

IDTA

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Jane Tumelty, IDTA Director Emeritus
with President, Yvonne Goût.



Dougie Squires OBE / MVO Director/ Choreographer

The IDTA is delighted to announce that the Director and Choreographer, Dougie Squires OBE MVO has accepted the Board of Directors invitation to be a Patron of the Association.

His career spans over five decades and it is estimated that he has worked with over 10,000 dancers over that period. His creativity and energy has inspired so many of today's top dancers, teachers, performers and choreographers.

Born in Long Eaton he was inspired by the musical films of the day. Gene Kelly and Donald O'Connor particularly, and at the age of twenty he began his dance training with Audrey de Vos and Kathleen Crofton. His career began in repertory theatre and he then went on to become known as a popular singer/dancer on British television before concentrating on choreography. Inspired by street dancing period he created a young style that encouraged audiences to appreciate dance on TV. His use of dancers of talent – no matter the shape or height or colour – was trailblazing in the sixties and seventies and he was the first choreographer to use an integrated group of dancers on British television. Without a doubt, his original choreographic talents and staging changed the face of popular dance on television with his groups. The Young Generation and the internationally acclaimed Second Generation. Television dancing followed the styles and patterns created for stage choreography- West Side Story had not yet established a development of dramatic involvement in commercial dance. The dancing seen by television viewers was usually show dancers chosen for their regulated height and similarity and kick line and glamorous showgirl type routines. There was a very little attempt to develop relationships within a routine – a few choreographers attempted TV style dancing, but to no great effect. Including the camera in the equation rather than just ignoring it and such things as choreographed close-ups was not even attempted.

Dougie Squires was among the first TV choreographers to involve male/female relationships and especially dancing for the cameras – his work initially was inspired by the rock 'n' roll age and boys and girls dancing together with lifts and by-play; but most important was his battle to integrate ethnic groups into his work. He was the first to sue black dancers, working directly with white dancers and having won the battle with the TV pundits to use mixed groups he then had to face criticism from viewers.

His first choreography for TV was a hit parade programme called "Cool for Cats", which ran for four years and was transmitted live sometimes twice a week. The team of six dancers comprised of four white, one beautiful South African Eurasian girl, Angela von Breda and a Jamaican black boy dancer, Roy Allen, who were strong members of the team and were featured equally. Mixing races at this time was a brave and exciting development and after working with this small group, he went on to working with large groups of thirty dancers, also mixed origins which became the Young Generation; probably the most popular dance group ever featured on British television with their originality, establishing individuals as well as groups within the complex routines.

Equally surprising was the fact that no matter what ethnic background you came from, you could audition and be considered for the group if you had the potential. No longer was it necessary to be regimented by height or even weight or colour – the more individual the better – the beautiful Chinese dancer Wei Wei Wong was one of the most popular members. Families all over the country saw the possibility that their offspring could stand a chance of becoming a member of the popular Young Generation and later the Second Generation.

It was always Dougie Squires' aim to break barriers ethnically and dance wise and to encourage the team spirit and the encouragement of the individual within a team as a means to development. He also fought for choreographers to have their own spot in the shows which he was involved and that dancers became an important part of the show team, rather than just dancing wallpaper. It is now totally acceptable for mixed groups, but at that time, before Hot Gossip and other star dance groups – The Young Generation stood alone. Groups all over Europe sprang up to try and emulate the success of the trail blazing group.

His unique style captured the imagination of the nation in popular shows starring Rolf Harris, Lulu, dame Vera Lynn and many other top stars throughout the world. To list the stars he has choreographed and directed would read like a who's who of the world of entertainment; but have included Diana Ros, Julie Andrews, Chita Rivera and John Lennon. His theatre and casino shows were innovated and brought a refreshing modern look to traditional concepts. He directed Patti Boulaye's spectacular African Musical "Sundance" that opened in May 2005 to great acclaim at the Hackney Empire, London. He has written over thirty pantomimes and has used this medium to develop young talent.

Dougie has directed and choreographed many musicals including "Guys and Dolls", "Irma la Douce", "Stop the World" and the German version of "My Fair Lady" in the opera houses of Berlin and Munich and the Dutch version in Holland. He went on to choreograph "Oliver" and directed on stage and in television worldwide from Hong Kong to New York, exploring all forms of theatre including choreography for the HK Contemporary Ballet Company. His successful production of "Los Argentinas" at the Paris Olympia combined the poetry, music and dancing of Argentina to great effect and acclaim.

Over the years he has been involved in "All the Queen's Horses", a celebration of the Queen's love of horses and the finale of the Horse of the Year show from Olympia. His work has been seen on ten Royal Command Performances, the Pageant for the Queen Mother's 100th Birthday on Horse Guard Parade, the spectacular "Defence of the Realm", the Queen's "Fortieth Anniversary Celebrations" at Earls Court, the phenomenally successful "VE celebrations" in Hyde Park and the "VI Celebrations" in Horse Guards Parade, all of which were televised internationally.

He has directed the popular Christmas show "Joy to the World" at the Albert Hall for many years and "The Prince Charles Trust Gala" at the Opera House Manchester. Working once again in collaboration with Major Sir Michael Parker on the "Royal Golden Wedding Celebrations", he then directed the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations in Hyde Park and the Mall and for six years the Not Forgotten association Christmas Shows at St James Palace with many international stars. In Horse Guards Parade he choreographed the 50th Commemoration of the ending of World War 2 he directed the Gala Tribute to the London School of Speech & Drama at the Old Vic Theatre with Terence Stamp, Catherine Tate, Lynda Bellingham, Graham Norton, Wendy Craig, Rufus Sewell etc.

Working once again in collaboration with Mayor Sir Michael Parker on the "Royal Golden Wedding Celebrations". He then directed the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations in Hyde Park and the Mall. For many years the Not Forgotten Association Christmas Shows at St James Palace with many international stars.

With Simon Brooks Ward he directed the 50th Commemoration of World War 2 ending – The Queen's 90th birthday Pageant at Windsor Castle, with a cast of hundreds of horses, international dancers and stars.

He was awarded the Carl Alan Award for his contribution to progress in dance and they honoured him again this year with a second award, he was also awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the prestigious International Choreographers organisation. In 2005 he was awarded the O.B.E and in 2017, the MVO by Her Majesty the Queen.

He will be directing the entertainment at this Olympia Horse Show and writing and directing the Gala Night of one hundred stars to celebrate Dame Vera Lynn's 100th birthday and career for March 10th 2017 at the London Palladium. He is thrilled to be reunited over 74 of the dancers who have been in groups, The Young Generation and The Second Generation over the years to do a number to honour Dame Vera.

events diary 2016

Miss Dance of Great Britain and Dance Master UK

11 June

Annual Congress, Annual Dinner and AGM

1-3 July

IDTA Supreme Medallist Competition

9 July

IDTA Manchester Theatre Dance Festival

July

Nationwide MOTY Classical & Modern Sequence

28 & 29 Oct

Dance Proms 2017

5 Nov

Nationwide MOTY Freestyle & Rock 'n' Roll

25 & 26 Nov

For an up to date list of Theatre Dance Championships please contact the Theatre Dance Council International at www.tdci.org.uk or email theatredanceci@gmail.com

Obituary

We are sorry to record the passing of IDTA Ballroom Branch members, Israel Abrahams of Derby, Peter Bowler of Tetbury, Gloucestershire, Joan Cooper of York, Michael Eccles of Lancaster, Jean Golding of Southampton, Margaret Kendrick of Brierley Hill, West Midlands, Harold Lanyon of Macclesfield, Cheshire, William McKee of London, Shirley Pickering of Pool in Wharfedale, Leeds, Elsie Platts of Leeds, Iris Smart of Christchurch, Dorset and Raymond Williams of Bridlington. Our sympathy and condolences to all relatives and friends.

London Seminar 2017

Sunday 5th February, Lancaster London, UK

Ballroom – morning

Arriving at the Lancaster Hotel this year everything looked very different, both inside and outside. The Ballroom lectures being “downstairs” caused some confusion throughout the day as to being “up” or “down”. It gave a different perspective to the day with a long narrow dance floor, opera glasses would have been useful to see friends and colleagues at the opposite end of the room! Our president Yvonne Goût welcomed everyone and encouraged us all to charge our batteries with new ideas for the year ahead.

Graham Oswick and his partner, Cara Stubbington, led the way into a lively and entertaining start to the day with variations in Jive and Cha Cha Cha. They used basic figures with excellent variations to them giving alternative timings and introduced “Kick, Bop, Tap and Swing” into the vocabulary of the routines.

Dawn Armitage followed on with Sequence 4 tomorrow. She started by using a more traditional style of dance - The Geogella Blues, but taught it in a party dance way to the Jungle Book music “King of the Jungle” and then the Ballantine Bossa Nova to and Ed Sheeran song. There was a great response with the floor completely full and everyone having a great time.

Kirstie Henry quickly followed on, with her first ever lecture for the IDTA on Freestyle Classwork. She delivered a very clear lecture, demonstrating and teaching a routine suitable for classwork, and showing many different ways to adapt it for various abilities. There was another enthusiastic response from members joining Kirstie on the floor. Congratulations go to Kirstie for completing her first lecture for the IDTA, I am sure we will all be looking forward to many more.

To finish of the morning and keep us all on our toes, we had a beautiful demonstration on American Smooth, from Richard Still and Morgan Hemphill. They demonstrated a 16 bar foxtrot group using a very good mixture of solo work, figures in shadow position, and some in hold. They explained how to simply transition standard ballroom figures into the American Smooth Style, and encouraged many of us onto the floor. Leaving us with some new ideas to explore back at home and the possibility of New American Smooth Syllabus in the pipeline for next year. This rounded off a very varied and enjoyable morning, everyone now ready for a quick lunch, meeting and greeting old friends, and new, and returning ready for the next instalment in the afternoon.

Julie Sawyer

Ballroom – morning



Graham Oswick



Graham Oswick & Cara Stubbington



Dawn Armitage

Ballroom – morning



Dawn Armitage & Debbie Parish



Kirstie Henry



Kirstie Henry



Richard Still & Morgan Hemphill



Richard Still & Morgan Hemphill

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Ballroom – afternoon

After a very informative and entertaining morning, the afternoon lectures continued in the same vein. Richard Marcel warmed everyone up after lunch with an inspired Salsa lecture which used basic figures and delighted people with a flavourable twist on them. Lots of fun was had by all with some intricate armography which created lots of laughter.

The tempo was slowed down next during a lovely Foxtrot amalgamation created by Mark and Olga Elsbury, using basic syllabus figures with lots of curvature within the choreography and then onto a Quickstep that showed off the fun aspect of the dance. A crowded floor showed their appreciation of a stylish performance.

We were then treated to some childrens' medalist work by

Cara Donaldson with two delightful routines of Rumba and Paso Doble demonstrated by Evelyn and Jake. Both were received well by everybody and both very usable within our own schools.

Youlie Mouzafiarova followed this with an authentic Argentine Tango creating lovely shapes and with a comfortable flow throughout the movements. A lot of cuddling was had by all much to the delight of the dancers!

The final lecture of the busy afternoon was produced again by Mark and Olga Elsbury who created very danceable Waltz and Tango routines. A lot of detail was told about the rotation in the Waltz and I think we all learnt something from it. The Tango built in speed to a fast zig zag variation finish which everyone enjoyed. A grand finale to a grand day.

Claire Attridge

Ballroom – afternoon



Richard Marcel and demonstrators



Cara Donaldson



Mark & Olga Elsbury

Ballroom – afternoon



Richard Marcel



Yulie Mouzafiarova and David Pullinger



Cara Donaldson with Junior Medallist demonstrators



Mark & Olga Elsbury

Theatre – morning

We all arrived at the Nine Kings Suite, Lancaster Hotel on Sunday 5th February, with a sense of excitement and anticipation at what the day would bring. It was lovely to catch up with familiar faces over a coffee before the first lecture began, and what a fabulous beginning to what was to become a truly enjoyable day. Gillian Hopkinson delivered a most informative lecture on “Incorporating Artistry and Ports de Bras” in Advanced 1 Ballet. She began by taking the Battement Fondu exercise but to different music, to demonstrate to the students and teachers how to explore and develop the feeling of artistry within the exercise. She then expertly went through the Set Adage in lovely detail, paying special attention to the artistry required and then rather cleverly, changed the style of the exercise to a Tango, developing alternative arm lines and explaining the change in style needed. Gillian then finished with an unseen echainement to a Spanish Waltz, again exploring the Spanish styling, expression and how to develop the ports de bras. From beginning to end, Gillian captivated us with her charming and warm delivery and gave teachers and students plenty of stylised ideas to take back to their studios.

Our second lecture, “Fascinating Rhythms” from Advanced 1 Tap was taken by the very talented Maryyka Bolubasz who showed us how to build up wings to this level. From the word go, her lecture was inspiring, captivating and a tremendous amount of fun. She gave very clear instructions on the execution of wings and the many faults that can occur when trying to teach at this level. The music she used had everyone watching tapping their feet and the relaxed and approachable manner in which she delivered this lecture made everyone on the floor feel at ease – who knew wings could be this enjoyable. Maryyka’s clear teaching of this lecture proves why she is a fantastic addition to our Tap faculty and she certainly earned the title of “Wing Queen” – you only had to look at all the smiling faces at the end of the lecture to know that it had been a hit. We all had plenty of notes to take back to our classes!

The final lecture of the morning was taken by the extremely energetic and entertaining Carl Walker. His lecture, “Details and Dynamics” from the Advanced 1 Modern Jazz syllabus did exactly what it said on the tin. He went through the technical training exercises with such enthusiasm for this

subject that he captivated not only the dancers on the floor, but the teachers watching as well. His attention to detail was fantastic and he explained in detail what was expected from each exercise and how to create the dynamics required for each one. He completely engaged with the dancers on the floor and broke down the exercises so they could understand what was required. He is obviously extremely passionate about Modern Jazz and this was passed on to the students who thoroughly enjoyed his lecture. He brought the syllabus to life with his personality and finished off the morning lectures with a bang!

The whole morning had been a huge success and we are so very lucky to have 3 very talented examiners within the IDTA willing to share their passions with us. All 3 lectures were engaging, informative and entertaining and it is a testament to the lecturers that the floor was full of students and teachers wanting to participate and learn. What a fabulous association the IDTA is!

Amanda Restell

Theatre – morning



Gillian Hopkinson



Maryyka Bolubasz and demonstrators



Maryyka Bolubasz



Carl Walker



Gillian Hopkinson Advanced 1 Ballet performers

Theatre – afternoon

Ballet with Peter Parker, Tap with Matthew Croke and Commercial Jazz with Darren Carnall, all in one afternoon! The workshops were full and all the performers worked to the maximum gaining valuable experience and knowledge from the three amazingly talented choreographers. Our thanks to Peter, Matthew and Darren for agreeing to present the workshops and to all the members and students who attended.

Theatre – afternoon



Darren Carnall



Matthew Croke



Peter Parker

Members Reception and demonstration

The evening reception was kicked off with Mr Keith Holmes introducing the showcase, adding that it was wonderful to see the Ballroom and Theatre faculties together. Keith then handed over to the very talented Matthew Croke who introduced each act. Matthew welcomed all IDTA members, distinguished guests and those members who had travelled from overseas.

IDTA President Yvonne Goût was very enthusiastic about the day that had happened and said that all lectures were fantastic, and then the first act was introduced.

Twelve 2nd & 3rd year students of Bird College (six boys & girls) tapped rhythmically to Prelude and Fugue No1 in C minor which was choreographed by Graeme Henderson, creating great shapes and excellent partner work.

Matthew then introduced Mark and Olga Elsberry who danced a beautiful waltz representing a clockwork doll and then it was the turn of Peter and Shannon Parker who performed a controlled show dance with stunning lift work. After a slight delay Mark and Olga then returned to dance a tango fused with foxtrot which ended on a BANG! To everyone's surprise.

A wonderful formation team (Ysrad Fawr) then concluded

the demonstrations trained by Philip and Carol Perry. They are 2013 WDC World Champions and 2014/15 British Champions. This performance was fast and furious, and included all the Latin dances. An absolutely brilliant performance creating excellent shapes and lines by the ladies and gents in the team!

All the performers were then introduced back onto the floor and the IDTA members and guests raised the roof with their applause.

Miss Yvonne Goût, IDTA President then finished the evening thanking everybody for coming and declared that the evening's performance concluded a fantastic day of lectures.

Two special presentations were then given to Pat Lupino Thompson, (sadly not there due to illness), and Jane Tumelty who both received the prestigious award of Director Emeritus.

Jane concluded the evening thanking everybody and said, "My job is a joy and there hasn't been one day where I haven't wanted to dance or teach".

This was once again an excellent day of lectures and an evening of great performances plus time to get to know fellow members of the IDTA and partake in a glass of the good stuff.

Lisa McLean

The Members Reception was well supported and a very enjoyable time was had by all. The Master of Ceremonies was Matthew Croke and he introduced everyone in a pleasing manner. The cabaret was splendid and varied throughout, showing the outstanding abilities in all branches. It was delightful to watch.

The Tap Routine performed by students from Bird College and directed by Graeme Henderson was precise with interesting choreography and aptly called "Bach to Jazz". The young dancers were very keen to demonstrate to us and confirming their eagerness to perform and ability.

Olga and Mark Elsbury were a sheer delight and captivated us all with the fantastic Ballroom demonstration. They chose exciting music and the work complimented the music amazingly well. Olga's outfits were beautiful and she looked beautiful!

The finalists of "Britain's Got Talent", Peter and Shannon Parker, demonstrated a Ballet Presentation with ease, natural flair and ability. It was full of elegance and grace. Philip and Carol Perry's Welsh Latin Formation Team, aptly named The Ystrad Fawr Formation Team, demonstrated patterns and shapes with incredible precision and confidence. They all looked superb!

Light refreshments followed and these were well received and really delicious and, of course, accompanied by a glass of wine.

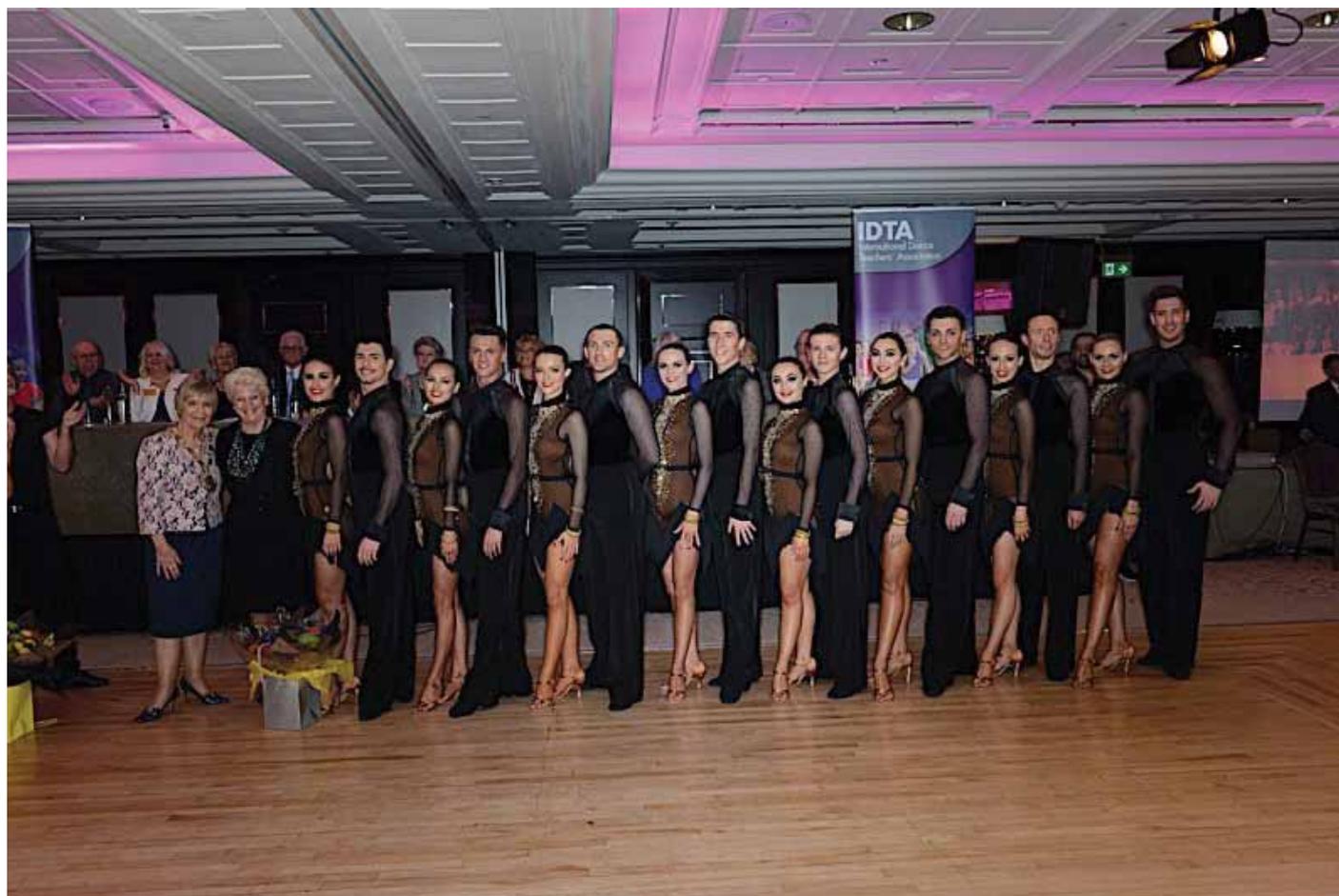
Yvonne Goût presented Jane Tumelty, with the IDTA's highest award the Director Emeritus. Pat Lupino-Thompson was awarded the same accolade, but was unable to attend the presentation.

Jane gave a heart warming acceptance and received a very well deserved "Standing Ovation". Jane has been a pillar of strength within the IDTA for many years and I am sure she will continue to be a source of inspiration to all of us for a long time to come.

Ann Culley



Members Reception and demonstration



Carol Parry & the Ystrad Fawr Latin American Formation Team with Yvonne Goût

Members Reception and demonstration



Graeme Henderson & Students from Bird College with Yvonne Goût



Mark & Olga Elsbury with Yvonne Goût



Peter & Shannon Parker with Yvonne Goût



Jane Tumelty receiving her Director Emeritus Award from the President, Yvonne Goût.

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