

IDTA

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BARBARA SHARPLES INTERNATIONAL CHOREOGRAPHIC AWARD

I was very fortunate to be invited to the Barbara Sharples International Choreographic Award on Saturday 23rd September, which was held at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. This wonderful event is now in its 11th year and showcases the choreographic skills of young teachers under the age of 35.

The excitement was building as we entered the auditorium, with everyone looking forward to the evening and giving their support to the choreographers and young dancers who had been chosen to take part in this event. My dear friend Mrs Denise Skinner compered the competition in her usual delightful way and welcomed the audience before introducing the judging panel of Miss Barbara Sharples, Mr Simon Green and Miss Deborah Norris. It was very interesting to hear their views on what they were looking for in the arrangements and how the themes and styles would be conveyed to the audience.



2nd place "Jumping Jack" Choreographer Eve Barnett



1st place "Chernobyl" Choreographer Eve Barnett

The standard of the performances was exceptional, with Jazz, Contemporary, Musical Theatre and Tap all featured in the Gala. We sometimes forget how young the dancers are, with their dedication and attention to detail combined with style and professional approach. As the title suggests, the competition is about the choreography of the arrangements, and imagination and artistry were evident throughout. I thoroughly enjoyed every performance and a huge congratulations to everyone involved.

The Cabaret featured Miss Dance of Great Britain, Ruby Nuttall with her enchanting interpretation of Evita, Dance Master of Great Britain Khaleil Fell who was entertaining as ever with his effortless style, and TDCI Champion Harry Henderson with a rhythmical and polished tap routine.



3rd place "Vanquished" Choreographer Elena Davidson

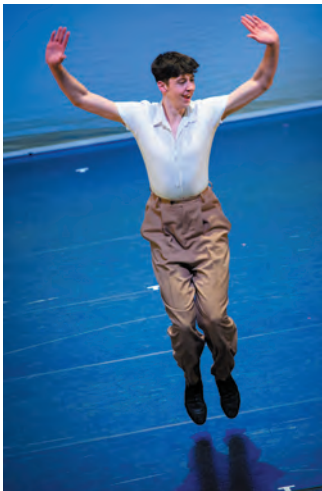
Now to the winners of the Barbara Sharples International Choreographic award. As is usual to these events I will announce them in reverse order. The Entertainment Express award was given to the Cruella de Ville themed group choreographed by Sophina Afzal. This energetic and characterful piece definitely entertained, and I particularly liked the playful and amusing young pups. Third place was awarded to Elena Davidson's 'Vanquished', a well thought out study of the battle of good over evil, whilst Runner up went to 'Jumping Jack', a slick and well co-ordinated number choreographed by Eve Barnett.

The winner of the award was 'Chernobyl'. This heartrending subject was portrayed with sensitivity; the emotion throughout convincing and sincere. Chernobyl was also choreographed by Eve Barnett, showing the ability to adapt her skill successfully to entirely different themes.

Thank you to Miss Sharples and her hard working team for a most enjoyable evening, and a huge well done to everyone involved.

Wendy Heywood

Cabaret Artists



TDCI Champion Winner
2023 Harry Henderson



IDTA Miss Dance of
Greta Britain 2023
Ruby Nuttall



IDTA Dance Master of Great Britain 2023 Khaleil Fell

Awards ceremony



Adjudicators and winning choreographers



2nd place Choreographer Eve Barnett



1st place Choreographer Eve Barnett



Entertainment Express Winner Sophina Afzal



3rd place Choreographer Elena Davidson