

WHITE LODGE MUSEUM & BALLET RESOURCE CENTRE



THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL

Dance Partnership & Access



Spring Term 2011

Newsletter

Issue 3



**Ninette de Valois: Adventurous Traditionalist
Conference April 2011**

Last chance to book

Very few places remain for the forthcoming conference *Ninette de Valois: Adventurous Traditionalist*, hosted by The Royal Ballet School, on 1-3 April. The conference promises to be a highly significant event, facilitating a rigorous, multi-disciplinary exploration of de Valois' life and legacy. Highlights include performances by students of The Royal Ballet School and members of The Royal Ballet Companies, and a full reconstruction of the W. B. Yeats/de Valois dance-drama *The King of the Great Clock Tower*.

As a result of the conference several new films are being specially created, and exciting archival footage is coming to light. This wealth of material will greatly enhance the Ballet Resource Centre at White Lodge Museum.

For full details and to book, please go to:
www.royalballetschool.co.uk/dvconference



Principal Guest Artist with The Royal Ballet, Carlos Acosta, at White Lodge Museum in January. It was his first visit to The Royal Ballet Lower School where he was warmly welcomed by Assistant Director Jay Jolley.

Photo: Patrick Baldwin

GCSE Dance visits

Students from Hampton Academy visited White Lodge Museum and trialed our new resource of practical and written activities, designed to support learning at Dance GCSE level. Their teacher said they 'got lost in the wonder of the artefacts.' The students revealed they particularly enjoyed the opportunity to examine ballet costumes up close. If you are interested in booking a school or college group visit please contact us on the details overleaf to discuss your requirements.

Photo: Anna Fineman



Balletboyz return to White Lodge

Royal Ballet School alumni Michael Nunn and William Trevitt, better known as the Balletboyz, made a return visit to White Lodge in December to create a short film for the Royal Opera House Education department. During a break in filming they visited White Lodge Museum and were delighted to find their school reports on display. They later joked with Sarah Frater of the Evening Standard: "We're so old we're in a museum...we have our own section [in White Lodge Museum]: our pictures, our ballet reports; it's like a shrine." Frater notes 'Their presence there is a clue to the special place that Nunn and Trevitt hold in modern ballet.'



Year 7 Royal Ballet School students enjoy an early viewing of the new de Valois exhibits at White Lodge Museum, during their art class

New Ninette de Valois exhibits

8 March 2011 marks the 10th anniversary of the death of the Founder of The Royal Ballet School and Companies, Dame Ninette de Valois (1898—2001). To mark the occasion, new exhibits relating to de Valois are now on display at White Lodge Museum. They include the beautifully embellished jacket (left), designed by Rex Whistler, for the title role of de Valois' ballet *The Rake's Progress*.

8 March 2011 also marks the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day. Museum staff will give a presentation to the students of White Lodge, during a special assembly to celebrate de Valois' great significance as a cultural figure with a worldwide legacy.

Diaghilev exhibition success



The Royal Ballet School Collections loaned key artworks to the V&A for the recent exhibition

Diaghilev and the Golden Age of the Ballets Russes. Co-curator Jane Pritchard said she was delighted that visitor numbers -at over 115000 -had exceeded expectations. Royal Ballet School Collections contributions included a drawing by Russian artist Mikhail Larionov of himself with Diaghilev, Stravinsky and Massine (see detail).

Costume loans to Secret Cinema

Secret Cinema screen surprise films, in unusual locations, complete with live performances and art installations. In February they screened the 1948 ballet classic *The Red Shoes* at the cavernous Tobacco Dock in Wapping. With loans from The Royal Ballet School Collections and Wardrobe Department they created installations of hundreds of ballet shoes, and a vast, spot-lit wardrobe with dancers' costumes suspended from the ceiling.



Special openings—Tales of Royalty at White Lodge

Thursday 28 April, 10.00am – 1.00pm and Saturday 30 April, 10.00am – 1.00pm

This spring visit White Lodge Museum in Richmond Park, and see a special temporary display which reveals some remarkable stories of royal life at White Lodge. Originally commissioned as a hunting lodge for George I in 1727, White Lodge has since housed royal residents and guests for over 280 years. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were regular visitors; in 1894 Edward VIII was born and christened there; the Duke and Duchess of York (later to become George VI and the Queen Mother) spent the first four years of their marriage there, while the birth certificate of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, gives White Lodge as her parents' address.

Visitors will have admission to White Lodge Museum, the special display *Tales of Royalty at White Lodge*, and the chance to see selected Fine Rooms and views from this stunning Grade I listed building. **Booking is essential, please contact us for details.**

Visits to White Lodge Museum and Ballet Resource Centre are FREE

White Lodge is a working school therefore all visits must be booked in advance.

To book please visit: www.royalballetschool.co.uk/wl_museum

Email: museum@royalballetschool.co.uk

Phone: 020 8392 8440, option 7