# White Lodge Museum

THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL

### Newsletter | Spring 2013

# Anya Linden, Lady Sainsbury: Ballerina and Benefactor

In celebration of the 80th birthday of Lady Sainsbury White Lodge Museum mounted an exhibition from her personal collection. A ballet dancer who performed under the name of Anya Linden, she undertook her formative training with Dorothy Pring and Theodore Koslov in California. Returning to England in 1947, Anya Linden attended the Sadler's Wells School, and entered the Company in 1951. She was soon promoted to Soloist, before becoming a Principal in 1958. Her repertoire encompassed the Classical ballerina roles and works by Massine, Ashton, Helpmann, Cranko and MacMillan.



The Royal Ballet School Vice President, The Lady Sarah Chatto (left) meets Donald MacLeary and Dame Antoinette Sibley



L-R Assistant Curator, Anna Fineman and Curator, Anna Meadmore with Lady Sainsbury and her Aurora tutu

Anya Linden, Lady Sainsbury: Ballerina and Benefactor is the largest exhibition mounted by White Lodge Museum. It includes remarkable photos from Anya Linden's career, sketches by her, and the tutu she wore as Princess Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*.

On 17 January a private view was held for Lady Sainsbury with her family and friends. We were delighted to be joined by her husband John, Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover. Together they formed the Linbury Trust in 1973, which has extensively supported organisations within the arts, education and social welfare. It was a great pleasure to welcome back The Royal Ballet School's Vice President, The Lady Sarah Chatto, who officially opened White Lodge Museum in 2009.



Lord and Lady Sainsbury with a captivating portrait of Anya Linden by Antony Armstrong-Jones c. 1959, when she was a Principal of The Royal Ballet



L-R Vice Chair of Governors, Ricki Gail Conway, Robert Conway, Director of The Royal Ballet School, Gailene Stock and Governor, Candy Hurst-Brown. All photos: Patrick Baldwin

# **Richmond Gardens Festival Events**

Arcadian Thames Walk to White Lodge Saturday 8 June 2013, Monday 15 July 2013 10.45am - 3.30pm: 3 miles/5 km, with stops £10.00 adults, £6.00 children under 16 Celebrate the Richmond Borough Gardens Festival this summer by taking a guided walk to the Grade 1 listed White Lodge in Richmond Park, enjoying several beautiful Arcadian views along the way. Beginning at Richmond Station, your professional Blue Badge Tourist Guide will take you on this classic walk to:

- Richmond Hill for the stunning panorama of the Thames
- King Henry's Mound, the highest point in Richmond Park; with a protected view of St Paul's Cathedral
- The Queen's Ride to White Lodge
- The Salon balcony of White Lodge for the final Arcadian view of the day, across to Pen Ponds
- White Lodge Museum & Ballet Resource Centre



Arcadian White Lodge. Photo: Camilla Jessel Panufnick

#### Music for an Arcadian Landscape Saturday 22 June 2013, 7.30pm, White Lodge £10.00 adults, £5.00 students, under 16s free

A concert by the Lovekyn Consort, tracing the influence of landscape and naturalism through 18<sup>th</sup> Century British music composed by Handel, Arne, Eccles and others. Featuring Soprano, Harpsichord, Flute, Cello, Recorder and Violin the concert will take place in the intimate surroundings of the Salon at White Lodge. The beautiful Arcadian view to Pen Ponds may be enjoyed from the balcony of the Salon. White Lodge Museum will be open from 6.30pm prior to the concert. A complimentary glass of wine will be served at the interval.

For further details and booking for all events: www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitelodgemuseum

## White Lodge history: new portraiture

Following the successful hang of historical portraits in the Salon, White Lodge Museum have mounted further reproductions of key figures in White Lodge's history, in the fine room known as the 'Nelson Room.' Lord Nelson dined at White Lodge as the guest of Viscount Sidmouth in 1805, six weeks before the Battle of Trafalgar. Nelson and Sidmouth's portraits can now be seen alongside those of Sir Robert Walpole and John Stuart, Earl of Bute, highlighting the stories of three notable Prime Ministers to have resided at White Lodge.

# Mimi Legat Collection: major acquisition



Original caricatures by Nicolas Legat of Ninette de Valois (left) and Anton Dolin.

Mimi Nicolaeva-Legat grand-daughter of Nicolas and Nadine Nicolaeva-Legat, has given her collection of Legat material to The Royal Ballet School Collections. Following the loan of a selection of artefacts, Mimi has now supplemented these with the remainder of her artworks and documents, and donated them permanently. The collection comprises photographs, paintings, caricatures, letters and notebooks. This gift recognises that Legat's pedagogic legacy forms a cornerstone of the English School of Classical ballet through Ninette de Valois, who studied with him from 1923 – c.1935. Legat was renowned for his caricatures which reveal a perceptive understanding of his celebrated pupils, as in the examples pictured above.

## A Focus on Style

The Royal Ballet School has presented a landmark series of lectures and masterclasses. These explored the French, Italian, Danish and Russian ballet Schools, and their influence on Ninette de Valois, culminating in an examination of the English School and choreographic style. Prompted by questions which arose during the Ninette de Valois Conference of 2011, the Focus on Style series drew significantly on the resources and expertise of White Lodge Museum. Research on the historical context of each School presented during the series by Curator, Anna Meadmore, will be made available on The Royal Ballet School website later in the year.

#### Visits to White Lodge Museum are FREE

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

#### **Opening times**

During term time the museum is open: Tuesday 13:30 - 15:30 Wednesday 13:30 - 15:30 Thursday 13:30 - 15:30 For groups of 10 people or more, alternative visiting hours can be arranged.

Don't forget to check our website for special holiday and weekend openings.

## To book please visit:

www.royalballetschool.co.uk/wl\_museum Email: museum@royalballetschool.co.uk Phone: +44 (0)20 8392 8440, option 7