina Andrews**

#### **Performance Course - Contemporary**



Gina began dancing in her hometown of Nelson. As well as completing performance exams she achieved IDTA Associate level teaching exams in both ballet and modern jazz. In 2007 Gina moved to Wellington to train at New Zealand School of Dance as a contemporary major and was awarded the Katrina Todd Scholarship in her second year. Since graduating in 2009 she has freelanced as a dancer/performer around New Zealand, working with an exciting range of creative artists and performers. More recently Gina has been working in the health and fitness industry as a barre fitness instructor and manager, alongside teaching contemporary technique. Teaching dance has always been an important part of her life and having the opportunity to pass on knowledge whilst watching students grow, gives her great pleasure. Her approach to teaching focuses on uncovering each individual's requirements, and Gina understands that students within a class

develop at different rates and with various methods. The challenge is worth the effort! She has taught in many small dance schools throughout Wellington, as well as at tertiary institutes such as New Zealand School of Dance and Whitireia, and looks forward to joining the rest of ISS Faculty 2015.

### **Adrian Burnett**

#### **Performance Course - Classical & Repertoire**



Born in New Zealand, Adrian Burnett graduated from the Australian Ballet School in 1987 and joined The Australian Ballet in 1988. He was promoted to soloist in 1992 and left Australia the following year to dance with the Basel Ballet in Switzerland. He re-joined The Australian Ballet in 1994 and was promoted to leading soloist in 1996. In 1999 Adrian received the Lissa Black Choreographic Award and spent time in the United States and Europe studying choreography. He was promoted to Senior Artist in 2003 and during that year co-directed with David McAllister, The Australian Ballet's 40th anniversary program Beyond Forty. Since that time he has been commissioned by companies in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, the US and Europe and has choreographed over 20 original ballets. His Subtle Sequence of Revelation (a joint production between The Australian Ballet and West

Australian Ballet) won the 2002 Green Room award for Best New Choreography. In 2002, Adrian was invited to choreograph the guest professional performance piece Short Ride...Fast Machine for the Genée International Ballet Competition in Sydney, Australia. Adrian created this work for nine previous Genée medal winners who were artists with The Australian Ballet. Adrian also created the solos for the

finalists at the Genée International Ballet competition in Singapore in 2009 and in Wellington, N.Z in 2012. From 2003-2006, Adrian was the resident choreographer for the Australian Ballet and was commissioned to create a number of contemporary ballets for the main stage. As a freelancer he has been commissioned by the Dutch National Ballet (for Holland International Festival), Houston Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre and New York City Ballet's Choreographic Institute. Adrian has produced large-scale events and productions for a range of high profile corporate clients including special events for G'day USA, (leading show-case for Australian Tourism in the USA), Faberge, Qatar Airlines and Volkswagen. In 2009 Adrian was Guest Dance Director for Sydney Dance Company assisting on Rafael Bonachela's *We Unfold* and remounted his work *360* for an Australian tour. Adrian joined the Australia Council for the Arts, the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body, as Program Manager Dance in February 2011. He was appointed Arts Practice Director Dance in 2015.

## **Pagan Dorgan**

### **Grades Course - Creative Dance**



Pagan grew up in London. She began her professional training at The London Studio Centre, studying both ballet and contemporary dance, going on to further study at the London School of Contemporary Dance (The Place) and the Laban Centre, where she specialised in dance education. While still a student, Pagan was involved in dance education projects at The Royal Ballet in London's Covent Garden, taking weekly classes with Royal Ballet dancers, learning repertoire and watching performances. This project developed into the National Youth Week of Ballet and Pagan received a scholarship to attend this week, held at the Royal Ballet School Upper School. While a student at the Laban Centre, Pagan was invited to assist The Royal Ballet's education team on a project in London, which she found extremely inspiring and confirmed her passion for dance education. Pagan joined the RNZB as the company's full-time Dance Educator in 2014. She is

thrilled to be working with a great company and to have the opportunity to inspire others with the magic of dance.

## **Sarah Fitzsimons (Roe)**

### **Teachers Course – 2 Workshop Sessions**



Sarah originally studied dance in Sydney before going to the Royal Ballet School in London. A Genée finalist, she was then invited to join the Royal Ballet Company at Covent Garden. Her performing career continued back in Australia with Darc Swan Dance Company, Opera Australia and the Australian cast of *Phantom of the Opera* for which she was also Assistant Choreographer in South Africa. A passion for teaching led her to complete the Australian Ballet School's Advanced Diploma of Teaching and obtain RAD teacher registration. Sarah taught in Sydney at the McDonald College and Brent Street Studios before becoming a full time classical tutor at the New Zealand School of Dance in 2001. After training as both a Pilates and Gyrotonic Instructor, Sarah now specializes in dance rehabilitation and injury prevention. She currently combines being part of both the Royal New Zealand Ballet and the New Zealand School of Dance Health and Wellness

teams with running her own Pilates/**GYROTONIC**<sup>®</sup> studio- Seachange Pilates.

## **Lisa Howell**

### **Teachers Course – 7 Workshop Sessions**



Lisa is the owner and creator of Perfect Form Physiotherapy, a center dedicated to the education treatment and development of dancers, located in North Sydney. She started the practice in 2005 with the mission to create the highest quality physical therapy care in a nurturing environment. As well as developing the clinic, Lisa has created an extensive series of workshops, online resources and dance education programs to educate and inspire young dancers to become the best that they can possibly be. Lisa has a strong history in classical dance and is well respected both nationally and internationally for her work with young dancers, professional dancers and dance teachers. She has lectured throughout Europe, The United Kingdom, The United States and Australasia on Dance Anatomy, Injury Prevention, Recovery and Performance Enhancement. Lisa's focus is on education to prevent injury and maximise performance rather than waiting for injury to occur. As well as being a physiotherapist, author and speaker, Lisa is also a qualified instructor in The Pilates Method and has had extensive personal involvement in various forms of Dance and Yoga. Throughout her professional studies and career she has continued her involvement with dance and uses her personal experience as a constant learning tool to advance her knowledge. She has also been a guest speaker at the annual IADMS conference which is an international group of dance professionals aiming to enhance the health, well-being, training, and performance of dancers by cultivating educational, medical, and scientific excellence.

## **Paula Hunt ARAD MNZM *Chair of RAD Panel of Examiners and Head of Syllabus Development***

### **Teachers Course – 4 Sessions**



Paula is a dance educator, tutor, Examiner and Standardisation Examiner for the Royal Academy of Dance. She studied through the examinations of the RAD, attaining the Solo Seal and was awarded a Queen Elizabeth Arts Council Bursary to further her training. She then directed the Paula Hunt Dance Studio for 40 years. Many former students have danced in Companies throughout the world. Paula has taught on many international Summer Schools, Teachers' Courses and has also created a number of courses for the RAD. As Chair of the international Panel of Examiners of the RAD, Paula is responsible for the development of examination content, standards and marking systems, leads the international panel of more than 200 Examiners and contributes to the training of new Examiners. As Head of Syllabus Development she has been involved in the new syllabus development from Pre-Primary to Solo Seal. Paula has contributed on many levels including choreography, trialling, production of DVD's and launches of the syllabus content. Most recently Paula was appointed to the New Zealand Order of Merit by Her Majesty The Queen for services to dance, and was nominated for Wellingtonian of the year in 2015.

## **Braedyn Humphries**

**Grades Course - Hip Hop**

**Performance Course - Hip Hop**



Braedyn is a primarily hip-hop and contemporary dancer based in Wellington, New Zealand. He has been dancing since he was 16 years old and has participated in numerous dance performances, theatre shows and competitions, including the 2011 World Hip Hop Championships in Las Vegas. Braedyn has over 5 years experience in teaching. He currently teaches various classes and crews at Pump Dance Studios and he has taught in numerous schools around Wellington through the LEOTC Programme directed by DANZ New Zealand. Braedyn is also the head teacher for JUSTDANCEKRAZY Crew, a dance group of young adults with disabilities. He has recently been accepted into the New Zealand School of Dance, and will be majoring in contemporary for 2016. Braedyn believes in the freedom of self-expression through dance and is continually trying to push boundaries to develop his unique craft. He encourages all dancers to be individualistic and hopes that all the students participating in the International Summer School will find the confidence to achieve this.

## **Jamie Knop ARAD PDTD**

**Grades Course - Classical**

**Performance Course - Repertoire**



Jamie trained at the Queensland Dance School of Excellence (QDSE), and the National Theatre Ballet School (NTBS) in Australia. During her training she was awarded the Most Improved Dancer and the Contemporary Award (QDSE), and the Dance Medicine Australia Award for Advancement (NTBS). In Australia, Jamie has worked with Melanie Crowe Dance Company, Melbourne Dance Theatre (now Victorian State Ballet), Melbourne Opera and numerous other commercial engagements. Travelling to Europe she worked with Les Ballet Persans (Sweden), Compagnia Danza Viva (Italy), Rambert Youth Dance Company, and as a Soloist with Vortice Dance Company (Portugal). Jamie taught on the faculty at Escola de Artes-Centro de Artes e Espectaculos in Figueira, Portugal before returning to Australia in 2011. Jamie graduated with Distinction from the Professional Dancers' Teaching Diploma (PDTD) at the RAD in 2013. She now teaches at several schools in Brisbane and is a regular guest for summer schools and short courses including the RAD's International Summer Schools in Singapore (2014) and Japan (2014).

## **Caitlin Peetz**

**Performance Course - Hip Hop**



Caitlin Peetz has been performing, competing and teaching Hip Hop dance since 2009 at Pump Dance Studios. Caitlin has travelled nationally and internationally for dance competitions, both as a dancer and a coach. She competed with Infinite Dance Crew at the 2013 Hip Hop Unite Championships in Europe, where the crew placed first in the adult division. In 2015 Caitlin choreographed for and competed at the World of Dance Finals competition in America. Caitlin is currently a dancer in Infinite Dance

Crew and coaches the senior crews from Pump Dance Studios. Caitlin also currently teaches Hip Hop classes in Wellington secondary schools, as well as providing coaching for third year students at Whitireia Performing Arts Centre in Wellington. Caitlin has performed in and choreographed for numerous dance productions with both Pump Dance Studios and Infinite dance crew. At present she is choreographing and training for Infinite's Fringe Festival show in 2016, called *To Infinity and Beyond*. For the last two years, Caitlin has also performed as a 'fire dancer' in the Taranaki Festival of the Lights.

## **Dale Pope**

**Performance Course – Contemporary**

**Teachers Course – 5 Workshop Sessions**



Dale is an Australian based choreographer recently directing and choreographing the commissioned contemporary show *Twice Upon A Time* for P&O Cruises which will see her show on board two cruise ships in the fleet for a season of five years. Dale is also choreographer to Bindi Irwin, National Choreography Consultant for the Australian Girls Choir (of Qantas Ad fame) and has toured internationally five times with her work being seen in New York, LA, Paris, London, Rome, Prague and at the Sydney Opera House too. Choreography for live, film and tv includes: Oprah Winfrey Ultimate Adventure Down Under, ABCs Dance Academy Series 2 and 3, Cadbury Bubbly, Smarties (8 Colours of Fun), Australian Dance Festival, along with advising on numerous print media shoots. Dale is a Senior Teacher at Sydney Dance Company, has taught for RAD Summer Schools nationally and internationally and when in Sydney guest teaches at

several full time performing arts courses. Her performing career includes performances for Queen Elizabeth, Prince Phillip, the King and Queen of Sweden, Kylie Minogue, Marcia Hines, K.d.lang. , appearing in Mao's Last Dancer and numerous stage and television events. Dale is Founder and Director of REDed (Raw Energy Dance Education) delivering premier educational dance programs to primary and high schools across NSW and producer of the REDed Dance DVD series.

## **Turid Revfiem**

**Performance Course - Classical**



Born in Auckland, Turid began dancing in Taupo travelling to Auckland for her final exams before being accepted into the National Ballet School (now NZSD) in 1979. After graduating in 1980 and touring with the New Zealand Ballet in *Nutcracker* and *Giselle*, she headed to Europe where she spent four years as a soloist with the Theater der Stadt Koblenz in Germany. In Europe she also danced at the prestigious Bayreuther Festspiele each summer from 1982-86. Turid re-joined the Royal New Zealand Ballet as a dancer in 1986 and was promoted to soloist in 1993. She completed her Bachelor of Arts while still a dancer with the company in 1996 and in 1997, while on maternity leave, she worked for the Eric Languet Dance Company as Rehearsal Assistant and Stage Manager. Later that year her daughter Emma was born. In 1999 she retired from dancing with the Royal NZ Ballet and took

up the position of Artistic Coordinator with the company. In 2003 she was appointed Ballet Mistress and remained in the role for 11 years until leaving the RNZB in 2014 and taking up the position of classical tutor at the New Zealand School of Dance. The Royal NZ Ballet has performed four of her

works; *Si Supieras* for the 2004 Otago Festival of the Arts and restaged for *Tutus on Tour* 2005; *Three over Four* and *Bernarda Alba's House* which featured in the 1999 Originals season; and *Kleines Requiem* in 2000's *Next Step* season.

## **Sir Jon Trimmer**

### **Grades Course - Make-up & Mime**



Sir Jon Trimmer has been a mainstay of the Royal New Zealand Ballet for most of the company's 60+ years. He started dancing at his sister's ballet school in Wellington at the age of 12. He spent a year with the then New Zealand Ballet before studying at the Royal Ballet School in 1959, and then spent two years with Sadler's Wells. He danced with both The Australian Ballet and the Royal Danish Ballet, and has performed with Dame Margot Fonteyn, Rudolf Nureyev, Erik Bruhn and many other of the world's top dancers. Some career highlights include being nominated for the best actor award in the *Fireraiser* television series (1986) and dancing the title role in *Petrouchka* and the role of Albrecht in *Giselle*. The last 20 years have seen

Jon performing mainly character roles with the RNZB, alongside dramatic roles in television and stage plays. He was awarded Television Performer of the Year in 1971, received an MBE in 1974, a Fulbright Scholarship in 1981, and in 1986 was the third recipient of the Turnovsky Award. He received a knighthood in 1999 for services to ballet. To celebrate his 50th anniversary with the RNZB in 2008 Sir Jon took to the stage as "The Don" in *Don Quixote*. In 2009 he reprised his role as Hook in *Peter Pan*, and in 2010 performed as the Matron in *The Nutcracker*. In 2004 and 2015 he toured New Zealand with Helen Moulder in the play *Meeting Karpovsky*. Sir Jon jokes that these days he mainly plays "old ladies and witches". He has delighted Grades Course students with his Mime and Mask classes at several of the RAD's International Summer Schools.

## **Francesco Ventriglia RNZB Artistic Director**

### **Performance Course - Classical**



Francesco trained at the Ballet School of La Scala, Milan, joining the world-renowned ballet company of La Scala in 1997. During his dancing career he performed solo and principal roles in a wide range of repertoire including the Bronze Idol in Natalia Makarova's *La Bayadère*, and Hilarion to Sylvie Guillem's *Giselle* at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York and at Covent Garden. As a choreographer, he has created works for leading dancers including Roberto Bolle, Ulyana Lopatkina and Svetlana Zakharova, and for prestigious venues including the Arena di Verona, the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow, the Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg and the Venice Biennale, among others. After retiring from the stage, at the age of 31, Francesco Ventriglia was appointed Director of MaggioDanza (Opera Dance Theatre) in Florence, Italy, in 2010. He guided the

company to new success on the international stage, substantially increasing the number of performances at home and abroad, investing in education programmes, commissioning new works from Italian and international choreographers, and he received acclaim from audiences and critics alike. Francesco took up his appointment as the Royal New Zealand Ballet's 11<sup>th</sup> Artistic Director in November 2014, joining the company during The Vodafone Season of *A Christmas Carol*.

## **Lynn Wallis FISTD OBE RAD RAD Artistic Director**

## Performance Course – Classical & Repertoire

### Teachers Course – 3 sessions



Lynn graduated from The Royal Ballet Senior School in 1965 to The Royal Ballet Touring Company, becoming Ballet Mistress for the Upper School from 1969 - 82, when she was made Deputy Principal. In 1984, she joined The National Ballet of Canada, as Artistic Co-ordinator, before becoming Associate Artistic Director with Valerie Wilder, 1986, and Co-Artistic Director, 1987. In 1990, she was appointed Deputy Artistic Director of English National Ballet. Lynn joined the RAD in 1994 as Artistic Director with responsibility for setting and maintaining standards of dance training worldwide, developing the syllabus and planning courses internationally. She led the Creative Panel for Pre-Primary in Dance, Primary in Dance, Grades 1–5, Intermediate Foundation to Advanced 2, and chaired the Artistic Panel of Dance Professionals who wrote *The Foundations of Classical Ballet*

*Technique* and *The Progressions of Classical Ballet Technique*. In 2001 she was short-listed for the European Women of Achievement Awards, and in 2004 was nominated for an Isadora Duncan Dance Award for her re-staging of *Monotones I and II* for San Francisco Ballet. A Fellow of the Imperial Society Teachers of Dancing, Lynn is also a Trustee of The Royal Ballet Benevolent Fund and a Governor of Elmhurst School for Dance. In June 2015 Lynn was awarded an OBE for services to dance.

## Wellington Circus Trust

### Grades Course - Circus



Katie Roberts, pictured above, will lead the sessions. Katie has been at the WCT since 2014, teaching kids from 5 and up, as well as training in aerials.

The Wellington Circus Trust was established in 2005 with the goal to foster a thriving circus recreational and performance community in Wellington, provide community facilities, equipment and infrastructure for classes, rehearsal and performance that are affordable to circus groups, and to foster, encourage, and facilitate relevant community classes, workshops and training opportunities. After a number of years operating out of different locations around Wellington, it moved in 2011 into 'The Circus Hub' at 11 Hutchison Rd. This is a uniquely equipped training room which also doubles as a performance space for studio shows and events, and is sometimes hired by visiting artists and companies as a rehearsal space. It has the highest aerial space in New Zealand and beyond, which makes it highly attractive to aerial artists. The Trust offers recreational classes for all ages and levels and also runs Circus workshops for visiting

school groups, team-building workshops for local businesses, birthday party workshops, and special needs workshops. The Trust also promotes young people as circus performers through its Youth Circus. Youth circus members receive highly subsidised training five hours a week. The Wellington Circus Trust was first involved in the RAD's International Summer School Grades Course in 2008, when its workshops proved very popular with the participants. Its trainers are highly skilled and come from a wide variety of circus, arts, performance, dance, gymnastics and fitness backgrounds – and they are all first aid trained.

# Pianist Biographies

## **Nicholas Giles-Palmer**

### **Grades Course Pianist**

Wanganui-born Nicholas's earliest memory of ballet was watching youngsters compete in local competitions at the Wanganui Opera House in 1967. A move to Invercargill in the 70's led to his beginning formal music lessons with the O'Byrne School of Music, with his career as a dance pianist beginning in 1977 playing for RAD examination classes and open classes. In 1982 he moved to Wellington to work as a class pianist for both the National School of Ballet (now NZSD) and the Royal New Zealand Ballet (RNZB). In 2011, during his third tenure at the RNZB, Nicholas took a break and stepped down from his full-time position as Company Musician. He now works as resident Class Pianist for the RNZB, the NZSD and also teaches music. Highlights this year include playing silent film for New Zealand Film Archive launch of the new historic film website and accompanying Waiata for the Maori immersion Kura for the same event.

## **Catherine McKay**

### **Performance Course Pianist**

Catherine was awarded a scholarship to study at the Royal College of Music in London which she did from 1995-1997. From there she went on to study and work in Canada, initially at the Banff Centre and then to complete a diploma in Piano Performance & French at the Université de Montréal. While living in Montreal she played for classes at *Les Grandes Ballets Canadiens*. Now based in Wellington she works at Victoria University's NZSM as accompanist and tutor in chamber music for their Young Musicians Programme, in between freelance concert performances and as teacher of piano. Over the past few years she has also had a variety of engagements such as working at the Banff Centre as their collaborative pianist for two semesters in 2008/09; and during the Venice Biennale in 2011 playing daily on the Parekowhai piano for visitors and presenting several concerts at the NZ Pavillion over a 2-month period. While still at school in Napier, Catherine had a part-time job playing for ballet classes, and later collaborated with the dance teacher for dance/live piano music productions. She has also played for RAD exams and summer schools in Napier in subsequent years.

## **Craig Newsome**

### **Performance Course Pianist**

Craig is originally from Taranaki and has lived in Wellington since the early nineties. He has played for the New Zealand School of Dance as an accompanist for 21 years covering all areas of the dance education field. As well he enjoys accompanying singers and instrumentalists and musical theatre.

## **Irina Kouzminova**

### **Grades Course Pianist**

Irina Kouzminova holds a Diploma in Music (Performance) and a Master of Arts degree from St Petersburg University. Since immigrating to New Zealand from Russia 19 years ago, Irina has established herself as one of Wellington's foremost ballet pianists and music teachers. She is the pianist for the New Zealand School of Dance, the Royal New Zealand Ballet, Whitirea Polytechnic's Commercial Dance Course, Chilton Dance Centre, as well as playing for Royal Academy of Dance Grade examinations. Irina is an Associate of NZ Institute of Registered Music Teachers, teaching piano privately and in schools.

## **Phillip O'Malley**

### **Performance Course Pianist**

Phillip started playing for ballet classes in Sydney while in his early twenties, playing for a variety of Royal Academy of Dance teachers and schools. In 1988 he was lucky enough to secure a job with The Australian Ballet where he played for Company classes, rehearsals and sometimes in the New South Wales and Victoria State Opera and Ballet Orchestras. After a few years in Perth mostly freelancing, Phillip returned to New Zealand in 1998 to fill a position as pianist at the New Zealand School of Dance, where he remains still.