

Beyond Syllabus – Online Conference 2023 – Timetable

Wednesday 4th January

10.00am - 11.15am Cynthia Harvey

More information coming soon...

Coffee Break

11.45am – 1.00pm Claire Farmer – ‘The interplay between strength and flexibility for dance performance’

In this lecture Claire will explore some of the commonly held preconceptions about strength and flexibility in dance, but how they can work in conjunction with each other to optimise performance, aid in stability and alignment and reduce the risk of injury. We will cover the importance of both components in relation to alignment and dance performance, as well as how to train both aspects to aid dancers in their training and performance.

Lunch

2.00pm – 3.15pm Jane Bartholomeusz – ‘Not too fast & not too slow, but somewhere in between...!’

This is not so much a lecture but an informal discussion and an opportunity for Jane to help you musically, as is her role as the dance accompanist supporting the teacher in the Ballet studio:

1. The Lesser Spotted Ballet Accompanist; almost like the dinosaur, an extinct species?
2. Exploring the ‘Special Relationship’ between dancer and musician.
3. Answering all those musical questions you were too frightened to ask!

Tea Break

3.45pm – 5.00pm Patricia Kelly – ‘The Story Behind the Making of “Starstruck”’: Gene Kelly’s Love Letter to Ballet’

Patricia will delve into Gene’s creative process, his work as a director and choreographer (how he wished to be remembered), the difference between choreographing for the stage and for the screen, and Gene as a trailblazer in creating the first ballet to Jazz music for the Paris Opera Ballet. Patricia will also discuss working closely with CEO/Artistic Director of Scottish Ballet, Christopher Hampson and designer Lez Brotherston to create “Starstruck”.

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Thursday 5th January

10.00am - 11.15am **John Byrne – ‘Beyond syllabus: Finding the right balance’**

In this lecture John Byrne will discuss the pros and cons of syllabus-based approaches to classical ballet training and assessment. Do we rely on the syllabus too much? Does it effectively satisfy the requirements of both training and assessment in the best possible way? Or do we need to develop a training program independently of the syllabus so that the role of the teacher is more central to the process and a better balance is struck between the contribution made by the syllabus and the training provided by the teacher?

Coffee Break

11.45am – 1.00pm **Joseph Powell Main – ‘Challenging yourself and changing perceptions’**

Joseph Powell-Main is the first classically trained disabled dancer to have had a full contract with a ballet company. In this online event for the British Ballet organisation, Joe will be sharing highlights from his journey through the dance industry, from its humble beginnings through to his recent collaboration with the Royal Ballet and performing for the Rugby League World Cup Cultural Festival. Powell-Main will also provide a unique insight into the lived experience of being a person and dancer with a disability both in everyday life and in the dance studio.

Joe has many aspirations for his own future and for the future of inclusion in the classical ballet world. Joe hopes that through continued conversations and opportunities in the profession we can continue to progress further so that ballet and dance can truly be accessible for all.

Lunch

2.00pm – 3.15pm **Mercy Nabirye – ‘Rethinking Education and Communities’**

Mercy will focus her discussion on highlighting case studies of work from and with community leaders to hopefully spark ideas of rethinking education, training and supporting young practitioners in diverse communities, developing new formats of exchange and making space for self-care and community care.

Tea Break

3.45pm – 5.00pm **Katy Chambers**

More information coming soon...