

WHITE LODGE MUSEUM & BALLET RESOURCE CENTRE



THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL

Dance Partnership & Access



Autumn Term 2010

Newsletter

Issue 2

Photos: Anna Fineman



Open House London 2010

In September White Lodge participated in Open House London; a city-wide celebration of the capital's architecture. The weekend was extremely successful, as hundreds of visitors flocked to the Grade 1 listed Palladian villa, which was included in the Open House Programme for the first time. Visitors gained a special insight into White Lodge and The Royal Ballet School, as they were taken on a guided tour of selected fine rooms and enjoyed access to the gardens. The visit culminated with entry to White Lodge Museum & Ballet Resource Centre, where visitors could learn more about the former royal hunting lodge and the fascinating stories of previous inhabitants. Across the weekend we welcomed over 700 visitors, contributing to the busiest month at White Lodge Museum since opening.

***'An exquisite, packed
'jewel-box' of a museum!'***

White Lodge Museum Visitor, 2010

New de Valois film

A new film about the Founder of The Royal Ballet School and Companies, Ninette de Valois, has been created by director Lynne Wake. Part-funded by White Lodge Museum & Ballet Resource Centre, *Come Dance with Me* was commissioned by Royal Opera House Collections for their current exhibition *Invitation to the Ballet: Ninette de Valois and the Story of The Royal Ballet*, at The Lowry. The film, set to narration of de Valois' own words, combines new interviews with key figures of British ballet, with footage of performances from the 1930s to the present day, illustrating de Valois' influence and legacy. The film will be shown in its entirety for the first time at the 2011 conference *Ninette de Valois: Adventurous Traditionalist* (further details overleaf), and will then be available to view at the Ballet Resource Centre.



Photo: Christopher Bird

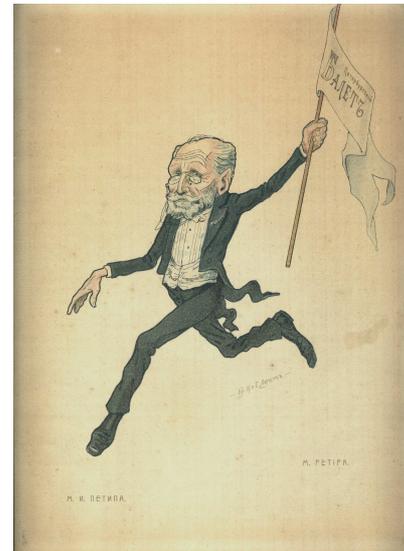
Filming The Royal Ballet Upper School students rehearsing Ninette de Valois' *Checkmate*, for new film *Come Dance With Me*

Film Collection Consultancy

Last term we successfully applied to Film London for a Moving Image Preservation Audit of our Collections. Our moving image holdings are extensive, comprising over 1800 items dating from the 1950s. The collection contains many films specifically related to The Royal Ballet School and Companies, including classes and performances. A film consultant undertook a thorough audit of our film collection, and his detailed report of recommendations will enable us to better preserve and facilitate access to this significant material. We are beginning this process by digitising the entire collection, following which we can more easily view the films, and discover precisely what hidden gems are amongst the collection.

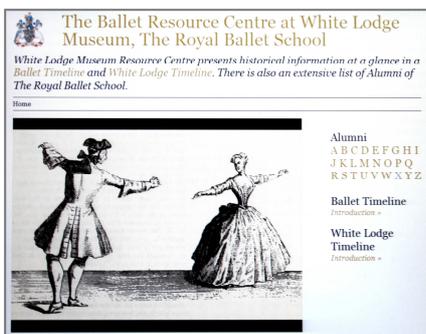
Recent acquisition

We are delighted to announce that The Royal Ballet School Collections recently acquired, on long-term loan, the collection of Nicolai Legat. Legat (1869-1937) was a Russian dancer and teacher—his pupils included Vaslav Nijinsky, Anna Pavlova and Ninette de Valois. The Legat Collection includes teaching notes, letters, a painting of Legat and a number of prints. Pictured is his caricature of balletmaster Marius Petipa. The Legat Collection has been kindly loaned by Mimi Legat, and is available for researchers to view by appointment.



Ballet Resource Centre news

New digital resources are now available to visitors at White Lodge Museum & Ballet Resource Centre. Detailed research into the histories of ballet and White Lodge underpins two illustrated electronic timelines, punctuated with biographies of key personalities. This resource will continue to develop into a comprehensive research facility.



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Loans to National and Local Museums

The Royal Ballet School Collections are in demand by other museums, seeking to borrow artefacts to display as part of their temporary exhibitions. Items from the Collections can currently be viewed at the following at the following exhibitions:

- **V&A:** *Diaghilev and the Golden Age of the Ballets Russes*, until 9 January 2011
- **Museum of Richmond:** *Richmond Theatre Through the Stages*, until 26 February 2011
- **Royal Opera House:** *Invitation to the Ballet: Ninette de Valois and the Story of The Royal Ballet*, at The Lowry, Salford, until 6 March 2011

Final weeks for BRB display

Book now to catch our display celebrating 20 years of Birmingham Royal Ballet. See the Jasper Conran designed 'Sugar Rum Cherry' costume, from the world premiere of *The Nutcracker Sweeties* (1996). Until 26 November.



Ninette de Valois: Adventurous Traditionalist
Conference April 2011

Final bookings

There are a few remaining places available to attend the 2011 conference *Ninette de Valois: Adventurous Traditionalist*, hosted by The Royal Ballet School. The Conference programme is shortly to be published online. For details and to book for this major event go to: www.royalballetschool.co.uk/dvconference

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