

# DANCE INTERNATIONAL

**IDTA**

THE INTERNATIONAL DANCE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE

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## Cover Picture

**Craig Smith & Micheline, World and British Open Exhibition Champions**

## Featured in this issue

- Miss Dance of Great Britain 2014
- Freestyle Scholarships and Seminar 2014
- John Dilworth Scholarship Awards & Giles Insurance Bursary Awards 2013



# Miss Dance of Great Britain

## Dance Master UK and the International Ballet Championships 2014

We awoke early in Blackpool on a beautiful sunny day to the excitement of attending the Miss Dance of Great Britain Finals 2014. We entered the pavilion the atmosphere in and around the stage door was buzzing with excitement. Mums, dads, family members and dance schools were showering the dancers with confidence and good luck gifts.

As we entered stage door we were warmly welcomed by Catherine Sheppard and Linda Lister who were preparing for the days events. We took this opportunity while the stage was empty to take a photo of the auditorium and while reminiscing about our time dancing on this historic stage many years ago as professional dancers, we couldn't resist kicking our shoes off and leaping from wing to wing! You soon forget how huge this stage is and the stamina level required to cover this vast area! (and that's not just because of our age!)

As we entered the signing in area below the stage Joanne Kirkland and Allison Coyne were busy signing in and checking the competitor's music.

Next on the agenda was open ceremony rehearsal. Sharon Berry welcomed all finalists and encouraged everyone to keep a positive atmosphere and to support each other in this exciting day of events. Linda Lister and Sharon Berry then took the dancers through their paces to produce a magnificent opening number, which the competitors only had a short period of time to perfect to performance level. An enthusiastic and professional approach was observed to a truly breath taking rehearsal.

Once rehearsal had finished it was lovely to see all the competitors, from all different regions across the country chatting and enjoying themselves, whilst nervously laughing and being supportive of each other's performance; 52 Miss Dance finalists and 12 Dance Masters filled 5 floors of dressing room space!

The Adjudicators Tracey Southern, Adrian Allsopp, Adelle Maasz, Paul Roberts and Simon Kidd greeted the dancers backstage and then they were introduced to the audience and the auditorium became electric with anticipation. As the curtain raised and the lights went up the audience screamed with delight as the dancers performed the opening ceremony with much enthusiasm and a clear sense of joy at the opportunity to perform at this historic venue.

The first dancer was Courtney Green who opened the competition with a contemporary lyrical piece

to a spoken track referring to how a young dancer feels and the social aspects of training in a young dancer's life. This was an apt opening for this day, celebrating young talent ready for their next pre professional career.

Continuing the first heat of 26 dancers the audience was excited and supportive followed by a 2nd heat. Lots of different styles and a strong standard of work, with creative thinking from dance teachers and mature professional performances from these young dancers.

There was a short interlude whilst the stage was prepared for the Junior and Senior Ballet Champions from 7 regions around the country. A beautiful opening ceremony was staged once again with each competitor having their name announced and their moment in the spotlight.

The youngest competitor was 10 years old and on this huge stage and sense of occasion it didn't seem to phase them, as all dancers rose to the occasion with determination, confidence and beautiful technique. The adjudicator was Simon Kidd born in Wembley and trained at The Gwyneth Hare School of Dance, The Northern Ballet School and Central School of Ballet. Simon performed with Adventures in Motion, the English National Ballet and the Royal Ballet with the largest part of his career with the Northern Ballet, where he danced several lead titles including Peter Pan, Romeo and Mercutio, Beast (Beauty and the Beast), Puck (Midsummer Night's Dream) and he also created the role of young Heathcliff in Wuthering Heights. Simon an experienced professional was solely responsible for choosing overall winners.

The curtains closed as the results and the adjudicator made his way to the stage to declare his winners.

**The Junior Ballet champion** was Leah Derby  
**Runner up** Emily Gardiner

**The Senior Ballet champion** was Rhys Yeomans  
**Runner up** Frankie Thompson

A handsome young man then came on stage to give each dancer a single rose a lovely touch to this special occasion.

The Cabaret was then introduced Phil Winston's Theatreworks students performed an enchanting medley of Spanish influenced choreography with some lovely partner work and good use of the stage.

The RUFF Diamonds Street Crew then performed a set of high energy street and acrobatic stunts which got the crowd even more excited awaiting the final results.

The 15 semi finalists dancers were announced and performed again, having to dig deep as performers to find that extra energy and adrenaline after such a long day of emotions and demanding choreography.

Next the Dance Masters all performed, as the audience went wild with excitement these talented young men performed with such energy, the standard being outstanding with flexibility and agility shining through their training. It was lovely to see such diverse arrangements of choreography and the athleticism of these guys and their performances.

As the tension built to the Grand Finale and announcement of the winners, we took a moment to reflect on the days events and the hard work and dedication these young performers had put in to their performances today, not to mention the efforts of all the organisers and committee members; a truly fantastic day was had by all who attended.

The tension mounted and the auditorium was electric with excitement as the winners were announced the Winner of Miss Dance 2014 was Hollie Jayne Woodhouse who performed a breath taking Rhapsody in Blue routine. Hollie is a student at the Betty Chappelle Theatre School and is trained by IDTA Examiner and Modern Jazz Faculty Chairman, Shani Mitchell. The runner up was Ebony Kitts.

The Dance Masters winners were then announced and the Winner was Rhys Yeomans who performed a beautiful arrangement, a male Swan Lake piece with control of extension and emotive quality with a dance break to show his agility. Runner up Nathan Johnson a more subdued but powerful piece with a natural sense of movement had you hooked through stage presence.

The awards ceremony was a joyous celebration of all the wonderful dancers from across the country throughout the day.

As roving reporters we had a fantastic day and can't wait to see it all again next year! Follow the new heats and share your success and news on twitter idta miss dance @IdtaMiss

Michelle Upton & Donna Wilcox

## Results

### Miss Dance of Great Britain 2014

The IDTA is delighted to announce the winner of Miss Dance of Great Britain 2014 is:

**Hollie Jane Woodhouse**

Our congratulations to the runners up:

2nd place **Ebony Kitts**

3rd place **Frankie Thompson**

### Dance Master UK 2014

The IDTA is delighted to announce the winner of Dance Master UK 2014 is:

**Rhys Yeomans**

Our congratulations to the runners up:

2nd place **Nathan Johnson**

3rd place **Benjamin Holloway**

### International Senior Ballet Champion

The IDTA is delighted to announce the winner of the International Senior Ballet Championships is:

**Rhys Yeomans**

Our congratulations to the runner up:

**Frankie Thompson**

### International Junior Ballet Champion

The IDTA is delighted to announce the winner of the International Junior Ballet Championships is:

**Leah Derby**

Our congratulations to the runner up:

**Emily Gardiner**

### Ros Wicks Award

The IDTA is delighted to announce the winner of the Ros Wicks Award for vocal potential is:

**Niamh Owen**

### John Dilworth Bursary Award

The IDTA is delighted to announce the winner of the John Dilworth Bursary Award is:

**Isabelle Monk**



Junior Ballet Runner-up  
Emily Gardiner with Simon Kidd



Junior Ballet Winner Leah Derby  
with Simon Kidd



Senior Ballet Runner-up Frankie  
Thompson with Simon Kidd



Senior Ballet Winner Rhys Yeomans  
with Simon Kidd



Dance Master 2014, Rhys Yeomans  
with IDTA President Anna Jones



Ros Wicks Award winner Niamh Owen  
with Eleanor Clare



3rd place Dance Master,  
Benjamin Holloway with  
Adrian Allsopp



2nd place Dance Master, Nathan  
Johnson with Adelle Maasz



John Dilworth Award winner  
Isabelle Monk with Tracey Southern



3rd place Miss Dance, Frankie Thompson with Paul Roberts



Miss Dance of Great Britain 2014, Hollie Jane Woodhouse with Karen Siddall and Tracey Southern



2nd place Miss Dance, Ebony Kitts with IDTA President Anna Jones



Miss Dance and Dance Master Winners and Runners-Up



Miss Dance Committee with IDTA President Anna Jones and IDTA President Elect Jane Tumelty L to R: Allison Coyne, Linda Lister, Tracey Southern, Sandra Houldsworth, Sharon Berry, Anna Jones, Karen Siddall, Betty Chappelle, Jane Tumelty, Catherine Sheppard and Joanne Kirkland.

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