



PRESS RELEASE

23/3/17

Royal Academy of Dance wins Award for Excellence in International Dance



Photo credit : Anthony Burns , courtesy of the Royal Academy of Dance

The Royal Academy of Dance has been awarded the 2017 Award for Excellence in International Dance by The International Institute of Dance and Theatre, which it will receive on World Theatre Day. The Academy has been chosen for this prestigious award in recognition of its standing as one of the world's most influential dance education organisations. The RAD joins Shobana Jeyasingh Dance, Jasmin Vardimon and Akram Khan, who have received this award in previous years.

The RAD is one of the largest dance education and training organisations in the world, with 14,000 members in 83 countries. There are over 8,000 RAD Registered Teachers located around the world, many qualified in a range of dance styles. Further to that, 239, 310 dance students took RAD exams in 70 regions worldwide in 2016 alone.

The RAD is also a global leader in dance teacher education, offering nine programmes, which can be studied on site at the RAD, or by distance learning. Our distinguished Certificate in Ballet Teaching Studies Programme is also offered in seven different languages. Over 4,500 dance teachers have graduated from our Faculty of Education through our flexible educational programmes and awards. The RAD is committed to lifelong learning and our continuing professional development scheme is designed to meet the needs of our teachers worldwide with structured, innovative and progressive opportunities.

This award also acknowledges the RAD's commitment to nurturing the next generation of dance talent, through the Genée International Ballet Competition. The Genée is one of the most prestigious ballet competitions in the world, which attracts the finest RAD-trained dancers from around the globe and from diverse backgrounds. The 2016 competition in Sydney saw 86 candidates from 12 countries train and compete with the guidance of esteemed coaches, choreographers, and judges from some of the most prominent ballet companies in the

Press Contacts

Celia Moran | Press & Communications Manager | 020 7326 8002 | cmoran@rad.org.uk

Nima Naik | Press & Social Media Officer | 020 7326 8000 | nnaik@rad.org.uk



world. The competition is held in a different location each year, and 2017 sees the competition take place in Lisbon, Portugal for the first time.

Darcey Bussell CBE, President of the RAD said: *"I am delighted that the Royal Academy of Dance has been selected for the Award for Excellence in International Dance. Dance has the ability to speak to everyone and touches lives in many different ways. At the RAD we strive to offer as many people as possible, globally, the opportunity to feel its benefits, whether through teacher training, dance exams, learning with an RAD teacher, or by taking part in the Genée International Ballet Competition. Around the world, our work continues to inspire people with a passion for dance, to achieve their ambitions."*

Neville Shulman CBE, Director of the International Institute of Dance and Theatre commented: *"The Royal Academy of Dance is a vital leading light in the Arts world and continues to excite and enthuse on the global stage with initiatives and performances that will inspire future generations of dancers and dance lovers. Having worked closely with some of their leading artists and ambassadors for many years and to see the incredible successes they achieved in the past year, it is with great pleasure that we will present them with the coveted Award for Excellence in International Dance this World Theatre Day."*

The RAD will be presented with the award on 27th March at the World Theatre Day celebrations at the Dorchester hotel. Also accepting an award is recipient of the RAD's 2016 QEII Award Sir Matthew Bourne CBE, who will be presented with the Trailblazer in Dance and Theatre Award.

- ENDS -

Notes to Editors

Website: www.rad.org.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/RoyalAcademyofDance
Twitter: www.twitter.com/RADheadquarters
Instagram: www.instagram.com/RoyalAcademyofDance
Vimeo: www.vimeo.com/radheadquarters
Press Office: www.rad.org.uk/press

Royal Academy of Dance

With 14,000 members in 83 countries, the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is one of the largest and most influential dance education and training organisations in the world. Established in 1920 to improve standards and re-invigorate dance training, the Academy helps and encourages its teachers to perfect their teaching skills and pass on this knowledge to their students. There are currently over 1,000 students in full-time or part-time teacher training programmes with the Academy and each year the examination syllabus is taught to thousands of young people worldwide, with around a quarter of a million pupils per year going on to take RAD exams.

Press Contacts

Celia Moran | Press & Communications Manager | 020 7326 8002 | cmoran@rad.org.uk
Nima Naik | Press & Social Media Officer | 020 7326 8000 | nnaik@rad.org.uk



The International Institute of Dance and Theatre

The International Institute of Dance and Theatre was founded by Neville Shulman CBE over 30 years ago to enhance support for dance and theatre in all its forms throughout the world and to build a network that was aligned with UNESCO's goals on culture and the arts, and which would focus its endeavors on championing of all members of the performing arts professions.

They have created platforms for international exchange, collaboration amongst organisations and for engagement in the education of the performing arts as well as showcasing the performing arts for mutual understanding and peace. Primarily focused on theatre and dance, they also enjoy support from and pass their message onto other sectors including the political world and the film industry.

Their message is spread across every continent and is shared by countless Arts organisations as well as involving the political and corporate world.

World Theatre Day

World Theatre Day has been celebrated all over the world on 27th March by theatre professionals, theatre organizations, theatre universities, theatre lovers and organizations such as UNESCO who launched World Theatre Day in 1962. This day is a celebration for those who can see the value and importance of the art form "theatre", and acts as a wake-up-call for governments, politicians and institutions which have not yet recognized its value to the people and to the individual and have not yet realized its potential for economic growth.

For press information, contact:

Celia Moran

Press & Communications Manager

Royal Academy of Dance

Tel: +44 (0)20 7326 8002

E-mail: cmoran@rad.org.uk

Press Contacts

Celia Moran | Press & Communications Manager | 020 7326 8002 | cmoran@rad.org.uk

Nima Naik | Press & Social Media Officer | 020 7326 8000 | nnaik@rad.org.uk