

The Hague, July 2018

Dear friends, partners and colleagues,
an exciting school year is over and we are looking back at lots of activities.
New is this infoletter with information about the Dance Department.



School of Young Talent

S&H Centre in Japan

Young Talent Project 2017

Opening of the schoolyear

The new schoolyear started at the 3rd week of August 2017. Lots of new talents started a week full of workshops about health, food, injury prevention and other activities. We welcomed 111 dance students for this year divided over School for Young Talent and Bachelor Program. The Jong KC Dans Program (Orientation program) counted 23 children.

Auditions

We organized 6 auditions for age 7-12, all in The Hague starting from October 28th 2017 until March 10th 2018. We also started with workshops given by our teachers at different Ballet schools in the Netherlands. The workshops were given at Houten, Middelburg and Utrecht. The Final audition was held on March 17th and we selected 12 girls and 2 boys for the schoolyear 2018-19. For the Bachelor program age 16-20, we auditioned 60 candidates and selected 5.

Scouting activities

Leerlingendag (students day) was organized November 19th 2017 and brought lots of enthusiastic children to the Royal Conservatoire for different classes. To finish the day, students from the Dance Department gave a closing performance with special guest **Fay van Baar**, alumni of the school and dancer at Netherlands Dans Theater. Together with partner Toon Lobach, she performed a duet made by **Sol Leon & Paul Lightfoot**.

Jongensdag (Boysday)

was organized on February 4th 2018 to let talented boys get acquainted with dance and ballet by taking different classes. Guest teachers were **Jason de Wit**-Urban contemporary, **Tamara Rosso**-Creative ballet and **Remi Lebocey** -acrobatics. To close the day, students gave a performance of class material and repertoire at the Kees van Baarenzaal.

Prizes and Competitions

Esmé Mendes Aguiar, balletgroup VII (15) won the silver medal at the **30th Concour de Danse Classique in Graz 2017**, category Pré Professionel- **Zoë Greten**, balletgroup VI (15) won 3rd place in category contemporary dance at the **Young America Grand Prix Barcelona 2017-Juul van Helvoirt**, student Bachelor was nominated for the **Piketprize The Hague** in the category Dance-The yearly prizes of the **Culture foundation from the School of Young Talent** were given out after a masterclass on the 8th of December given by guestteacher Joanne Zimmerman. The prizes went to **Hester Seelen** and **Sven de Wilde-Danserfonds '79** on the 17th of March the yearly masterclass given by Han Ebbelaar took place for students from all Dance Academies in the Netherlands focused on Academic Theatre Dance. Prize winners were Hester Seelen, Martijn van Mierlo and Zoë Greten.



Evening songs

Swan Lake Suite

Evening Songs

Teachers news

Pierre Darde, teacher classical ballet and since 2010 working at the Dance Department left the school on the 1st of October and took a new job as a teacher at the Conservatoire of Lyon, France. **Chao Shi**, former dancer with the Dutch National Ballet took over his position.

Guestteachers this year were **Joanne Zimmerman**, former dancer with the Dutch National Ballet, **Marc Ribaud** guestteacher with NDT, **Dario Elia**, dancer with Dutch National Ballet Amsterdam, **David Peden**, former teacher Royal Ballet School, **Michael Schumacher**, teacher improvisation.

International Relations

Director Jan Linkens was invited to come to **Japan** by the **S&H Centre** in Tokyo. From the 20th until the 25th of October 2017 he gave ballet classes and workshops repertoire "Dutch School" and together with adjunct-director Catharina Boon he visited the **Prix de Lausanne** from January 31st until the 4th of February 2018. The Dance Department of the Royal Conservatoire is a partner school of this prestigious Competition. Catharina Boon visited San Francisco in March to take part in the Dance/USA Director Summit hosted by the San Francisco Ballet School.

Guests at school

For the Young Talent Project this year **Hans van Manen** and **Mea Venema** came to rehearse *Lieder ohne Worte*, **Elke Schepers** came to stage *Evening Songs* by **Jiří Kylián**, **Yvan Dubreil** staged *Bliss* by **Johan Inger** and *The Second Person* by **Crystal Pite**. **Quentin Roger** was the assistant of *Walking in Colours* by **Jiří Pokorný** and *Link* by **Lukas Timulak**.



studio evening 2017

Young Talent Project 2017

End of the Year Performance 2018

Performances in the Netherlands and abroad

Roosendaal Danst 23-09-2017

The school was invited to take part in the Festival Roosendaal Danst in the city of Roosendaal. Bachelor students gave 2 performances with excerpts of classical and modern repertoire at the Theatre de Kring in Roosendaal.

Museum Beelden aan Zee 25-09-2017

This wonderful location was the set-up for a special evening with repertoire of the "Dutch School" danced by bachelor students in the main hall of the museum on request of Mr and Mrs. Oranje, sponsors of NDT.

Young Talent Project 29-11 until 2-12-2017

The fifth edition of the **Young Talent Project**, a collaboration project between the Dance Department and Nederlands Dans Theater took place end November. This year the students 15-20 years old presented fragments from the ballets **Lieder ohne Worte** by Hans van Manen, **Evening Songs** by Jiří Kylián, **Bliss** by Johan Inger, **Walking in Colours** by Jiří Pokorný, **Link**, a new creation by Lukas Timulak and **The Second Person** by Crystal Pite at the old home of NDT, the Lucent Dans Theater in The Hague. Looking to the future move of both institutions into the new building, this project is a beautiful example of a collaboration between **NDT** and **KC** and an incredible inspiring week for all participants.

Singer, Laren 13-12-2017

In collaboration with NDT the bachelor students performed 2 excerpts from the Young Talent Project 2017 at the Singer Theatre in Laren, Netherlands. The afternoon and evening performance was organized to show the support to Talent Development in the Arts by the ABN Amro Bank.

Opening Holland Dance Festival 25-1-2018

The excerpt from **Bliss** by **Johan Inger**, excerpt from the Young Talent Project 2017, was performed by the bachelor students at the opening gala of the Holland Dance Festival at the Zuiderstrandtheater in The Hague. Among the public her royal highness Princess Beatrix and her son Constantijn with his wife princess Laurentien.

Orchard Ballet Gala Tokyo, Japan 7-13 February 2018

10 Bachelor students together with the direction of the Dance Department Jan Linkens and Catharina Boon and teacher Katarina Wester visited Tokyo, Japan. On an invitation by the director of the Orchard Hall of the Bunkamura Theatre, **Tetsuya Kumakawa**, 6 schools came together with their students to give 2 performances and show their cultural diversity and vision on dance education.

Presentation Letter of Culture 12-3-2018

Minister van Engelshoven, our Minister of Culture presented her statement for the next 4 years in a cultural letter to Institutions and Press at the Maas Theatre in Rotterdam. During the presentation bachelor students performed excerpts of Evening Songs.

Season presentation Nederlands Dans Theater 14-4-2018

During their presentation of the new season 2018/2019 of Nederlands Dans Theater, the Young Talent Project was represented by our bachelor students with excerpts from Evening songs at the Zuiderstrandtheater.



Lieder ohne Worte



Prize winners



Japan



End of the Year Performance

End of the Year performances

From the July 7th until July 13th the school gave its 6 End of the Year performances at our own theatre Kees van Baarenzaal.

The program consisted '**Swan Lake Suite**' by Esther Protzman, accompanied live by the orchestra "Nieuw Geluid", **3rd part of Fünf Gedichte** by Nils Christie, the complete **Evening Songs** by Jiří Kylián, the complete **Lieder ohne Worte** by Hans van Manen-played live by pianist Erwin Weerstra and work by **Anne Ofman** character teacher and **Flamenco** by teacher Miguel Oliva Munoz, live accompanied by Erminia Fernandez Cordoba, voice, Carlos Ema, piano and Farzad Aryanpour, Ney and Gitar.

In the performance on the 7th of July for the first time 3 scholarships were given by the Kylián Foundation. The winners Demi Bawon, Martijn van Mierlo and Anne van Gorp received the prizes out of the hands of the Chairman of the board of the Foundation, Samuel Wuersten.

A new initiative was inviting Alumni and old-students to the performance on the 12th of July. The last performance on July 13th was a special evening with Diplomas given out to finished Bachelor students. For more information on the Alumni Evening, contact: catharina@koncon.nl



Swan Lake suite



Caractere



Swan Lake Suite

Contracts

Daniël Hoek - Croatian National Theater Ballet Split-Merel van Heeswijk – IT Dansa Ballet, Barcelona
Molly Mulready - Mystic Ballet USA-Charley Hoorens van Heyningen - MoDemPRO, Compagnia Zappalà
Danza, Catania (IT)-Emmily van Horssen – Freelance dancer-Kotone Maekawa - Tokyo Ballet Japan
Sergio Oñate Gimeno - De Dutch Don't Dance Division-Patricia Gomes Rodrigues - De Dutch Don't Dance
Division-Lana Tramonte – Freelance dancer Australia

New Building

The official start of the new building for the Royal Conservatoire, The Residentie Orchestra, Netherlands
Dans Theater and WMDC, from the architect **Jo Coenen**, is planned to open in June 2021.



Impression of the new building

For more information about the school and its program visit our website:
www.koncon.nl/opleidingen/dansvakopleiding

If you don't want to receive this infoletter, please let us know.

We wish you all a fantastic summer and are looking forward to meet up with you in the new schoolyear.

Dance Department Royal Conservatoire The Hague

Jan Linkens
Director

Catharina Boon
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