

Diamond Jubilee Anniversary Season



Founding Prima Ballerina Herci Marsden

60th
Performing
Season
1960-2020



Congratulations to
**Artistic Director
Herci Marsden**
&
**The State Ballet
of Rhode Island**
for 60 Years of
Artistic Excellence.

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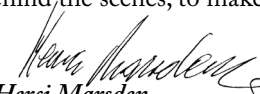
A MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to our fourth year at the Park Theatre in Cranston, as I and The State Ballet of Rhode Island enter, this, a momentous historic 60th Performing Season.

The spirit of my company is indeed heightened while feeling proud to carry on the successful traditions of SBRI. My dancers display their individual talents with increased expertise. And their work as a group shows the benefit of years of working together. SBRI is as rich in talent and enthusiasm as ever.

Classical ballet is a way of life. It takes all of our time, for we are teachers, dancers, and choreographers. It opens doors for so many, and for the people for whom they perform, to the many arts: the art of music, stagecraft, writing, scenery design, costuming, lighting, and classical ballet.

My family and I extend our gratitude to all of you, those who have been in our audiences and those who have given their time behind the scenes, to make it all possible.


Herci Marsden

THE STATE BALLET OF RHODE ISLAND'S MISSION:

The State Ballet of Rhode Island is the state's first established classical ballet company in residence. Its mission is to create, present, preserve and extend the great repertoire of classical dancing to the widest possible audience, while providing exciting performances and educational programming of the highest quality.

PROJECT BALLET IN EDUCATION

The State Ballet of Rhode Island is RI's first ballet company to offer an enrichment program to students, seniors, private and public schools, and general audiences called "Project Ballet In Education". The company offers the best in full-length story ballets and fairy tale classics to the contemporary by guest choreographers and its Artistic Director, Herci Marsden. Lecture-demonstrations and performances are designed for school and community settings. Since its inception in 1960, SBRI has held the belief that the youth of our state needs the arts experience which will enable them to develop not only academically but with an awareness and hopefully appreciation for the arts.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Each year, I have the privilege to write to our patrons of the arts community: sponsors, dancers, and friends.

It is truly amazing that our civic regional ballet company has reached its Diamond Jubilee Performing Season. And how fortunate I am to have been present for all 60 years!

This Season, our dedicated dancers and choreographers have been busy in a multitude of performances for the Gloria Gemma Foundation and for the Providence Singers. Celebrating the holiday season, we continue a Rhode Island tradition with Herci Marsden's *Coppélia* on December 6th & 7th.

This spring, *Giselle* will be performed as part of our established repertoire in honor of SBRI's original artistic advisor and friend, Sir Anton Dolin. First performed in Rhode Island in 1964, Dolin choreographed *Giselle* specifically for SBRI, while also dancing the role "Hilarion." On April 3rd & 4th, 2020, "Hilarion" will be performed by Dolin's godson Richard Anton Marsden, who is presently SBRI's artistic advisor.

Then, on June 7th, 2020, we invite you to join us as we celebrate our Diamond Jubilee Gala Celebration at The Dune's Club in Narragansett, RI.

And to our faithful audiences, I extend my deepest thanks. It is because of you and our supportive sponsors and the love and dedication of many individuals that I feel confident that The State Ballet of Rhode Island will continue to thrive for years to come.


Ana Marsden Fox



WHAT IS A CIVIC, REGIONAL BALLET COMPANY?

SBRI was founded as a non-profit membership organization on Oct. 13, 1960, through the efforts of Herci & Myles Marsden and a group of 60 Rhode Islanders. For over a half-century, SBRI has earned a prestigious reputation and is recognized as an outstanding cultural asset to RI. This is part of the responsibility of a civic, regional ballet company; to provide its community with high-quality dance performances while educating audiences and training dancers and artists. A pre-professional ballet company must reach communities and populations that may not be served by professional companies. SBRI audiences gain knowledge and an appreciation of classical ballet, music, and art. Read SBRI's history pages to learn about collaborations and achievements gained regionally, nationally, and internationally.

The State Ballet of Rhode Island has provided a showcase for the area's serious dancer. Many use the valuable training and experience they gain to pursue professional careers in dance and theater. For students who choose not to dance their vocation, SBRI provides the opportunity to fulfill their artistic ambitions on a semi-professional level. SBRI offers a variety of meaningful experiences, the discipline of training, the thrill of performing, and the satisfaction of achieving personal goals.



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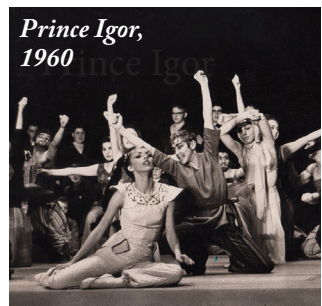
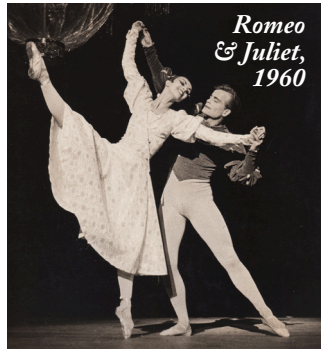


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THE STATE BALLET OF RHODE ISLAND'S HISTORIC "POINTES"

The State Ballet of Rhode Island (SBRI) was founded in 1960 through the efforts of Herci and Myles Marsden and a group of sixty enthusiastic Rhode Islanders. It has come to serve as a creative outlet for composers, musicians, writers, painters, lighting technicians, costume designers, and choreographers, as well as dancers.



1960's—

- November 19, 1960 - SBRI has its premiere performance in Rhode Island at Veterans Memorial Auditorium.
- *Coppélia* has its premiere in Rhode Island in 1962 before an enthusiastic crowd.
- SBRI represents RI several times at the New York World's Fair and Eastern States Expositions.
- In the interest of cultural exchange, SBRI receives a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities to invite Croatian choreographer/dancer Oskar Harnos to assist SBRI in staging the first American production of *Stranger* (1968).
- Isobel Harris Sheppard composes *Ballet from Another Planet* for SBRI. First performance is on the ocean rocks in Turnberry, Narragansett (August 1965).
- George Hirst, a Rhode Island composer, writes *Marche* for Herci Marsden, SBRI.
- SBRI dances at the State House's annual observances of Lincoln's Birthday in the 1960's.
- At the annual University of Rhode Island Arts Festival, SBRI performs *Destiny* on April 27, 1965 in Kingston, RI.
- For the first time in Rhode Island, SBRI performs *Giselle* to an overflowing audience at Veterans Memorial Auditorium (1964). World-famous Anton Dolin is guest choreographer and also plays Hilarion in the production.
- Capacity audiences see SBRI perform at the Diamond Hill Music Festivals, beginning in 1965.
- SBRI performs *Destiny* at the first Performing Arts Festival with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra in 1967.
- SBRI performances are featured at many civic events, including the State House Rotunda and at the 325th Anniversary of the City of Providence at Brown Stadium.
- In 1969, SBRI participates in the filming of a television show for Channel 36 at Rhode Island College.

1970's—

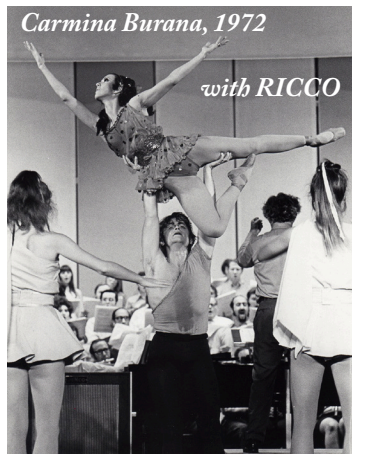
- Over the decade, SBRI introduces to Rhode Islanders such giants in its traditional repertoire, such as *Giselle*, *Coppélia*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cinderella*, and *The Sleeping Beauty*. Guest choreographers Anton Dolin, Oskar Harnos, Joseph Levinhoff, and Mia Slavenska interpret their work, supervise rehearsals, and lend their presence on the stage. Harnos performs the role of the Stranger in his ballet *Stranac*, and Dolin appears as King Claudius in *Hamlet* and Hilarion in *Giselle*.
- SBRI performs *Faust*, *Aida*, *Merry Widow*, *La Traviata*, and *Carmen* with Providence's Opera Theatre and performs with the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra in the production of *Carmina Burana*.
- The Company of 57 packs its costumes, scenery, and equipment and travels to Croatia, by invitation from the Croatian government (1970).
- Guest choreographer and Artistic Advisor for The State Ballet, Sir Anton Dolin, and John Gilpin, London Festival Ballet, choreograph the famous *Pas de Quatre* for SBRI. It premiered in 1976.

1980's—

- The full-length story ballet *Sylvia - The Nymph of Diana* is performed for the first time in the United States, choreographed by SBRI's Artistic Director, Herci Marsden.
- In front of sold-out crowds, SBRI performs several short works at Bryant College's 125th Anniversary Celebration.
- As guests of RI School of Design in 1989, SBRI performs at the RISD Museum's, *An Informal History of Dance in Rhode Island*, presenting several short ballet works with commendable performances.

1990's—

- SBRI is commissioned by the South County Center for the Arts to perform the full length story ballet *Coppélia* at South Kingstown High School in February 1990. The performance is a sold-out crowd pleaser. The company is asked to return the following year for another successful performance.
- Margaret Buechner, a composer from Michigan, commissions Herci Marsden to choreograph the World Premiere Fairy Tale Ballet *Phantomgreen*, based on the Hans Christian Andersen story *The Princess and the Pea*. Ms. Buechner writes this original story, music, and libretto. A compact disc of *Phantomgreen* is currently available in the United States and Europe. Two of SBRI's principal dancers appear on the cover of the compact disc. An insert that accompanies the disc states that choreographer, Herci Marsden, premiered *Phantomgreen* and it is performed by SBRI.
- In November 1991, the Student Activities Office of the University of Rhode Island invites SBRI and Artistic Director, Herci Marsden, to perform the full length classic *Giselle*. The event was sold out.
- On July 27, 1995, SBRI appointed Artistic Associate and member of the New York City Ballet, Richard Anton Marsden, to return to his hometown theater Veteran's Memorial Auditorium in Providence, RI, where he received standing ovations for his performance. This event, sponsored in part by SBRI, was a celebration of pride, support, and a Marsden Family success story.
- On August 3, 1995, Ms. Marsden, along with other SBRI members appears on ABC's *Good Morning America*.
- On May 10, 1996, SBRI members perform the RI premiere of *Two's Company*, a ballet directed and choreographed by Toni Pimble, Artistic Director of the Eugene Ballet Company, Oregon.
- SBRI's annually performs and visits at Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence, RI bringing well-known fairytale characters to life. The experiences are rewarding and meaningful for the dancers, the young patients and their families.
- Citizen's Bank proudly sponsors several of SBRI's Project Ballet in Education *Cultural Enrichment Performances* children performances.
- SBRI premieres of *Ballet Ireland* and *La Esmeralda* in spring of 1999.



2000's—

- SBRI performs at events such as “The Festival of Giving,” the Town of Lincoln’s ‘Festival of Lights,’ and The Lincoln Mall’s Holiday Celebrations.
- SBRI Alumna Principal Dancer and Executive Director, Ana Marsden Fox, premieres her choreographed, eclectic ballet, “Les Pieds.”
- SBRI is filmed by National Geographic for its TV series, *Jellyfish*, aired on PBS, 2001.
- 41st Season of The State Ballet opens with premiere of *Ballet Espagnol*.
- SBRI annually participates in the RI Health and Fitness Expo at the RI Convention Center, demonstrating healthy lifestyles and positive community involvement.
- SBRI performs at the annual Robert Mondavi Festival of the Vine WaterFire events, *On the Corner of Art and Vine*, at WaterPlace Park.
- In June 2003, SBRI hosts its first *Partner with the Arts*, which welcomes business & community leaders to explore opportunities with SBRI.
- SBRI performs at Trinity Repertory Company’s *Holiday Open House* in December of 2003, and *Ballet West & Les Bras* premiere in May of 2004, created by Ana Marsden Fox.
- RI premieres of *Cherokee*, *Boys Will Be Boys*, and *Goddesses of the Vine* in May, 2005.
- *Summertime*, a solo variation danced to music from the opera, *Porgy and Bess*, is premiered by resident choreographer and SBRI alumna, Shana Fox. The piece marked the choreographer’s official launch as a SBRI resident choreographer.
- SBRI hosts its 5th annual PWTa event on the outdoor stage at SBRI’s grounds, and performs with Mike Lyons and The Blue Moon Orchestra.
- *Coppélia* is honored with a Motif Magazine Theatre Award – ‘Recognized for Excellence in the 2008 Motif Theatre Awards readers poll & voted - Best Dance Production.’
- In May 2008, *Gansel and Hetal* is premiered by Ana Marsden Fox, and a revival of *Claire de Lune* is created by Mia Nocera Godbout.
- The 2008-2009 season began with a revival of SBRI’s Project e Pea), Ballet Coffee Hour *From Studio to Stage*, a four-series, family-friendly event of how a ballet is created including music, lecture and a visual performance.
- Mark Marsden, Mia Nocera Godbout, and Shana Fox collaborate to produce an electrifying world premiere ballet, *Gracefully Gershwin*, funded partially by a RISCA grant.
- *Coppélia* is named ‘The Professional Semi-Pro Best Dance Production’ during the 2009 Motif Theatre Awards readers’ poll.

Historic Points cont.



Sylvia - The Nymph of Diana, 1982



Phantomgreen (The Princess and the Pea), 1990

2010's—

Historic Points cont.

- SBRI officially opened its 50th Season with Rhode Island’s holiday tradition, *Coppélia*. For its Spring Performance, The State Ballet performed the monumental classical ballet, *Giselle* to feature appearances by numerous alumni dancers from over the Company’s 50 years in existence!
- On June 6, 2010, SBRI is honored at their Golden Anniversary Gala surrounded by five decades of alumni, patrons, and guests.
- In October of 2010, SBRI performed the opening ceremonies, by invitation, for the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Research Foundation’s *Flames of Hope* event in front of a Providence, RI crowd of thousands. Two new pieces, ‘My Heart Will Go On’ and ‘Lift Me Up’ make their emotional debut. For the last ten years, with Shana Fox as choreographer, this annual community event continues with several premiers.
- The spring 2011 performances of Artists in Motion features the premiere of *Petra and the Vuk*, choreographed by Ana Marsden Fox. A Croatian twist on the traditional story of *Peter and the Wolf* delights audiences of all ages and ethnic backgrounds.
- Herci Marsden’s 1982 premiere of *Impressions of the Sky* is resurrected & restaged by Marsden’s granddaughter and SBRI Resident Choreographer, Shana Fox Marceau. Incorporating the majority of the original theme, steps, and Goldsmith musical score, Fox refreshes the piece with added music of Frank Zappa and twists of *Mother Nature’s Imagination*.
- Herci Marsden’s staging of *Pictures at an Exhibition* as the 3rd act of Artists in Motion 2011 sparks a trilogy of art forms that incorporate nearly 200 RI artists. The Company’s performance is fused with its first *Artist Exchange* where over 110 visual artists interpret the music, storyline and movement creating a gallery full of 2-dimensional artwork. RI Composer and musician, George Leonard, is highlighted as a guest artist when he portrays the acting role of Musorgsky during the performances.
- SBRI Principal Dancer, Holly Fusco, is voted RI’s 2011 ‘Leading Female Dancer of the Year’ by Motif Magazine.
- Throughout SBRI’s 52nd Season, the company teamed up with New England children’s author, David Ira Rottenberg, for multiple performances of *Gwendolyn the Graceful Pig*, a narrated ballet that fuses reading and ballet. SBRI’s performances are choreographed by its resident choreographer, Mia Godbout, also a full-time children’s reading specialist.
- In spring of 2012, Motif Magazine awards SBRI’s *Coppélia* as 2012 Holiday Dance Production of the Year.
- In May 2012, the one-act ballet *Safari* takes the stage, marking a world premiere of music and dance – a collaboration between SBRI’s choreographer Mia Godbout and Rhode Island Modern Music Project’s composer Christy Isles.
- SBRI welcomes alumni dancer Corey Bourbonniere back to Rhode Island for his Hometown Debut performance as a professional ballet dancer with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. Corey performs with SBRI in Herci Marsden’s, *Giselle*, in March 2013, and is currently a Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre soloist 2019.
- In April of 2013, SBRI was voted ‘Reader’s Pick – Best Dance Company’ by The Providence Phoenix Magazine.
- In May 2013, SBRI Resident Choreographer, Shana Fox, collaborates with RI composer, Noreen Inglesi, to create the world premiere ballet, *Dance of the Firefly* which debuted on the Company’s outdoor stage during the annual *Wine Tasting Soiree* in front of a sold out crowd. It was voted Dance Production of the Year by Motif Magazine.

Cherokee, 2005



Coppélia, 'War', Act III, 2004

Faust, Walpurgis Night, 1990's



Boys Will Be Boys



Graduation Ball



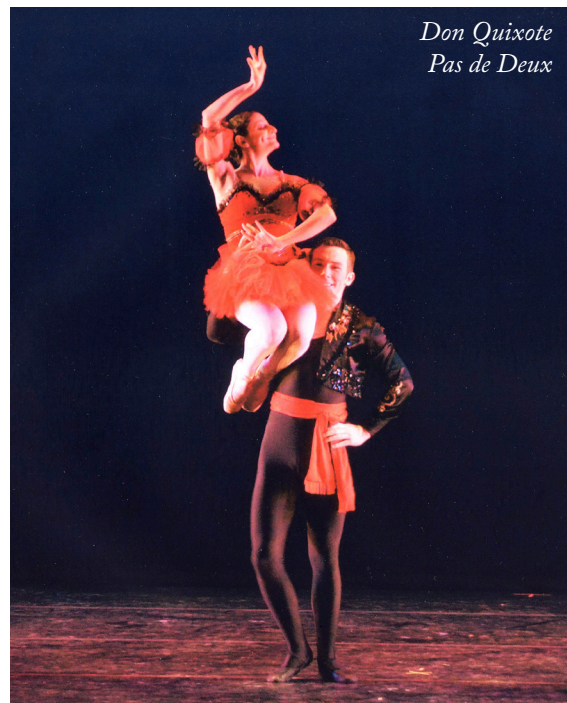
Ballet of the Clowns



Pictures at an Exhibition

Historic Points cont.

- SBRI's Principal Dancer, Mark Marsden, is voted RI's 2013 'Principal Dancer of the Year' by Motif Magazine. Also nominated was his partner, Principal Dancer Peg Chobanian.
- In March 2014, choreographer Mark Marsden premieres his ballet *Train*. In collaboration with the the music of RI's composer Noreen Inglesi. Ana Marsden premieres *Hegnar & Buck*.
- SBRI celebrates it's Emerald Season in 2014-2015 and premiered the large-scale, full length production *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and won Motif Magazine's 'Production of the Year' Award.
- On June 12th, 2015 SBRI collborates with Paul M. Coté and The Vernal Arts and Music Festival to produce *Lest We Forget* to benefit the Alzheimer's Associoaion. Mr. Coté and SBRI continue community ollaborations to support the Alzheimer's Association.
- With the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation, SBRI performs at the RI Flower & Garden Show Preview Party as living statues from the ballet *Giselle*.
- In the summer of 2016, SBRI's Principal Dancer, Kimberly Najjar, is voted 'Principal Dancer of the Year' and Herci Marsden's *Giselle* is voted 'Production of the Year'.
- SBRI opens its 57th Season with a celebratory transition to the historic Park Theatre in Cranston, RI.
- SBRI performs Herci Marsden's *Phantomgreen* for their Spring Ballet, in addition to *Ballet of the Clowns*, *Esmeralda*, *Claire de Lune*, and new ballets *Company of Three* and *Deco*.
- SBRI and Paul M. Coté collaborate for the 2017 *Food and Wine Tasting Soirée*.
- In March 2018, SBRI performs *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, a Rhode Island premier.
- In March 2019, SBRI premieres *A Tale of Twelve Dancing Princess*, and *The Colors of Love and Light*, which won Motif Magazine's 2019 Performance of the Year, for choreographers Lori Broess and Shana Fox, with artist Paul M. Coté, a stage collaboration.
- SBRI joins the Providence Singers and the Rhode Island Philharmonic in a performance of Whitbourn's *Luminosity*.



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& Choreographer

ANA MARSDEN FOX
SBRI Alumna, Executive Director,
Choreographer & Classical Ballet Specialist

MARK MARSDEN
RICHARD A. MARSDEN
SHANA FOX MARCEAU
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HERCI MARSDEN

PRIMA BALLERINA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Born in Omis, near Split, Croatia, Herci Munitic began dancing at age five with the Children's Theater of Split, Croatia. She made her debut at thirteen with the National Theater in Split. Throughout her years of training, she has such notable mentors as Mila Katic, Ana Roje, Oskar Harmoš, and Mia Slavenska.

In 1958, Ms. Marsden immigrated to the United States to live in Lincoln, Rhode Island where she co-founded the Brae Crest School of Ballet. As Prima Ballerina, Herci Marsden made her American debut in 1960 with The State Ballet of Rhode Island - the repertory company she was instrumental in establishing.

While balancing her active careers with The Brae Crest School and The State Ballet, Ms. Marsden was a leading dancer at the New YorkWorld's Fair and Eastern States Exposition and the St. Louis Municipal Opera. She performed the leading role in *Destiny* at the First Performing Arts Festival with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra in 1967. She also danced in *Faust*, *Aida*, and *Carmen* with the Providence Opera Theater, and danced

with the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra in the production of *Carmina Burana*. By invitation of the Yugoslavian government, the Marsdens led the 57 members of The State Ballet of Rhode Island to tour Croatia in 1970.

In 1966, Herci & Myles Marsden introduced classical ballet at The University of Rhode Island, College of Human Science & Services, Department of Physical Education Health & Recreation. URI was the first university in Rhode Island to introduce classical ballet into its program as a credited course, and Ms. Marsden instructed there for nearly 30 years. More of Ms. Marsden's recent accomplishments are: in the spring of 1990, Ms. Marsden was commissioned to choreograph the World Premiere Fairy Tale Ballet, *Phantomgreen*, written and composed by Margaret Buechner, a composer from Michigan; in April of 1991; Ms. Marsden was a panelist at URI's 'Women in Leadership in the 1990's'; Ms. Marsden's biographical sketch has been written in Marquis' *Who's Who in the East*, *Who's Who in Entertainment*, and *Who's Who of American Women*, for individuals who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their field of endeavor and who have contributed significantly to the betterment of contemporary society; she was awarded the 1998 Commemorative Medal in recognition of her selection as Woman of the Year for outstanding community and professional achievement from The American Biographical Institute; she was the recipient of the 2008 Encore Award from the Arts & Business Council of RI's 'Individual Achievement Award for the Performing Arts'; she received Motif Magazine's '2010 Artistic Vision Award' for her half-century of artistic excellence & growth of the Arts.



Ms. Marsden has been an integral part of SBRI since its inception, not only as Prima Ballerina but also notably as a choreographer, and since 1976, as Artistic Director. Edwin Safford, the long-time critic for The Providence Journal, described her versatility: "As choreographer, and Artistic Director, too, she displayed an undeniable authority over the company."

Best known as a dancer, the leading roles for which Herci Marsden are most celebrated are Giselle (*Giselle*) - of which her interpretation has been termed "A perfectly splendid 'Giselle'" by Bradford Swan, and "Her 'Giselle' had heart and soul" by Charles Leach in The Pawtucket Times, as well as Swanhilda (*Coppelia*) of which "Herci Marsden's portrayal of the role (is) saucy, knowingly comedic and as complete a characterization as you will find", critiques Edwin Safford as well as Charles Leach who viewed "Herci's 'Swanhilda'...a living portrait...her dancing was immaculate." Among some of her other memorable roles are Juliet (*Romeo and Juliet*), Ivana and Snake in which Ms. Marsden played dual roles (*Stranac*), Taglioni (*Pas de Quatre*), Baba Jaga (*Pictures at an Exhibition*), Princess Aurora (*The Sleeping Beauty*), Cinderella (*Cinderella*), Ophelia (*Hamlet*), and the Dragon Fly (*Dragon Fly/Pavlova*).

In Rhode Island; also in 2010, Capezio® awarded her Brae Crest School with the prestige and \$5000 in scholarship money as the first recipient of Capezio's Studio Connect Award - Scholarship Division. Brae Crest was the only school chosen, nationwide, for their generosity and excellence in ballet training for its community; Ms. Marsden was highlighted in Dance Studio Life Magazine, August 2011 Edition, as Teacher in the Spotlight; September 2, 2013 Ms. Marsden accepted her "Salute to Seniors" citation from Senior Digest and Bankers Life & Casualty Company in recognition of her accomplishments with Brae Crest School and SBRI, and for inspiring people of all ages to strive to reach their goals. Over the 58 years, many of Ms. Marsden's students and company dancers have become prominent figures among the world of dance in the state of Rhode Island, as well as nationally and internationally.

Ms. Marsden continues as Artistic Director and Choreographer for SBRI. She continues teaching at BCSB and is the proud mother of four grown children, Ana, Richard, Mark, and Dujko, and seven grandchildren, Shana, Brandan, Ashley, Ayden, Adela, twins Armin & Adam, and great-grandchildren Anika and Hudson.



Aurora, *Sleeping Beauty*, 1974

ANA MARSDEN FOX

ALUMNA ARTIST
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER

Over the years, those who have enjoyed performances of The State Ballet have had the additional pleasure of watching the remarkable career of Ana.

Born in Split, Croatia, while her parents, Herci and Myles Marsden were leading members of the Croatian National Theatre, she came with them to the United States when only six months old. Taught by her parents, Ana's ballet training began at Brae Crest School at age two. Her passion and persistent dedication resulted in her rapid promotion within the company. In 1970, Ana toured Croatia with The State Ballet. Later, she was privileged to be accepted at the Royal Ballet School in London, England in 1975. When she returned to Lincoln, she continued performing as a principal dancer with SBRI.

Under the direction of her godfather, the late Sir Anton Dolin, Ana was honored to be chosen by Dolin to dance the role of Grahm in *Pas de Quatre*, performed for the first time in Rhode Island in 1978. Ana has danced major roles in productions of SBRI and appeared with the Providence Opera Theatre, the Rhode Island Civic Chorus and Orchestra, Atlanta Ballet, and the New England Ballet.

The Marsden Family, *Giselle*



As a choreographer, Ana has also created several ballets for SBRI, most of which were premiers in Rhode Island, and several were supported by competitive RISCA Merit and Fellowship Grant in Choreography awards. Some of these ballets include *Ballet Ireland*, *Les Pieds*, *Les Bras*, *Goddesses of the Vine*, *Ballet West*, *Autumn Leaves*, *Ballet of the Clowns*, *Hegnar & Buck*, *Gansel & Hetal*.

Her ballet *Petra and the Vuk*, based on the story of *Peter and the Wolf*, Ana used her Slavic influence, choreographing folkloric dance and Harvaski traditional patterns.

In collaboration with SBRI's resident choreographers, Ana enjoyed the premiers of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *A Tale of Twelve Dancing Princesses*. One of her most favorite ballets was *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* inspired by the work of her godfather the late Sir Anton Dolin. Her vision for *Alice* was a dream come true.

Although a dedicated artist, Ana is also a wife, mother and grandmother. She resides in Lincoln, Rhode Island with her husband, Gregory Fox. They have two grown children, Shana and Brandan Cane, and granddaughters Anika and Hudson.

You can read more about Ana's career on The State Ballet's website.

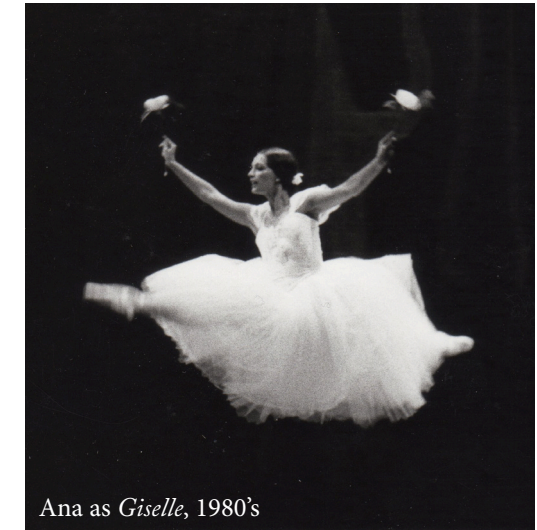
Ana with her godparents Madame Ana Roje and Sir Anton Dolin



Ana & Sir Anton Dolin



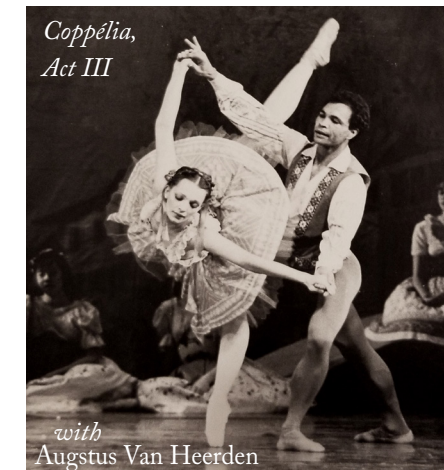
Tarantella



Ana as *Giselle*, 1980's

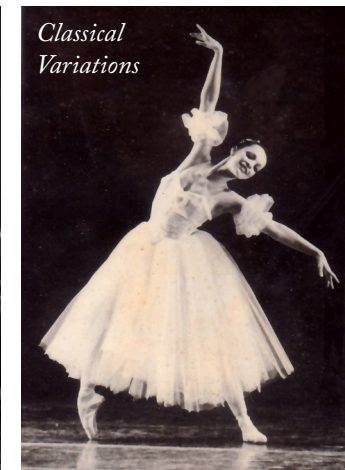


Ana in *Prince Igor*

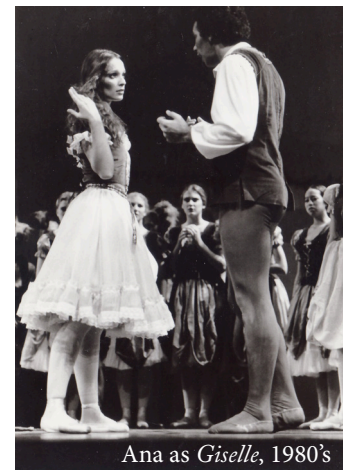


Coppelia,
Act III

with
Augustus Van Heerden



Classical
Variations



Ana as *Giselle*, 1980's



Ballet West



Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

SIR ANTON DOLIN

SBRI ARTISTIC ADVISOR, MENTOR,
AND FAMILY FRIEND, 1960-1983

The State Ballet of Rhode Island on April 3rd and 4th, 2020 as part of an established repertoire in honor of the world famous, the late Sir Anton Dolin. Famous for his interpretation in the role of “Albrecht,” he choreographed *Giselle* particularly for The State Ballet of Rhode Island in 1964, at which time he performed the role of “Hilarion”, claiming “I feel very happy and privileged to be associated with you all in the production of *Giselle*.”(RI Premier, 1964).

As a British ballet dancer, director, and choreographer, Dolin was acclaimed throughout the ballet world. He was an excellent teacher and generously coached many young dancers, including the Marsden family. His name was greatly respected for his knowledge of the traditions in the ballet world. Anton Dolin, who aided Herci & Myles Marsden to perfect their *Giselle*, was one of Diaghilev’s major dancers, as was George Balanchine.

Other ballets that Dolin contributed to SBRI are the *Don Quixote Pas de Deux* in 1960, the *Pas de Quatre* in 1976, which successfully evokes the gracious period of the romantic ballet of the 19th century.



Dolin's *Pas de Quatre*

Sir Anton Dolin as “Claudius” in *Hamlet*, 1967



Herci Marsden & Sir Anton Dolin in *Giselle*, 1964



Dolin & the Marsden Family, 1981



MYLES MARSDEN

JUNE 8TH, 1936 - AUGUST 8TH, 2019

FOUNDING PREMIEUR DANSEUR AND
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER
OF THE STATE BALLET OF RHODE
ISLAND, 1960-1976

IN THE CLASSICAL TRADITION

The dance technique being taught and performed in Rhode Island by Herci and Myles Marsden has a tradition that goes back 200 years to Jean Georges Noverre, the first choreographer. Noverre taught Gaetan Vestris, who taught his son, Auguste, and so on through the 19th century, when such figures as Marius Petipa led the tradition. Classical ballet emerged dramatically in 1909 when the Russian impresario Diaghilev brought the Ballet Russe to Paris, with such legendary dancers as Pavlova and Nijinsky. All of the teachers who have played an important role in the Marsdens’ early development were leading figures with Diaghilev during the 20 years he dominated the scene. Nicholas Legat was his choreographer, and Ana Roje and Anton Dolin his proteges.



FROM EUROPE TO AMERICA

That the ethereal beauty and drama of classical ballet could be more than a dream for Rhode Islanders is due itself to a dream, a dream of a native son. At the age of 16, Myles Marsden went to England to audition for Anton Dolin. On Dolin’s recommendation he was accepted to the famous Legat School. While there, he alone of sixty students was chosen to attend the International Ballet School in Split, Yugoslavia. Under the guardianship of its founders, renowned choreographer Oskar Harnos and Ana Roje, prima ballerina of the Yugoslav National Ballet, Myles studied, performed, and grew in technique. He became the first American graduate of the school and rose from corps de ballet to premier danseur of the Yugoslav National Ballet.

It was there he met and married Herci Munitic, an exquisite soloist with the company. The Marsdens, with their baby daughter, Ana, returned to America and made an important career choice: to devote themselves to teaching rather than just performing with a major dance company. Thus in 1958, Brae Crest School of Ballet was founded. The Marsdens were determined to maintain the standards of the classical Russian ballet and to develop dancers of professional caliber.

In 1958, Dorothy Alexander, director of Atlantic Civic Ballet, and Anatole Chuoy, founder and editor of Dance News, devoted themselves in creating a regional dance movement. Because of this, the Marsdens were inspired to create Rhode Island’s first established civic regional ballet company, founded in 1960.

EXCERPTS FROM “THE STORY OF THE STATE BALLET”
BY CAROL W. NELSON FOR THE RHODE ISLAND YEARBOOK, 1969



Myles Marsden as ‘Albrecht’
and Herci Marsden as a maiden,
Yugoslav National Ballet’s *Giselle*, 1957

RICHARD ANTON MARSDEN

SBRI HONORARY ARTISTIC ADVISOR, 2018-PRESENT

Richard Marsden made his onstage debut at the early age of six. He acquired his early training under the tutelage of his parents at the Brae Crest School of Classical Ballet in Lincoln, RI. At the age of 12, he was awarded a scholarship to the prestigious School of American Ballet in New York. He attained a year-round full scholarship when he was fifteen years of age. Three years later, Richard joined the New York City Ballet. Richard danced the Repertory of George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins and Peter Martins, and was met with a unanimous wave of adulation from the critics. In 1988, he made his debut as the Cavalier in Balanchine's "Nutcracker." He was also featured in Martin's "Les Petits Riens," "Les Gentilhommes," "Black and White," and as Blue Bird in "The Sleeping Beauty." Additionally, Richard performed extensively in the repertory of Jerome Robbins, including "Fanfare," "Glass Pieces," "The Four Seasons," "West Side Story Suite," "Goldberg Variations," "Ives Songs," "I'm Old Fashioned," "The Concert," and "Brandenburg."

Furthermore, his incredible talents as a performer led Richard to appear as a Premier Dancer and Guest Artist with several ballet companies throughout the world. In essence, Richard has made his ambition to supply the world with a universal understanding of the masculine figure in ballet. He looks forward to continuing performing and sharing his talents as a respected Instructor and Ballet Master.



In addition to Richard's accomplishments with the New York City Ballet, he has also performed a vast repertory of original and contemporary works to a wealth of critical acclaim.

His talents have brought him to work with today's top choreographers, including Val Caniparoli, Trey MacIntyre, Helgi Tomasson, Dwight Rhoden, Septime Weber, Alan Hineline, Gary Masters, and Christopher Stowell.

In performance, he was also featured as an American Star during a two week tour to Russia, where Richard received standing ovations at every performance in the 6,000 seat Kremlin Palace Theater in Moscow.

Most recently, Richard's performances with the Sacramento Ballet garnered him his most outstanding praise to date; "Ballet lover's who saw Richard Marsden's scintillating performance of the tortured Hamlet during Thursday's opening night performance of the Sacramento Ballet's 'Hamlet, Hemlines and More' program now realize how lucky we are" (Patricia Beech Smith, Sacramento Bee).

Currently exemplifying a history of excellence, Richard is faculty member and master coach at Ballet Arts Center for Dance, continuing the legacy of his godfather Sir Anton Dolin.

AUDITIONS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Auditions for The State Ballet of Rhode Island are held the last Sunday in January. For further information, call (401) 334-2560 or email info@stateballet.com

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPANY MEMBERS:

You must have studied dance for at least six years,
Have danced en pointe for three years
& be at least thirteen years old.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The dancers of The State Ballet of Rhode Island are a dedicated group of young people who have achieved a certain level of technique and ability. Annual Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis. You must be an auditioning dancer or current SBRI dancer to apply. Please consider being a contributor to SBRI's scholarship fund. | www.stateballet.com

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPRENTICE MEMBERS:

You must have studied dance for a minimum of four years,
Have danced en pointe for one year
& be at least ten years of age.

MENTORS & FRIENDS OF THE MARSDEN FAMILY

Sir Anton Dolin



Oskar Harmos



Joseph Levinoff



John Radovnik



Madame Ana Roje



Mia Slavenska



THE 1967 STATE BALLET OF RHODE ISLAND COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIP EXAM JUDGES

RAOUL GELABERT — Nationally Known Expert on Body Conditioning
JOSEPH LEVINOFF — Choreographer, Teacher
PATRICIA WILDE — Former Prima Ballerina NYC Ballet,
Director Harkness House Ballet Arts
CHARLES LEACH — Music and Drama Critic, Pawtucket Times,
PROFESSOR ALBERT COHN — Drama Director, Rhode Island School of Design
MADAME ANA ROJE — Internationally known Ballet Teacher
TONI REITHER — Musical Comedy Director
EDWIN SAFFORD — Critic, Providence Journal



THE 2019 STATE BALLET OF RHODE ISLAND COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIP EXAM AND JUDGES



HERCI MARSDEN'S

HAND-MADE PERFORMANCE COSTUMES



TOP ROW:

1. *The Seasons*
2. *Valse Triste/Sibelius*
3. *Strauss Variations*
4. *Cinderella*
5. *Romeo & Juliet*



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.

MIDDLE ROW:

6. *Romeo & Juliet*
7. *Cinderella*
8. *Reflections*

BOTTOM ROW:

9. *Coppélia*
10. *Don Quixote*
11. *Romeo & Juliet*
12. *Swanhilda/Coppélia*
13. *Sleeping Beauty*



9.



10.



11.



12.



13.



Christine Noel
Artistic Director

**Rhode Island's
premier volunteer choir**

100 voices bringing
choral masterworks and
outstanding new music
to New England
audiences.

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THE STATE BALLET OF RHODE ISLAND

A GLIMPSE OF HISTORIC PHOTOS

1. For the third year, SBRI danced at the RI State House for the observance of Lincoln's birthday.

2. "Marche" - Herci Marsden, 1963.

3. "Giselle," performed for the first time in Rhode Island, was presented by SBRI before an overflowing audience at Veterans Memorial Auditorium on November 1964. World-famous Anton Dolin, guest choreographer for "Giselle," also played Hilarion in the production, alongside Herci and Myles Marsden.

4. "Hungarian Rhapsody" - Herci & Myles Marsden, 1961.

5. Mia Slavenska rehearses the Marsdens for her ballet "Chiaroscuro," 1961.

6. SBRI departing Boston Logan Airport to Yugoslavia, 1970.

7. Herci & Myles Marsden with friends & mentors of SBRI at Jacob's Pillow.



SBRI RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHERS

SHANA FOX MARCEAU



Shana, a Lincoln native, has grown up at Brae Crest. She joined SBRI in 1990 progressing throughout the company ranks. Shana received her BA in Communication from the University of New Hampshire (2001) where she danced and choreographed for the UNH Dance Company. For SBRI, Shana has created such works as *Summertime*, *Lift Me Up* (2010), and *Deco* (2017), and premiered several collaborative-choreographer pieces like *Gracefully Gershwin* (2009), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2015), and *The Colors of Love & Light* (2019). In 2011, Shana restaged a 1981 SBRI repertoire ballet, *Impressions of the Sky*, which was originally created by her grandmother, Herci Marsden. In the same year, she was a project coordinator for the Company's Artist Exchange which brought together nearly 200 artists of dance, music and visual arts as part of Herci Marsden's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Her world premiere ballet, *Dance of the Firefly*, with RI composer Noreen Inglesi was voted Motif Magazine's 'Best Dance Production

MIA NOCERA GODBOUT



Mia began dancing at Brae Crest School in 1985 and is a former Principal Dancer for SBRI, often partnering with Mark Marsden. She graduated from Rhode Island College (2001) with a degree in Education and minor in Dance, where she was an active member of the RIC Choreography Group. Mia won an award in a collegiate artists' competition for her choreographic work of *Dueling Ballerinas*. She earned her Master's Degree at The University of New England in 2007. Mia's debut choreographic piece for SBRI was *Claire de Lune* (2008), followed by *Gwendolyn the Graceful Pig*, *Safari* (2012) and *Air* (2019). She has premiered several collaboratively-choreographed works for SBRI, such as *Gracefully Gershwin* (2009), *A Midsummer*

LORI LEVIN-BROESS



She started as a student at the Brae Crest School of Ballet in 1966 and became an apprentice to the company in 1972 and a company member in 1972. She has danced in numerous SBRI ballets such as *Romeo and Juliet*, *Coppélia*, *Giselle*, *Ballet of the Clowns*, and *Gaite Parisienne* to name a few. She has choreographed several pieces for SBRI fundraisers and its Partner with the Arts Soirée. Lori also premiered *Company of Three* (2017) and collaborated in choreographing for SBRI premiers *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2015), *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (2018), *The*

of 2013.' Her collaboration with Artist Paul Cote and Lori Broess on *The Colors of Love & Light* won the same accolades in 2019.

Shana is honored to be choreographer for the past ten years for the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation's annual 'Illuminations of Life' ceremony during *Flames of Hope*, creating over 40 new works since 2010. She is a 2017 recipient of the Gloria Gemma Our Heroes Volunteer award for her dedication.

In addition to being a resident ballet instructor at local dance schools, she is on staff at BCSB, an SBRI rehearsal assistant and a Vice President of SBRI Board of Directors. Shana, a gracious recipient of a 2008 SBRI Partner With the Arts Award, passionately continues her family tradition of loving and living classical ballet. She and her husband reside in Lincoln with their daughter Anika.

Night's Dream (2015), *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (2018), *A Tale of Twelve Dancing Princesses* (2019), and *Luminosity* (2019).

Mia is an honored recipient of the SBRI Partner With the Arts Award for her many years of commitment and excellence to SBRI and the arts. She currently resides in Warwick with her husband, David, and their children, Cameron and Marina. She works as a literacy teacher at Ferri Middle School in Johnston, RI, is on staff at the Brae Crest School, and is a member of SBRI Board of Directors. She works as a Literacy Teacher at Ferri Middle School in Johnston, RI, is on staff at BCSB.

Colors of Love & Light (2019), and *Luminosity* (2019). She is vice president of SBRI Board of Directors as well as a rehearsal assistant and resident photographer. She is a recipient of SBRI's Partner with the Arts Award for her long-time dedication to the company, and she can be found hosting the children's tea party before matinee performances. Lori is a faculty member at Brae Crest School and Assistant Director of Brae Crest children's summer ballet camp. She resides in Lincoln with her husband Maarten and is the proud mother to Jennifer and Erik.

SBRI ALUMNUS PRINCIPAL ARTIST MARK MARSDEN

Born in Providence, RI, Mark began taking classes under the direction of his mother, Herci Marsden, as soon as he was able to walk! After receiving extensive training at the Brae Crest School of Classical Ballet, Mark joined The State Ballet in 1984 as an apprentice, learning as much of the company's corps de ballet repertoire as possible. In 1985, Mark was promoted to Company member, partnering many female dancers, and was promoted to a Soloist dancer shortly thereafter. As Mark's hard work in the company increased, he was seen dancing many pas de deux and solo male variations. By 1992, Mark was promoted to Principal dancer and given the opportunity to dance the role of "Frantz" in *Coppélia* for the first time. In the spring of 1996, Mark was specially chosen to dance a lead role in *Two's Company* for guest choreographer, Toni Pimble of The Eugene Ballet Company, Oregon. Audiences have enjoyed Mark's performances in many leading roles such as "Prince Desire" (*The Sleeping Beauty*), "Head Cadet" (*Graduation Ball*), "Albrecht" (*Giselle*), and "Lead Cowboy" in *Ballet West*, just to name a few.

Mark has amazingly partnered nearly every leading lady in SBRI's history. This long-time commitment and loyalty lead to Mark's recognition for all of his contributions to The State Ballet of RI with one of the first 'Partner With The Arts' Awards ever given in May of 2004. Most recently, Mark was named 2013 Principal Dancer of the Year by Motif Magazine. Mark continues to coach up-and-coming male dancers, notably with pas de deux, as to continue the growth of SBRI. As a resident choreographer for SBRI, Mark's ballet *Boys Will Be Boys*, debuted in 2005. Then, in the spring of 2009, he was part of a choreographers' collaboration for the contemporary ballet *Gracefully Gershwin*, funded in part by RISCA. In Spring 2013 Mark created a romantic ballet *Train*. In 2015, Mark was one of five resident choreographers who took on the large-scale collaboration for the full length work *A Midsummer's Night Dream*.



Building upon his Bachelor of Science from URI, Mark earned his state and NCTMB certification and practiced Massage Therapy for 13 years. Additionally, Mark earned a degree in Respiratory Therapy and currently works for Newport Hospital. Mark is also on staff at The Brae Crest School, and is a Vice President for the SBRI Board of Directors. Mark is married to alumna principal dancer, Barbara Ann (DeVivo) Marsden. They reside in Lincoln with their daughter, Ashley.



PRINCIPAL DANCERS

OF THE STATE BALLET OF RHODE ISLAND

Herci Marden's Handmade Performance Costumes

SARA HAMEL

Boston, MA

Sara began dancing at BCSB in 2003 and joined SBRI as a company member in 2006. As a company member, she danced roles such as “Night & Day” (*Coppélia*), “Mid-Morning” (*Dance of the Hours*), “Swanhilda’s Friend” (*Coppélia*), and “Flowers” (Gansel and Hetal). She was promoted to Soloist in 2009 and performed memorable roles such as “Babayaga” (*Pictures at an Exhibition*), “War” (*Coppélia*), and *Impressions of the Sky*. Sara took a few years off to obtain an undergraduate education in South Carolina, and then Boston where she continued to study dance while also getting her BS in Biology in 2017. Upon returning to the company, she danced the roles of “Discord” (*Coppélia*), “Queen of Hearts” (*Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*), and the *Claire de Lune* Pas de Deux. In 2018, Sara was promoted to Principal Dancer. This is her third season dancing the leading role of “Swanhilda” and she is looking forward to performing “Giselle” this Spring. Sara currently works as a Neurophysiologist at Brigham & Women’s Hospital in Boston, MA.



PRINCIPAL DANCERS

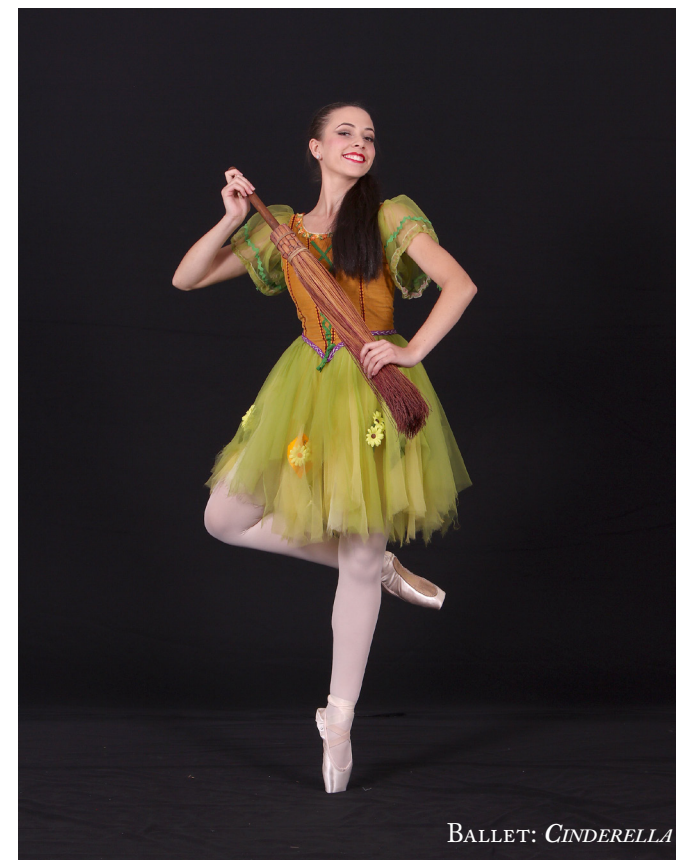
OF THE STATE BALLET OF RHODE ISLAND

Herci Marden's Handmade Performance Costumes

ASHLEY PABON

Providence, RI

Ashley started her ballet training at BCSB in 2003 and joined SBRI as an apprentice in 2007. As a company member, Ashley performed roles such as “Harvest,” “Dawn,” and “Swanhilda’s Friend” (*Coppélia*), “Pas de Six” and “Zulma” (*Giselle*) and “Titania’s Fairy” (*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*). After being promoted to soloist in 2016, Ashley danced the role of “Alice” in the premiere of *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*. This season, Ashley looks forward to dancing in *Coppélia* and the role of “Queen Myrtha” in Herci Marsden’s *Giselle*. When Ashley is not dancing at SBRI, she is studying at Dean College in Franklin, MA where she is majoring in Arts and Entertainment Management with a concentration in Dance. She can also be found teaching ballet at Oui Dance Studio in Medway, MA. She hopes to continue teaching ballet and to share her passion with young dancers.



BRIANNA MATTIS

Providence, RI

Brianna began her ballet training at BCSB in 2012 and joined the SBRI company the same year. As a company member, Brianna performed in roles such as “Swanhilda’s Littlest Friend,” “War,” and “Harvest” (*Coppélia*), “Lead Butterfly” (*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*), and “Caliente Girl” (*Ballet West*). After being promoted to soloist in 2016, Brianna danced the role of “Princess Leonora” (*Phantomgreen*). After being promoted to Principal Dancer in 2017, Brianna danced the role of “Swanhilda” (*Coppélia*) and the “White Rabbit” in the premiere of *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*. Brianna is currently a student at Rhode Island College in Providence, Rhode Island, where she is majoring in Psychology with a concentration in Occupational/Organizational Therapy. In the future, she hopes to combine her love for dance and psychology to help people through movement and creativity.



ACTOR/DANCER 1998-PRESENT

NORMAN BELL
Coventry, RI



ALUMNA PRINCIPAL ARTIST

KIMBERLY NAJJAR

Repertoire
1960 - Present

A Night in Vienna	Ballet Ireland	Circle of Life	Forever Young	Kismet	Pas de Deux, Plus One	Stranac	The Yard Went on Forever
A Tale of Twelve Dancing Princesses	Ballet of the Clowns	Claire de Lune	For Good	Kolo	Pas de Quatre	Strauss Variations	This Guy's in Love with You
Adagio	Ballet West	Classical Concerto	Gaite Parisienne	Land of the Sweets/ The Nutcracker	Phantomgreen/Buechner	Summertime	This Is Me
A Degas Dancer	Beach	Columbine	Gansel and Hetal	La Esmeralda	Petra and the Vuk	Summer - Vivaldi	To Where You Are
Air	Beethoven's Allegro I	Comedians	Gayne Suite	L'Arlesienne Suite	Pictures at an Exhibition	Summer of '42	Touch the Sky
Americana	Better Place	Company of Three	Giselle	La Bal	Polovtsian Dances-Prince Igor	Supermarket Flowers	Train
A Million Dreams	Beyond the Reach/Williams	Concerto	Goddesses of the Vine	Les Bras	Quiet City	Swan Lake Divertissement	Two's Company
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Bluebird/Pas de Deux	Concerto - Beethoven	Gracefully Gershwin	Les Pied	Rachmaninoff Symphony No.2	Sylvia (The Nymph of Diana)	Tyrolian
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland	Boys Will Be Boys	Coppélia	Graduation Ball	Let the Games Begin	Rama Lama Bang Bang	Symphony in D-Minor	Tzigane/Ravel Valse Triste/ Sibelius
Apologize	Brave	Dance of the Firefly	Gwendolyn the Graceful Pig	Lift Me Up	Reflections	Tais Meditation/Massenet	Vienna Ball
Aquarius	Bridge of Light	Dance of the Hours / LaGiocondo	Hamlet	Little Red Riding Hood	Rhapsodies Hungroise	Tarantella	Vienna Waltzes
Art and Motion	Capriccio Italien	Danse Macabre	Hansel and Gretel	MacArthur Park	Rise	Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto/ in D, op. 35	Vision of Love
Autumn Leaves	Carmen	Deco	Heghnar & Buck	Masquerade Ball	Rise Up	Tears of an Angel	Warrior
Ballet Class	Carmina Burana	Destiny	Hooked on Baroque	Meditation	Ritual Fire Dance	The Can Can	Walpurgis Night/Bacchanal
Ballet Espagnol	Celebration Waltz	Divertimento 71	Hungarian Dances	Moody Blues Impressions	Romeo & Juliet	The Colors of Love & Light	Waltz of the Flowers/ The Nutcracker
Ballet from Another Planet	Cherokee	Divertimento in D/Mozart	I Lived	Mozart's Divertimento in D	Russian Folk	The Dream	Wanderlust
	Chiaroscuro	Donizetti Pas de Deux	I'll Keep You Safe	My Heart Will Go On	Ryan's Daughter	The Flame	Weather in the Street
	Chopin	Don Quixote Pas de Deux	Impressions of the Sky	My Immortal	Safari	The Nymph & the Woodcutter	Western
	Cinderella	Dragon Fly/Pavlova	In My Life	Night on Bald Mountain	Samson & Delila Bacchanal	The Promise	You are the Reason
		Dueling Ballerinas	Interlooping	New England Settlers	Search/Chopin Piano Concerto	The Seasons	Young at Heart
		Elvira	Intermezzo	Out of Ashes	Shostakovich Sonata	The Sleeping Beauty	Young Love
		Feel the Light	Italian Symphony	Pachelbel's Canon in D	Slavic Melody	The Syncopated Clock	
		Fight	Jealous of the Angels	Part for Five	Slavonic Dances	The Three Graces	
			Just Beyond My Reach	Part for Six	Stand in the Light	The Web	
			Khachaturian		Stand By You		



SOLOIST DANCERS
of The State Ballet of Rhode Island
Herci Marden's Handmade Performance Costumes



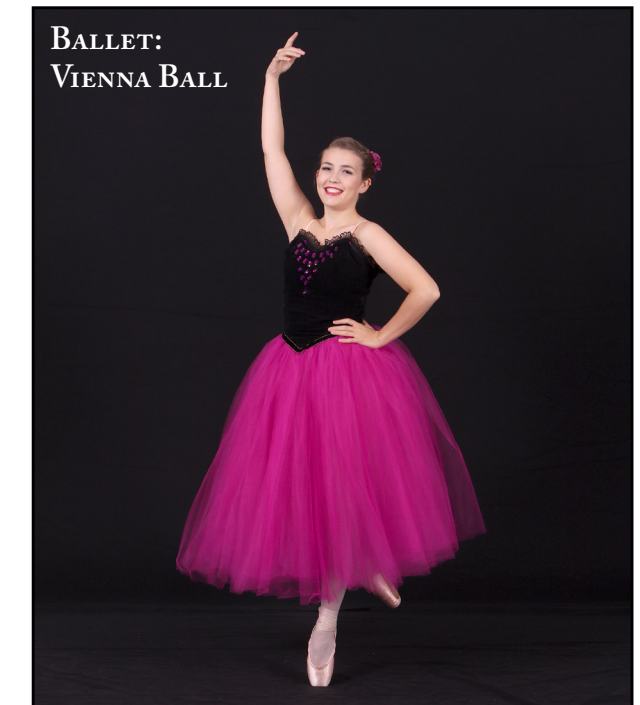
GRACE DELANEY
Lincoln, RI



REBECCA DeVIVO
North Smithfield, RI



JOCELYN LEVESQUE
North Attleboro, MA



MEGAN LAPIERRE
Coventry, RI



KARA MIA MORAN
Barrington, RI



SHANNON MULLANEY
Cumberland, RI

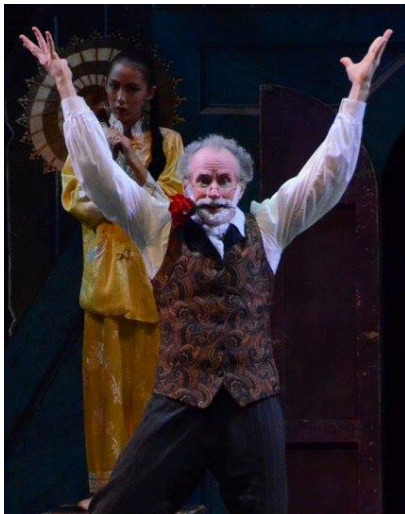


MEGAN TEIXEIRA
Lincoln, RI



HERCI MARSDEN SEWING AT HER
 HOME IN LINCOLN, RI, 1960

SBRI ALUMNUS GUEST ARTIST
PROFESSOR WILLIAM KILROY



It’s hard to believe that it was in 1981 that William first took to the stage in the SBRI production of *Coppélia*. The Narragansett Times did a cover story that year, with the headline: “Kilroy Comes Home to Dance.” That dancing began when William took ballet classes from Ms. Marsden while a theatre major at URI. Prior to his first performance as “Dr. Coppélius,” William was thrilled to have been able to confer with the incomparable Sir Anton Dolin at a meeting in New York City.

William is honored to have performed with Herci Marsden, Ana Marsden Fox, Barbara DeVivo, and so many other wonderful “Swanhilda”s through the years. Yes, there were a few missed years while William was working as an actor in Los Angeles, but it has been literally decades that William has had the joy of performing with the beloved company that is The State Ballet of Rhode Island. Meanwhile, William has worked nationally as an actor and director, including roles such as “Steve” in *Becky’s New Car*, “Michael” in *Tony n Tina’s Wedding* and “Laertes” in *Hamlet*. TV appearances include *As the World Turns*, *All My Children*, *Babylon Five*, and commercials.



Wil Kilroy & Herci Marsden, *Coppélia*, 1981

Wil’s directing credits range from *Nunsense* to *Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell* – an original presentation which was devised with the cast, and his productions of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *The Laramie Project*, and *Purple Breasts* were all chosen to perform at the Kennedy Center’s American College Theatre Festivals. *Purple Breasts*, a play about one woman’s journey through breast cancer, was presented at several additional venues, including at the National Breast Care Conference in Washington, D.C.

William was part of a cultural exchange which entailed teaching and directing in Mytilene on the island of Lesbos, Greece, and he taught in London for several summers. As the co-founder of the National Michael Chekhov Association, along with actress and executrix of Michael Chekhov’s estate, the late Mala Powers, William has taught workshops all over the country, in venues ranging from Loyola Marymount University to Bowling Green University, and at various national conferences. William has been a workshop presenter and participated as an actor/director annually for the New Play Development Program at the national conference of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education. William is former New England Chair of the Kennedy Center’s American College Theatre Festival, and was awarded the Kennedy Center bronze medallion for achievement in Theatre Education in 2014. Wil has also served as the chair of the New England Theatre Conference.

Wil is the recipient of the Moss Hart Award, the Maine Education Association’s Human and Civil Rights Award, an acting scholarship for study with Uta Hagen, USM’s Advisor award, and USM’s Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award, and holds Professor Emeritus Status at the University of Southern Maine. Currently William is the Department Head of Theatre Arts at New Mexico State University and is the Managing Director of the American Southwest Theatre Company in residence there. This summer William appeared in a new play, *Weighing In*, at the Black Box Theatre of Las Cruces, NM. However, his favorite performing is playing “Dr. Coppélius” in the SBRI annual production of Marsden’s *Coppélia*.



Wil Kilroy & Sara Hamel, *Coppélia*, 2018

THE STATE BALLET OF RHODE ISLAND

FOUNDERS: THE MARSDEN FAMILY
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER: HERCI MARSDEN
ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR: ANA MARSDEN FOX
ARTISTIC ADVISOR: RICHARD ANTON MARSDEN

MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY

<i>*Scholarship and Merit Award Recipients</i>				
<u>Principal Dancers</u>	<u>Soloist Dancers*</u>	<u>Alumni Artists</u>		
Norman Bell	Grace Delaney	Lori Broess	Rachel Goroza	Mark Marsden
Sara Hamel	Rebecca Devivo	Dr. Jennifer Broess	William Kilroy	Richard A. Marsden
Brianna Mattis	Megan LaPierre	Ana Marsden Fox	Shana Fox Marceau	Kimberly Najjar
Ashley Pabon	Jocelyn Levesque	Mia Nocera Godbout	Ashley Marsden	Alissa Pascale
	Kara Mia Moran			
	Shannon Mullaney			
	Megan Teixeira			
<u>Company Dancers</u>			<u>Apprentice Dancers</u>	
Ava Cauley	Grace Gongoleski*	Taegan Moran	Julia Brunelle	Helen Green
Christa Coburn	Emma Holman	Akiko Nishiyama*	Allegra Catanese	Alisa Nanikova
Josephine Dunn	Alyssa Hughes	Sarah O’Connell*	Sophia Deal	Sophia Rocco
Charlotte Gongoleski	Samantha Irons	Julienne Racine*	Molly Gilchrist	Mia Schaumberg
	Isabella Luchka	Elle Rawcliffe		

CHOREOGRAPHERS

Sir Anton Dolin	Ashley Marsden
Ana Marsden Fox	Herci Marsden
Shana Fox Marceau	Mark Marsden
Karen Gibbons Kowal	Myles Marsden
John Gilpin	Richard A. Marsden
Mia Nocera Godbout	Kimberly Najjar
Oskar Harnos	Toni Pimble
Lori Levin Broess	Madame Ana Roje
Joseph Levinoff	Mia Slavenska

TEACHING ASSOCIATES
& REHEARSAL ASSISTANTS

Lori Levin Broess	Kimberly Najjar
Mia Nocera Godbout	Ashley Pabon
Shana Fox Marceau	Kari-Ann Rocco
Mark Marsden	

PRINCIPAL GUEST ARTISTS

Christopher Adams	<i>Boston Ballet, USA</i>
Corey Bourbonniere	<i>Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, USA</i>
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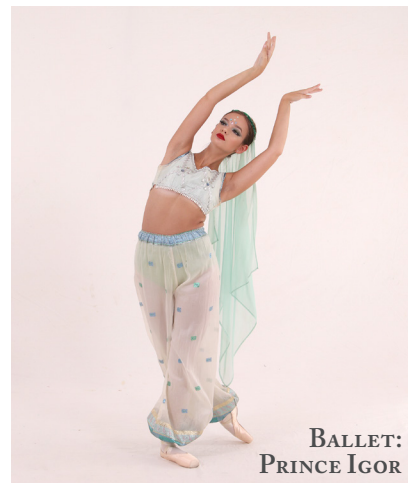


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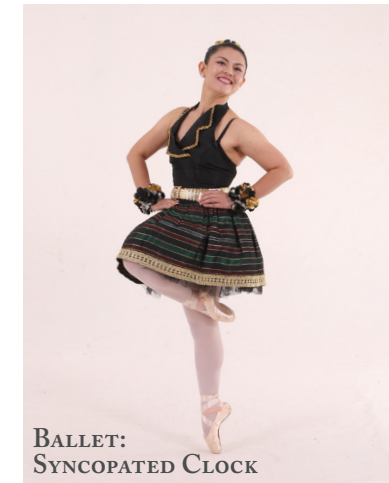
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Community Event: Providence, RI; Gloria Gemma Resource Foundation Waterfire
- **OCTOBER 12TH, 2019:** *Project Ballet in Education - Coffee Hour*
Continues Nov. 23rd, March 14th & April 18th. **FREE EVENT**, Family-Friendly
State Ballet Studio, 52 Sherman Ave. Lincoln, RI. Includes Music, Lecture,
Performance & Light Refreshments. Reservation Required. Call (401) 334-2560
- **NOVEMBER 9TH, 2019:** *Requiem Luminosity*
In collaboration with the *Providence Singers*, Providence, RI
- **NOVEMBER 23RD, 2019 & MARCH 14TH, 2020:** *Project Ballet in Education* **FREE EVENT**
Cardi's Furniture Community Room, South Attleboro Store
- **DECEMBER 5TH AND 6TH, 2019:** *Annual Holiday Ballet Performance of COPPÉLIA*
The Witty & Enchanting Love Story of the Doll with the Enamel Eyes.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH @ 10:00 a.m. Cultural Enrichment Performance.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH @ 7:30 p.m. & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH @ 2:00 p.m.
Park Theatre, 848 Park Avenue Cranston, RI 02910 Box Office: (401) 467-7275
- **JANUARY 25TH, 2020:** *Annual State Ballet COMPANY AUDITION*
Sunday, January 25th @ 12:30 p.m. at The State Ballet Rehearsal Studio in Lincoln, RI
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- **APRIL 3RD & 4TH, 2020:** *60th Anniversary Performance of GISELLE*
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FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD @ 7:30 p.m. & SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH @ 2:00 p.m.
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- **JUNE 7TH, 2020:** *60th ANNIVERSARY GALA*
The Dunes Club, Narragansett, RI. 4 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
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- **JULY/AUGUST, 2020:** *BCSB Summer Program 2020*
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VINTAGE HITCHCOCK: A LIVE RADIO PLAY

OCTOBER 15 - NOVEMBER 1

MIRACLE OF 34TH STREET

DECEMBER 3 - DECEMBER 20

117 WASHINGTON STREET - WEST WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND 02893

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*Congratulations,
Shannon!*
'GISELLE' 2020

*The Mullaney
Family*



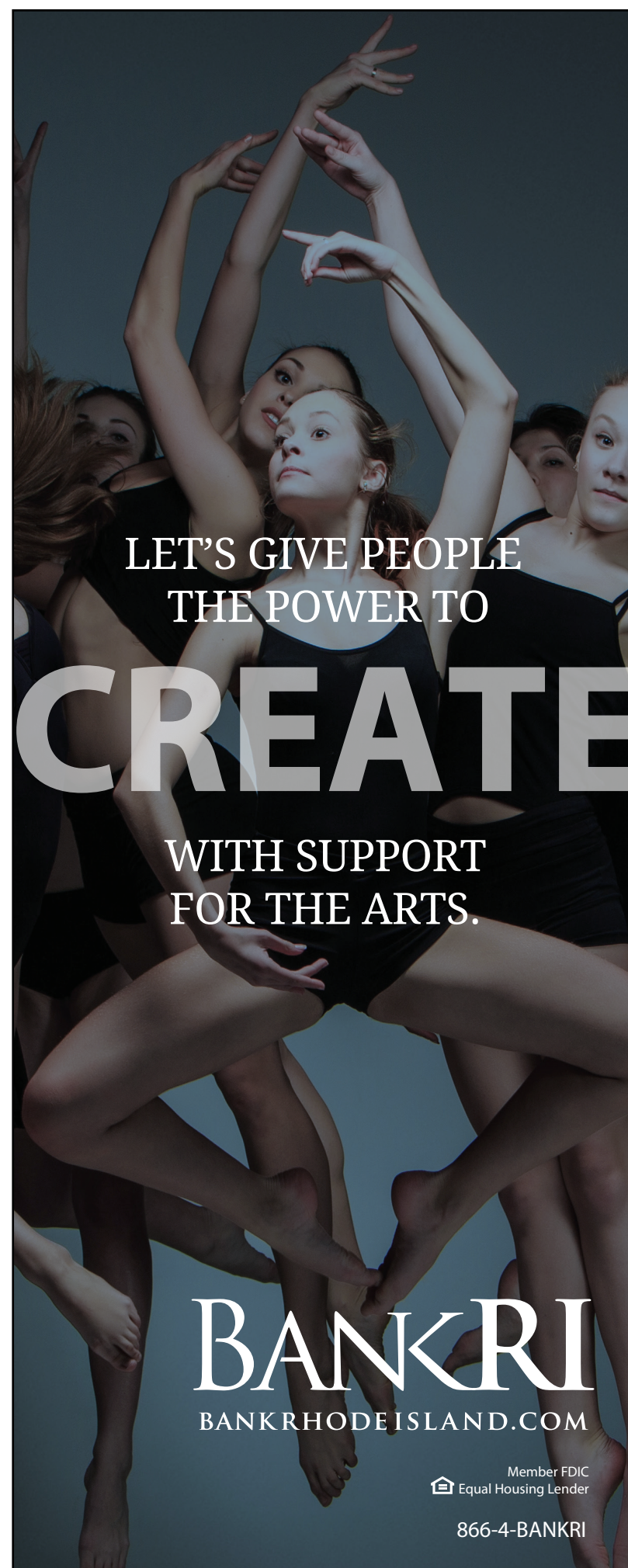
HERCI MARSDEN'S
HAND-MADE
'GISELLE' ACT 1
COSTUME, 1964

SBRI's
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