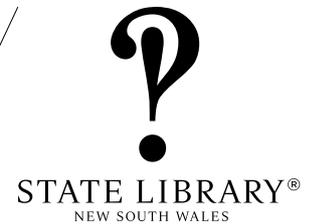




Time in Motion 50 Years of The Australian Ballet

Media Release



The Australian Ballet spins full circle in 50-year celebration

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Discover the enchanting and dramatic world of dance with *Time in Motion: 50 Years of The Australian Ballet*, a free exhibition opening at the State Library on NSW on 10 November, ahead of the company's highly anticipated 2012 production of *Swan Lake*.

Time in Motion presents a rare behind the scenes look at Australia's first professional ballet company through a stunning showcase of evocative photographs, archival footage, theatrical designs, props and exquisite costumes, drawn from The Australian Ballet Collection at Arts Centre Melbourne and The Australian Ballet's own archives.

Beautiful, rarely seen stage designs and photographs from the company's debut performance of *Swan Lake* in 1962 will feature alongside never before seen rehearsal footage and interviews with principal dancers from this year's production, which opens at the Sydney Opera House on 30 November.

"*Time in Motion* offers an incredible opportunity to revisit defining moments of The Australian Ballet's history and to get up close to the creative processes and lavish designs in sets, props and costumes," says Margot Anderson, Curator, Dance and Opera, Arts Centre Melbourne.

Ranked as one of the world's great ballet companies, the company has amassed an amazing repertoire of nearly 400 classical and contemporary works. As the first artistic director, English ballet legend Peggy van Praagh commissioned local works, organised international tours and infused a fresh individuality into the company that is uniquely Australian.

"The exhibition shines the spotlight on the key productions and backstage processes that shaped The Australian Ballet, as well as the stellar cast of home-grown and international dancers, talented choreographers, designers, artists and musicians," says Mrs Anderson.

Exhibition highlights include:

- a classical tutu from *Coppélia* and beautiful contemporary creations by costume designers' such as Jennifer Irwin who also creates for Bangarra Dance Theatre
- a unique collection of pointe shoes worn on stage by famous dancers
- amazing archival footage of past performances including *Melbourne Cup*; and
- interviews with Australian Ballet personalities including Graeme Murphy & Steven Heathcote

"This exhibition has brought back a lot of memories for me in our 50th year," said David McAllister, Artistic Director of The Australian Ballet. "We're delighted that the State Library will be exhibiting such a beautiful anniversary tribute to share with the public."

Time in Motion: 50 Years of The Australian Ballet is a free exhibition at the State Library of NSW until 10 February 2013. A dynamic program of free public talks presented by talent from within The Australian Ballet will also be on offer during the exhibition. Visit: www.sl.nsw.gov.au/events.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact:

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The Australian Ballet

