



The
Australian
Ballet

A TOUR FOR PATRONS AND SUPPORTERS
OF THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET



Renaissance
Tours

American Ballet Spectacular!



Tour Leader:
Elizabeth Zimmer

07 – 19 June 2010
(13 days/12 nights)

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to discover the ballet and dance scene in the USA, featuring the spring seasons of the American Ballet Theatre and the New York City Ballet in New York, followed by *Ballet Across America II* at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC.

In 2010 ABT celebrates its 70th anniversary, the Lincoln Center turns 50 and the NYCB returns to the newly renovated David H. Koch Theater (formerly the State Theater). Both companies are pulling out all stops to create blockbuster seasons which will feature classic works by George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, Twyla Tharp, Sir Frederick Ashton and Kevin McKenzie, contrasted

with recent works and world premieres by Christopher Wheeldon, Alexei Ratmansky, Mauro Bigonzetti and Melissa Barak. There is also an opportunity to see a new take on a Marsha Graham classic at NY's other centre of dance, the Joyce Theater.

Following its successful debut in 2008, the Kennedy Center's biennial *Ballet Across America* returns in 2010 with a wonderful line-up of companies from across the USA: Tulsa Ballet, Christopher Wheeldon's *Morphoses*, Houston Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, the Suzanne Farrell Ballet, Ballet Arizona, the Joffrey Ballet, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, and North Carolina Dance Theatre.



Elizabeth Zimmer

Elizabeth Zimmer, a native New Yorker, writes about dance, theatre, and books for *The Australian* and the free New York daily *Metro*, and contributes to many other publications. She served as the dance editor of New York's *Village Voice* from 1992 until 2006, and reviewed ballet for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* from 1997 to 2005. Since 1972 she has reviewed dance in cities across North America, and taught writing and dance history at several universities, most recently at Rutgers. Since 1979 she has consulted for the New York State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, and regularly adjudicates choreography and performance for the American College Dance Festival Association.



MESMERICS, MORPHOSES – THE WHEELDON COMPANY | PHOTOGRAPHER ERIN BAINO

MON 07 JUNE DEPART AUSTRALIA / ARRIVE NEW YORK

Depart Australia on Qantas, Delta or V Australia flights to New York via Los Angeles. Arrive New York late in the afternoon.

TUE 08 JUNE NEW YORK

Welcome to the Big Apple! Today's coach tour will introduce you to Downtown and Midtown Manhattan. It will begin with Wall Street and the surrounding Financial District, continue to Battery Point and make a stop at Ground Zero, one of the sites of September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Drive through TriBeCa, home to contemporary galleries, chic cafés, designer boutiques and the downtown hip. In the Midtown district see Times Square, Rockefeller Center, Broadway Theater District, St Patrick's Cathedral, the Empire State Building and Madison Square Garden.

Enjoy a welcome lunch with Elizabeth Zimmer on a cruise along the Hudson and East Rivers, with breathtaking views of Manhattan skyscrapers and some of the world's most celebrated landmarks.

On the way back to the hotel drive through colourful Chelsea, the heart of New York's avant-garde art world. (BL)

[Optional evening performance by the Martha Graham Dance Company at the Joyce Theater](#)

WED 09 JUNE NEW YORK

In the morning stroll to the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater at the Joan Weill Center for Dance, the largest dedicated space for dance in the USA. The tour takes in the studios and school facilities. Afternoon at leisure.

After an early dinner, attend an evening performance by the American Ballet Theater at the Metropolitan Opera House of three works premiered by ABT over the past half-century, featuring choreography by Jerome Robbins, Twyla Tharp and Alexei Ratmansky. (BD)

THU 10 JUNE NEW YORK

Transfer to The Metropolitan Museum of Art, with more than 2 million works of art the largest and finest art museum in the USA. After the orientation tour the day is free to explore the museum and its special exhibitions on your own. (B)

[Optional evening performance by the American Ballet Theatre at the Metropolitan Opera House](#)

FRI 11 JUNE NEW YORK

Mid-morning tour will take you to Central Park and the Upper East and West Sides. Drive past the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Guggenheim Museum and Dakota building, home of the former Beatle, John Lennon.

INCLUDED BALLET PERFORMANCES

AMERICAN BALLET THEATER 09 June Kevin McKenzie, Artistic Director

The Brahms-Haydn Variations (Tharp/Brahms)

A ballet for thirty dancers, this work by Twyla Tharp was given its world premiere by ABT in Washington DC in 2000.

On the Dnieper (Ratmansky/Prokofiev)

In 2009 Russian choreographer Alexei Ratmansky joined ABT as Artist in Residence. Ratmansky chose Sergei Prokofiev's *On the Dnieper* as the inspiration for his first ABT commission.

Fancy Free (Robbins/Bernstein)

This 1943 ballet transformed Jerome Robbins' career and brought Robbins and Leonard Bernstein together for the first time, which later led to the hit Broadway musical *On the Town* based on *Fancy Free*. This collaboration eventually led to *West Side Story* (1957), a Broadway monument and Hollywood classic.

NEW YORK CITY BALLET 12 June Peter Martins, Ballet Master in Chief

After the Rain (Wheeldon/Pärt)

Christopher Wheeldon's *After the Rain* is a ballet of bold movements and heartfelt emotion. Part I is danced to the first movement of Arvo Pärt's *Tabula Rasa*, with three couples. The colours and mood shifts dramatically in Part II, a *pas de deux* danced to Part's *Spiegel im Spiegel*. The ballet is short in length – lasting about 22 minutes – but rich in invention and feeling.

Work TBA (Bigonzetti/Moretto)

Following a number of highly successful collaborations, NYCB has commissioned not only a new work from the young Italian choreographer Mauro Bigonzetti but also a new score by Bruno Moretti, his long-time collaborator.

Who Cares? (Balanchine/Gershwin)

Who Cares? is choreographed to 16 songs Gershwin composed between 1924 and 1931, including "I Got Rhythm", "The Man I Love", "Embraceable You" and "My One and Only."

AMERICAN BALLET THEATER 14 June Kevin McKenzie, Artistic Director

The Sleeping Beauty (McKenzie/Tchaikovsky)

The timeless fairy tale of a beautiful princess, an evil sorceress, and a century of sleep awakened by a prince's kiss, set to the famous score by Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky.

This new production (June 2007) of *The Sleeping Beauty*, choreographed after Marius Petipa, has additional choreography and staging by Kevin McKenzie, Gelsey Kirkland and Michael Chernov. The production features scenery by Tony Walton, costumes by Willa Kim with additional costume designs by Holly Hynes, and lighting by Richard Pilbrow and Dawn Chiang.

ABT stars Gillian Murphy and Jose Manuel Carreño will lead the season's first performance of *The Sleeping Beauty* on Monday evening, June 14.



LINCOLN CENTER NEW YORK



APOLLO, NEW YORK CITY BALLET

Continue on to Harlem, associated with black culture, but also crime and poverty for much of the twentieth century, which is now experiencing a social and economic renaissance. (B)

Optional evening performance by the New York City Ballet at the David H. Koch Theater

SAT 12 JUNE **NEW YORK**
A day to further explore New York on your own.

Late afternoon, experience ballet from the other side of the footlights. Join a New York City Ballet dancer who will share insights into the life of a dancer and discuss the performances you have seen. Also learn about the fascinating history of both NYCB and its home, the David H. Koch Theater.

Evening performance by the New York City Ballet at the David H. Koch Theater of works by Christopher Wheeldon, Mauro Bigonzetti and George Balanchine. (B)

SUN 13 JUNE **NEW YORK**
Today is free for shopping and sightseeing. (B)

Optional matinee performance by the New York City Ballet at the David H. Koch Theater

MON 14 JUNE **NEW YORK**
Enjoy a final day at leisure in New York before an early dinner and the American Ballet Theater's

performance of Tchaikovsky's *The Sleeping Beauty*, starring ABT stars Gillian Murphy and Jose Manuel Carreño. (BD)

TUE 15 JUNE **NEW YORK – WASHINGTON DC**

Morning coach transfer from New York to Washington DC. After an early dinner at the Kennedy Center, attend the first performance of *Ballet Across America II*. (BD)

WED 16 JUNE **WASHINGTON DC**

On a morning orientation tour, see some of the best known Washington institutions: the U.S. Capitol, Supreme Court, the Library of Congress and the White House. See also the Jefferson Memorial and the National Mall with the Korean Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.

After lunch, join more than four million people each year, in a visit to the hallowed grounds of Arlington National Cemetery. See Arlington House, the home of Confederate General Robert E. Lee, grave of American President John F. Kennedy, Memorial Amphitheater with the Tomb of the Unknowns and Sea of Graves. The visit is a journey through history as well as a powerful and memorable experience. (BL)

THU 17 JUNE **WASHINGTON DC**

Day at leisure to visit the Smithsonian Institute, the world's largest museum complex and research organization. Tonight return to the Kennedy Center for the second performance of *Ballet Across America II*. (B)

FRI 18 JUNE **WASHINGTON DC**

Leave Washington behind and cruise to Mount Vernon where, resting on the banks of the Potomac River is the beloved home of George and Martha Washington from the time of their marriage in 1759 until General Washington's death in 1799.

After a farewell lunch with Elizabeth Zimmer and fellow ballet-lovers, stop in Alexandria VA, with time to stroll the quaint cobblestone streets, visit shops, art galleries and historic sites.

Tonight return to the Kennedy Center for the last time to see the last performance of *Ballet Across America II*. (BL)

SAT 19 JUNE **DEPART WASHINGTON DC**

Tour arrangements conclude after breakfast. (B)

Optional performances: 08, 10, 11, 13 June

Please refer to the attached booking form or www.renaissancetours.com.au for optional performances not included in the tour cost.

HOUSTON BALLET **15 June**
Stanton Welch, Artistic Director

Falling (Welch/Mozart)
Set to Mozart's Salzburg Symphonies, Stanton Welch's playful, pure dance work is sprightly, intricate, and immediately inviting.

THE SUZANNE FARRELL BALLET
Suzanne Farrell, Artistic Director

Agon (Balanchine/Stravinsky)
Agon is the Greek word for contest, and while without plot, the shifting relationships between the dancers in George Balanchine's revolutionary work fuse "formality and intimacy [to create] a charge both erotic and strenuous" (*The New York Times*).

NORTH CAROLINA DANCE THEATRE
Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, Artistic Director

Shindig (Bonnefoux/traditional bluegrass)
This rollicking ballet by Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, with live music by the Greasy Beans, is "a lively mix of toe shoes and bluegrass to set the audience cheering" (*The New York Times*).

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET **17 June**
Peter Boal, Artistic Director

3 Movements (Millepied/Reich)
Benjamin Millepied's world premiere is danced with a whipped-up fierceness, its 16 dancers seemingly lit by cool fire. On the one hand it's tricky and technically challenging; and on the other it brims with insouciance.

BALLET ARIZONA
Ib Andersen, Artistic Director

Work TBA
Formed in 1986 with an emphasis on commissioning innovative new works, Ballet Arizona under the leadership of Ib Andersen has become a provocative company that creates, performs, and teaches outstanding classical and contemporary ballet.

MORPHOSES
Christopher Wheeldon, Artistic Director

Christopher Wheeldon Work TBA
Based in New York, Christopher Wheeldon's company has already proven itself a world power with its mission to broaden the scope of classical ballet by emphasizing innovation and fostering creativity through collaboration.

TULSA BALLET **18 June**
Marcello Angelini, Artistic Director

Work TBA
Since its founding in 1956, Tulsa Ballet has remained constant in its artistic mission: combine the beauty and joy expressed by dance with the drama and entertainment of the theater. The company boasts repertoire that "has put this mid-American company in the international eye" (*Dance Magazine*).

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET
Tom Mossbrucker, Artistic Director

Red Sweet (Elo/Vivaldi and Biber)
A leader in the dance world and one of the largest dance presenters in the country, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet performs a commission by Jorma Elo.

THE JOFFREY BALLET
Ashley Wheeler, Artistic Director

Age of Innocence (Liang/Glass and Newman)
Inspired by the novels of Jane Austen, *Age of Innocence* is a nostalgic work by former NYCB soloist and rising star Edwaard Liang investigating the sensations and emotions roused by an empty ballroom.

TOUR CODE: AB100607
DEPOSIT: \$500 per person

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share \$6,500
Single supplement* \$1,800

* Single travellers may request to share.
Please advise at time of booking.

AIRFARES

Competitive airfares are available on Qantas, V Australia and Delta Airlines.

Please contact Renaissance Tours for further information.

TOUR PRICES INCLUDE

- Accommodation in centrally located 4-star hotels with private facilities and daily breakfast (B)
- Meals as per itinerary (L=Lunch, D=Dinner) including special Welcome and Farewell Lunches
- A-reserve tickets to 6 ballet performances
- Comprehensive sightseeing including local guides and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Lectures and talks with your tour leader throughout
- Comprehensive tour notes
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Porterage (1 piece per person) where available. Airport portorage NOT included.

DO NOT INCLUDE

- Transfers on arrival / departure
- Drinks with meals, except Welcome and Farewell Meals
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, taxis etc.
- Airport portorage
- Travel insurance

YOUR HOTELS ****

New York On the Ave
Washington DC Hotel Sofitel

NB Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted.

HOW TO BOOK

Complete, sign and return the Booking Form available from Renaissance Tours with your deposit of \$500 per person. Upon receipt of your Booking Form and deposit, you will receive confirmation of your place from Renaissance Tours.

DEPOSIT / FINAL PAYMENTS

Deposit (at time of booking) \$500

Your deposit is used to purchase your performance tickets and is non-refundable in the event of your cancellation. Your final payment is due 60 days before departure. Failure to make your final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit. We reserve the right to charge a late payment fee in the event of late booking and/or payment to cover additional communication and other expenses.

Payment by cash, cheque, American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa is accepted.

A 3% service charge applies for payment by American Express and Diners Club.

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS

You may cancel the booking at any time.

Written notification is essential even if verbal notification of an intention to cancel has been given. Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to the charges shown below, airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

60 days or more	forfeit of deposit (includes any flight deposit paid)
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above cancellation charges, the full insurance premium together with any existing administration fees is also payable in the event of a cancellation by the Client. If the reason for cancellation is covered by your insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

FORCED CANCELLATIONS

We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for force majeure or the Client's failure to pay the final balance, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure. Unless the Client fails to pay the final balance, we will return all monies paid, excluding payment for travel insurance and administration fees.

No compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is recommended that you are covered by travel insurance. You can make your own arrangements or your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours.

If you take out travel insurance, please provide us with a copy of your insurance policy (or details of master policy).

FITNESS AND PARTICIPATION

While our tours do not require a special level of fitness, for the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tours of 2-3 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your ability to participate in your chosen tour, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require a doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour and provide you with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

You can find a copy of the full terms and conditions attached to the Renaissance Tours booking form. They can also be found on our website at: www.renaissancetours.com.au or we would be happy to post you a copy on request.



TOUR ARRANGEMENTS BY



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