



Ballet Theatre of Queensland

ANNIVERSARY GALA

30TH JULY 2017

Queensland Performing Arts Centre
Concert Hall

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET



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Amber Scott, François-Eloi Lavignac, Valeria Terezhchenko, Photography Justin Ridler

 The
Australian
Ballet



ANNIVERSARY GALA

A spectacular evening of dance celebrating
The Ruby Jubilee of

Ballet Theatre of Queensland

starring in alphabetical order

Isabelle Dashwood	The Australian Ballet
Brodie James	The Australian Ballet
Elise May	Expressions Dance Company
Jake McLarnon	Expressions Dance Company
Clare Morehen	Guest Artist
Camilo Ramos	Queensland Ballet
Neneka Yoshida	Queensland Ballet

with

Edward Cooper	Bolshoi Academy, Moscow
Amelia Townsend	Royal Ballet School

QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY of TECHNOLOGY BFA (DANCE) 1st & 2nd Year students

Alivia Boyce, Georgia Bradford, Chloe Cartwright, Orla Christie,
Alexandra Dewar, Jessica Dick, Meg Ditchfield, Sarah Edwards, Brock Fielder,
Andrea Foerland, Kayla Gell, Bethany Gillard, Lauren Graham, Candice Green,
Lucy Hood, Hannah Hughes, Rebecca Jorgensen, Tiara Locke, Erin O'Rourke,
Matilda Skelhorn, Kaylee Waddell

BALLET THEATRE of QUEENSLAND

Kayli Bell, Mia Claessen, Maria Doolan, Poppi Eccleston, Samantha Gehrke,
Jodie Hammermeister, Carly Hill, Zara Ibrahim, Katelyn Jensen, Sarah Kelly,
Audrey Lusk, Cormac McDonald, Lara McGahan, Grace Mulherin,
Chloe O'Sullivan, Alyssa Park, Nia Savas, Erin Sheffield, Alisa Timofeeva

A BALLET THEATRE OF QUEENSLAND PRODUCTION

Directed by Timothy Brown
Produced by Denise Richardson



Founder - Miss Phyllis Danaher M.B.E. F.R.A.D. 1929
Image courtesy of the State Library of Queensland

Welcome

Eighty years is an extraordinary milestone for any organisation, especially a predominantly amateur, performing arts company like Ballet Theatre of Queensland. It has taken passion, resilience and imagination. Ballet Theatre's Ruby Jubilee is therefore truly worth celebrating, and we are delighted that so many colleagues and friends are joining us this evening to remember, reminisce and, most importantly, celebrate the company's rich history.

We thank David McAllister (The Australian Ballet), Li Cunxin (Queensland Ballet), and Natalie Weir (Expressions Dance Company) for their support, and are honoured to have their dancers perform with us tonight. We are also delighted to have the support of the Queensland University of Technology Creative Industries Faculty, whose BFA (Dance) students are also on the program as well as two former BTQ dancers now studying overseas.

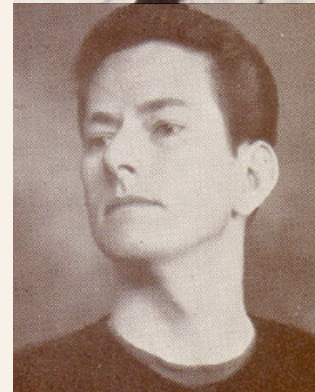
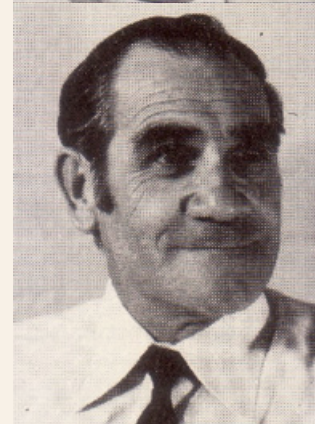
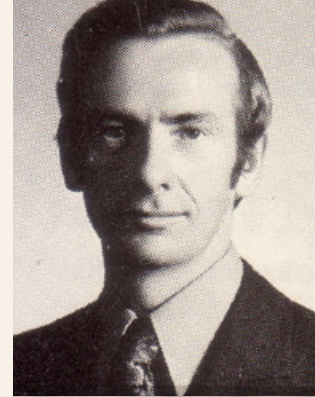
Ballet Theatre's history reads like a who's who of Australia's dance luminaries, including our Patron, Garth Welch AM, who, will later launch our on-line archive, accessible from our website, which describes in detail the development of Ballet Theatre of Queensland from its small beginnings in 1937. We are thrilled he could be with us.

The survival of Ballet Theatre for 80 years is clear indication of the huge grass roots support the art of dance, specifically ballet, has in this State. Your presence this evening reassures us that the company still has a vital role to play, and therefore we urge you to be a part of sustaining this iconic company in its support of young dancers, as it approaches its centenary.

DENISE RICHARDSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY BROWN
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

From top: Ken McCaffrey,
Garth Welch, Jack Rogers, Cyril Johns





Soloist Beres Baker, 1950s

Congratulations

On behalf of Queensland Ballet, I want to congratulate Ballet Theatre of Queensland as it celebrates 80 years of supporting the art of ballet in Queensland. Under the directorship of the indomitable Miss Phyllis Danaher MBE, Ballet Theatre provided valuable performance opportunities for young talented dancers, (even before the establishment of Queensland Ballet in 1960), with many benefiting from the performance experiences and going on to professional careers in Australia and internationally, including Queensland Ballet.

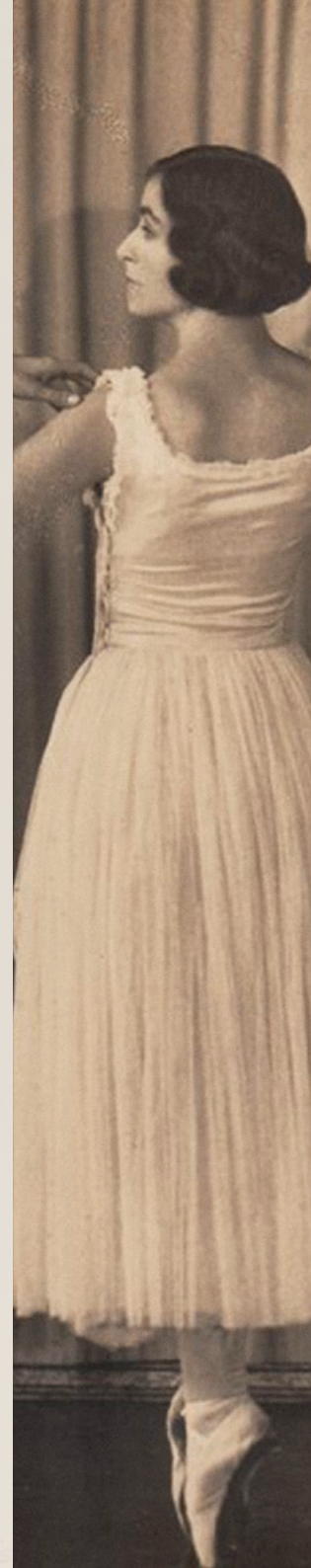
Ballet Theatre of Queensland was a driving force in the early development of ballet in this State, and it continues to play an important role in youth arts in Australia today. I wish BTQ well for its future success.

LI CUNXIN
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
QUEENSLAND BALLET



Phyllis Danaher, 1930s

*Regent
Studios*



Guest Artists

WRIGHT (Guest Artist)
 ne Dwyer
 Phillips
 Stanfield
 McIntosh, Barbara Lecatsas
 te
 ve
 rman

G. Kelly
 R. Pennell
 J. Morris

W. Boyle
 J. Warner
 R. Gabriel

First Hand : Glenda Kelly (Wed., Fri. nights, Sat. Mat.)
 Christine White (Thurs. and Sat. nights)
 Hussar : Dayne Cory
 Dandy : Craig Phillips (Wed., Fri. nights, Sat. Mat.)
 Christopher Gillard (Thurs. and Sat. nights)
 Athlete : Robert Smart
 Manager : Owen McDonald
 Mother : Ruth Gabriel (Wed., Fri. nights, Sat. Mat.)



ISOBELLE DASHWOOD

Isobelle Dashwood was born and raised in Toowoomba, Queensland. She grew up in a family of dancers – her mother is a ballet teacher and her four siblings all dance – and began classes at age six. Isobelle trained at Dance Centre (with Benita Whalley, Andie Dashwood and Alison Vallette) and Classical Coaching Australia (with Janine McGrath) before winning a scholarship to The Australian Ballet School, where she toured with The Dancers Company in 2014 and 2015. She danced the roles of *Aurora* and *The Lilac Fairy* in The Australian Ballet’s inaugural season of *Storytime Ballet: The Sleeping Beauty* before officially joining the company in 2016.



BRODIE JAMES

Brodie James was born in Perth and began his dance training at the Jody Marshall Dance Company in 2001. He trained at The Graduate College of Dance from 2005 under the Direction of Dawn Weller. He was offered a scholarship to attend The Australian Ballet School in 2008. While there he received the 2009 Excellence Award and spent time studying at Canada’s National Ballet School as an exchange student. He performed on The Dancer’s Company tour in 2011 and joined The Australian Ballet in 2012. In 2014 he participated in a dancer exchange, performing with the Royal Ballet of Flanders in Antwerp. Repertoire highlights include Frederick Ashton’s *Monotones II* 2015, *Garuda the Dream God* in Stanton Welch’s *La Bayadère* 2014.



ELISE MAY

Elise is a dancer, choreographer and video artist who has worked as an independent artist in Australia and internationally, as well as being a member of Expressions Dance Company (EDC). Elise’s interest in performance design, installation, sound and moving image led her to create works such as *Close Proximity*, her Screen Dance Laboratory, and *101 Ways to Strip*. She has worked internationally in Taiwan, the US, South Korea, Switzerland, and extensively in China, and has choreographed four short works for EDC, including *Written on The Body* for its 2017 season of *Propel*. In 2012 she was awarded an Australian Dance Award for ‘Outstanding Performance by a Female Dancer’. Elise completed a Masters of Arts by Research at QUT in 2016, investigating the use of moving image and digital media in live performance. In 2017 she took on the additional role as Assistant to the Artistic Director at EDC.

JAKE MCLARNON

Born in Perth, Jake completed his training at WAAPA, performing in numerous contemporary dance and ballet works by George Balanchine, Raewyn Hill and Xiaoxing Zhang. Jake joined Australian Dance Theatre (ADT) for its European tour of Garry Stewart’s *Proximity*, shortly after joining the ADT ensemble full time. Other ADT highlights include the Australian season of Garry Stewart’s *Proximity* and *Birdbrain*. In 2015 Jake choreographed for the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) Festival in Perth and its 80th Anniversary Gala in Adelaide. Jake first performed with EDC as a guest artist for the 2016 remount of *When Time Stops* before returning to ADT to perform *Objekt* by Garry Stewart. Jake became a company member later that year joining EDC’s 2016 China tour. His most recent EDC performances were in *Propel* and Natalie Weir’s *Behind Closed Doors*.



CLARE MOREHEN

Clare Morehen is a freelance artist and former Principal Artist of the Queensland Ballet. Clare trained at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School and was accepted into the Royal Ballet Upper School at age 15. While a student, Clare performed with the Royal Ballet and Birmingham Royal Ballet. Upon graduation in 2004, Clare accepted a position with Queensland Ballet, where she was promoted to soloist in 2006 and principal in 2009. Clare has worked with numerous Australian and international choreographers, with personal highlights including: *Juliet* in Sir Kenneth MacMillan’s *Romeo and Juliet*, *Blanche* in Francois Klaus’ *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *Catherine* in Natalie Weir’s *Wuthering Heights*. Since departing Queensland Ballet in 2017, Clare has worked as a freelance artist guesting with The Covent Garden Dance Company, M&T in Motion and the Melbourne Ballet Company.



CAMILO RAMOS

Camilo began his ballet training at the Elementary School of Balet Alejo Carpentier, continuing his training at the National School of Ballet. He received several awards of note during his training. Camilo joined the Ballet Nacional de Cuba in 2008, was promoted to Soloist in 2010 and Principal in 2011. He has performed in several countries including Latin America, Canada, the USA, Italy and the United Kingdom. His repertoire includes soloist and principal roles in classical and contemporary ballets. Camilo joined Queensland Ballet as a Soloist in 2015.



NENKA YOSHIDA

Neneka was born in Kanazawa, Japan and trained with Dominique Khalfouni in Paris, Victor Ullate in Spain and was accepted into the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris under Claude de Vulpian and Celine Talon. In 2013, Neneka was a finalist in the Prix de Lausanne and the following year joined Queensland Ballet as a Jette Parker Young Artist. She was promoted to Company Artist in 2015 and has danced many featured roles with the Company in classical and contemporary works. Neneka made her debut as the black swan *Odile* in Queensland Ballet’s 2017 production of *Swan Lake*.



Choreographers



TIMOTHY BROWN

A graduate of the Australian Ballet School, Timothy Brown choreographed his first work *Little Tell Tales*, for the school, winning the Peggy Van Praagh Award at the Australian Institute of Classical Dance (AICD) choreographic competition Dance Creation 2000. Timothy continued his choreographic development, creating 15 works for Queensland Ballet and its Professional Year Program and three works for Expressions Dance Company, while performing works by choreographers Francois Klaus, Natalie Weir, Nils Christie, Paul Boyd, Young Soon Hue, Timothy Harbour, Stephan Thoss and William Forsythe.

In 2010 Timothy was invited to create a work, *Nocturnal Phantasm*, for The Australian Ballet season of Bodytorque and toured to Melbourne to showcase a new work *When Cherry Blossom Falls* for AICD's Dance Creation, performed by dancers of QUT. His work *Salon* was shortlisted in the 2014 Dance Awards. Timothy holds a Master of Business at QUT and currently works in professional and cultural development as Project Coordinator at Access Arts in Queensland.



MATTHEW LAWRENCE

As a dancer, Matthew had a long and varied career. He was a principal artist in three companies; The Australian Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and Queensland Ballet. Guested with Stuttgart Ballet, World Ballet Festival (Japan) and The Royal New Zealand Ballet. He has performed the whole cannon of classical ballets, and a diverse mix of contemporary repertoire; including Jiri Kylian, William Forsythe, Twyla Tharp and Hans Van Manen.

As a teacher, he has worked with The Australian Ballet, Queensland Ballet (Mentor to the Young Artists' Program), leading training institutions and currently with QUT as an Associate Lecturer.

As a writer, he has written for the *Dancing Times*, and currently as a columnist for *Dance Australia*

As a choreographer, Matthew has created several works for Birmingham Royal Ballet and Queensland Ballet as part of their Dance Dialogues season. He has also choreographed pieces for training institutions such as Elmhurst School of Dance, Queensland Dance School of Excellence (now Queensland Ballet Academy) and QUT.



TIM PODESTA

After graduating from The Australian Ballet School, Tim danced internationally as a soloist in works by Ashton, Hynd, Balanchine, Bournonville, Cranko, Taylor, Weir along with many other choreographers and directors who inspired him to start creating his own work.

In 2006 Tim was awarded 'Best New Work' at the Australian Choreographic Competition. His works have since been performed across Australia, New Zealand, UK, USA, Africa and Asia for film, television and stage, including his Australian Dance Award nominated film *ADOR*, featuring dancers from companies including Singapore Dance Theatre, Hong Kong Ballet, Queensland Ballet, English National Ballet and Royal Ballet.

In 2015 Tim Podesta and Guest Principal Artist of the Royal Ballet, Mara Galeazzi had their first collaboration. Their partnership has now become known as M&T In Motion. M&T In Motion began as a project company focussed on creating new work and has since presented work from New York to Ethiopia, with multiple projects in development through to 2019.



NATALIE WEIR

Choreographer Natalie Weir is known internationally for her highly physical partner work, her organic movement style and her touching insight into humanity. She was appointed Artistic Director of Expressions Dance Company in 2009, fulfilling her dream to build an ensemble of dancers and contribute to the future of Australian dance.

She has created over 170 professional works in her 30 year career, including major new works for world class companies such as The Australian Ballet, Queensland Ballet, West Australian Ballet, Houston Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre, Hong Kong Ballet and American Ballet Theatre.

Natalie was resident choreographer for The Australian Ballet and Queensland Ballet. Natalie has also been the recipient of both an Australia Council fellowship and the Lord Mayor's Fellowship. Her signature works with EDC have earned ten Helpmann Award nominations.

From left: "Coppelia" 1973, training at the barre 1930s, "The Nutcracker" in rehearsal 1962, "Symphonic Variations" 1975, Phyllis Danaher taking rehearsal 1970s



PROGRAMME

1. PROLOGUE

Music: Frederick Chopin

Choreography: Timothy Brown

Muse:Clare Morehen

2. NOCTURNE FROM LES SYLPHIDES

Music: Frederick Chopin

Choreography: Mikhail Fokine

Poppi Eccleston, Sarah Kelly and Cormac McDonald, *with* Kayli Bell, Mia Claessen, Maria Doolan, Carly Hill, Samantha Gehrke, Jodie Hammermeister, Zara Ibrahim, Katelyn Jensen, Audrey Lusk, Lara McGahan, Grace Mulherin, Chloe O'Sullivan, Alyssa Park, Nia Savas, Erin Sheffield, Alisa Timofeeva

3. DRUMMER BOY FROM GRADUATION BALL

Music: Johann Strauss II

Choreography: David Lichine

Drummer Boy:Edward Cooper

4. COPPÉLIA

Music: Leo Delibes

Choreography: Timothy Brown (after Jodie White & Boris Bivona)

Swanhilda:Sarah McGahan

Friends: Maria Doolan, Zara Ibrahim, Carly Hill, Alyssa Park, Alisa Timofeeva

Villagers: Poppi Eccleston, Kayli Bell, Samantha Gehrke, Jodie Hammermeister, Audrey Lusk, Lara McGahan, Grace Mulherin, Chloe O'Sullivan, Nia Savas, Erin Sheffield

5. SOUL STORY

Music: Carl Vine

Choreography: Tim Podesta

Artist:Clare Morehen

6. BLACK SWAN GRAND PAS DE DEUX FROM SWAN LAKE ACT III

Music: Peter Tchaikovsky

Choreography: Marius Petipa

Odile:Neneka Yoshida

Siegfried:Camilo Ramos

7. DANCE ODYSSEY

Music: Oliver Davis

Choreography: Matthew Lawrence

The Romantic:Brock Fielder

The Romantics: Jessica Dick, Lucy Hood, Hannah Hughes

The Avant-Garde: Alivia Boyce, Georgia Bradford, Chloe Cartwright, Orla Christie, Alexandra Dewar, Meg Ditchfield, Sarah Edwards, Andrea Foerland, Kayla Gell, Bethany Gillard, Lauren Graham, Candice Green, Rebecca Jorgensen, Tiara Locke, Erin O'Rourke, Matilda Skelhorn, Kaylee Waddell

8. ÉTUDES

Music: Carl Czerny

Choreography: Harald Lander

Soloist:Amelia Townsend

9. DANCE OF THE MIRLITONS FROM THE NUTCRACKER

Music: Peter Tchaikovsky

Choreography: Timothy Brown

Poppi Eccleston, Sarah Kelly and Cormac McDonald, *with* Kayli Bell, Mia Claessen, Maria Doolan, Samantha Gehrke, Jodie Hammermeister, Carly Hill, Zara Ibrahim, Katelyn Jensen, Audrey Lusk, Lara McGahan, Grace Mulherin, Chloe O'Sullivan, Alyssa Park, Nia Savas, Erin Sheffield, Alisa Timofeeva

10. MOZART AIRBORNE

Music: Wolfgang Mozart

Choreography: Natalie Weir

Artists:Elise May
.....Jake McLarnon

11. ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Music: Carl Davis

Choreography: Timothy Brown (after Jodie White & Boris Bivona)

Mad Hatter:Cormac McDonald

Alice:Samantha Gehrke

Dormouse:Carly Hill

March Hare:Erin Sheffield

Cheshire Cat:Maria Doolan

12. THE SLEEPING BEAUTY GRAND PAS DE DEUX

Music: Peter Tchaikovsky

Choreography: Marius Petipa

Princess Aurora:Isabelle Dashwood

Prince Desire:Brodie James

20 MINUTE INTERVAL

Choreographers' Notes

SOUL STORY

TIM PODESTA

Soul Story focuses on the end of a life and the sense of contentment that comes when someone is ready to go on to what ever the after life brings; letting go of a life well lived, cherished memories and a final breath.

Choreographed on the wonderful talents of Clare Morehen.
Music: Sonata for Piano Four-Hands: IV. Meditation by Carl Vine.

Soul Story has been performed in United Kingdom, Africa and Australia.

DANCE ODYSSEY

MATTHEW LAWRENCE

Dance Odyssey was originally performed as part of QUT Dance's mid-year performance, *Essentially Dance '17*, held at Gardens Theatre. The excerpts I have chosen draw inspiration from Oliver Davis' playful score. You will notice that I have referenced romantically inspired works. This was used in part to propel my theme (of change) and to create a sense of irony.

However, for the purposes of today's special performance, the less said about my piece, the better. I think it is enough for you to just sit back and appreciate the eclectic talents of our QUT dancers.

I want to take this opportunity again to thank the dancers for their collaboration on my piece. And thank Denise Richardson and Timothy Brown for inviting QUT Dance to BTQ's special 80th celebrations – may the flame be carried for another 80 years - at least!

MOZART AIRBORNE

NATALIE WEIR

This piece performed by Elise May and Jake McLarnon and choreographed together with Expressions Dance Company (EDC) dancers, is an extract from EDC's upcoming collaboration with Opera Queensland, *Mozart Airborne* (5-12 August, Cremorne Theatre, QPAC). Through six EDC dancers and six OperaQ singers, Mozart's timeless 18th century music is interpreted with a 21st century approach to movement. This aria *Là ci darem la mano* is one of Mozart's most well-known tunes, from his celebrated opera, *Don Giovanni*. In the original opera scene, the lothario Don Giovanni attempts to seduce the young Zerlina. I approached this duet with a sense of play, rather than following the text directly. The dancers intertwine endlessly, almost as if they cannot escape from each other.

Mozart Airborne is co-directed with OperaQ Artistic Director Lindy Hume, and will also feature works by choreographers Lisa Wilson, Stephanie Lake, Kristina Chan and EDC dancers Elise May and Richard Causer.



Marilyn Jones with Stanton Welch, "Sylvia" rehearsals 1974

Donations

Ballet Theatre of Queensland thanks all donors for recognising the importance of its history, its role in society over 80 years as Queensland's premier youth ballet company, and its continued encouragement of the development of talented young dancers.

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Phyllis Danaher Memorial Scholarship - supported by Risk Management Intercontinental
Jodie White-Bivona Memorial Scholarship - supported by Madison Cleaning & Painting Services

ENCORE \$500 & OVER

Anonymous
Darryl Sim
Christine Spencer

FINALE \$200 & OVER

William Danaher
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ACT 2 \$100 & OVER

Ealine Bateman
Kimberley Bennett-Woodger
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Sandford Family
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ACT 1 \$50 & OVER

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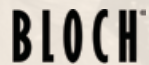
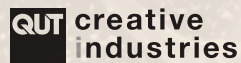
Judith Lowe & Peter Lucas in "Masquerade", 1964

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of queensland

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"The Nutcracker", 1970s

Queensland Ballet

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR LI CUNXIN

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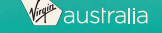
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Artists: Alexander Idaszak, Clare Morehen and Jack Lister. Creative Direction: Designfront. Photography: Harold David.



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"Swan Lake", 1953
Front cover: "Les Sylphides", 1964