

OPERA

The Hungarian State Opera House will be the exciting venue for the upcoming Hungarian National Ballet Company's (HNBC) Summer International. For three weeks, participants will have the opportunity to train and dance in a professional environment with Hungarian and International Ballet Masters inside the famous Opera House that will culminate in a public performance on the Opera House main stage. The experience gleaned from the training and the showcase performance offers pre-professional and professional candidates a significant educational platform; but that same public performance will simultaneously act as an audition for the best European Artistic Directors prepared to scrutinize dancers as potential matches for their respective Companies. Moreover, exceptional dancers singled out by adjudicators will receive formal accolades as well as scholarship and internship offers.

"We are best suited for the classically trained dancer who seeks an elite coaching experience as well as a new career path" explains HNBC Artistic Director, Gabor Keveházi. "The ages last year, our introductory year, ranged from 15 years to 32 with the common denominator being determination, endurance and motivation to refine those hard to define elements that often escape a dancer's attention when looking for employment. Our dedicated staff brings long experience to each dancer and each candidate is able to spend hours on the stage with the full attention of the decision makers."

International Cultural Manager, Gabriella Komor sees the practicality of the manner:



"We receive so many calls and emails, as do most Opera House and Ballet offices, by the many hundreds throughout the year asking for personal attention or audition opportunities. As with most European Companies, we have our own tried and true systems and connections but we decided to open up opportunities that will serve us more efficiently and be cost effective for dancers as well. Rather than expecting to spend a lot of money going from country to country, be squeezed into a room with hundreds of auditioning dancers or take the chance of being invited into a Company class with only the passing glance from the AD, a dancer will be able to audition inexpensively through dvd and cv in a 21st century manner at home. If accepted, they can come to one central place knowing that whether they are offered a contract or not, their experience places them at an elite level for future opportunities".

"In addition, "continues Keveházi," I see the value of expanding connections with the many European Opera Houses and our international colleagues everywhere. Last year, we had a roundtable discussion about the current economic climate and possible solutions to the challenges facing our Companies. I expect that each year we will expand the concept".