

**We are very grateful to all participants of HNBC-SI 2009 for their valuable feedback.**

When asked how they chose our program participants underlined as most appealing the following special features:

- the unique concept of a one time – one venue international audition as the culmination of our focused summer intensive
- the personal overlook of Gábor Keveházi, Artistic Director of HNBC
- working with a 125-year old company
- performing on stage in the gorgeous Hungarian State Opera House, of which they were provided a video recording for their professional files
- for overseas participants: a venue in the heart of Europe

The general impressions of participants were very positive; most satisfactorily development was reported on classical skills, followed by modern and character skills, technical skills, dynamics, physical and mental condition as well as professional self-confidence.

*'I have enjoyed the course immensely. My impressions of the quality of the instruction are excellent in every regard.'*

*'I loved being and working in a very prestigious, old and beautiful theatre such as the Hungarian State Opera House.'*

*'My overall experience was very good. I enjoyed my time here and learned a lot.'*

*'I have been pointed out what I need to focus on improving.'*

*'It was very hard but I learned extremely much in all fields: classical, modern and character.'*

*'As a dancer, I gained most from being coached by highly qualified teachers.'*

*'My stamina has improved a lot!'*

*'Great teachers and amazing inspirations.'*

*'I have enjoyed the course immensely. The technical classes have been challenging. Especially the pointe classes... I feel that in the three and a half short weeks I have become much stronger and more confident in my abilities in ballet class, especially on pointe.'*

*'I really enjoyed the summer intensive overall. The pointe in particular was challenging but made me realise my strengths and weaknesses. The feedback given in class was great and I will definitely take what I have learnt here back to my country.'*

What we are most proud of is that, according to their written feedback, all participants but one 'undecided' would recommend the course.

We received a very nice thank you letter from the mother of one of our participants saying:

*'As a veteran of summer programs in the US, we thought that this program would give our daughter the opportunity to see what it is like to live and work in Europe. We have seen much personal growth in Shelby from this experience and feel more comfortable knowing that she would thrive as a dancer there. (...)We particularly appreciate the DVD that you sent home with the dancers.'*

**Our special thanks to the guest ballet directors and decision makers for their participation and feedback!**