

Hi there!

2007 is here with a great programme for you to enjoy. It begins with Tutus on Tour and if you do not live near one of the bigger cities, this is a chance to go to a performance near where you live. Find out where to go at www.nzballet.org.nz.



No.1, 2007

This year there are two special dancers for you to watch out for. They are Abigail Boyle and Qi (pronounced chee) Huan. These dancers are being “partnered” by the Friends of the Ballet and you will hear more about them during the year. Both Abigail and Qi will be touring in the North Island, so some of you will get to see them very soon.

The programme for Tutus on Tour includes 5 short ballets. ***Pas de Quatre*** is a romantic classical ballet in long pink tutus. ***Raymonda*** is also classical but with gorgeous gold and black short tutus. (Raymonda’s solo is entirely *en pointe*.) ***Concerto Pas de Deux*** was choreographed by Sir Kenneth MacMillan and this production features dramatic purple and lavender costumes.

If you like contemporary dance there is ***Equilibrium*** – a world premiere by New Zealander and ex RNZB dancer Cameron McMillan. And then there is ***Theme and Deviations*** choreographed by our featured dancer Andrew Simmons.

DANCER PROFILE

ANDREW SIMMONS



Photo: Stephen A'Court

Our featured dancer is Andrew Simmons. Andrew graduated from the International Ballet Academy in 2003 and plans a career in dance choreography. His career is about to take off with *Theme and Deviations* which is a very energetic 14 minute dance for four male dancers. The dancers will wear casual costumes inspired by the fashions guys might wear any summer’s day – coloured shirts and shorts. See his letter over the page.

ANDREW	INVERCARGILL
BALLERINA	KAITAIA
BALLET	PAS
BOYLE	PRIHA
CLASSICAL	QUATRE
CONTEMPORARY	RAYMONDA
DANCE	TIMARU
GREYTOWN	TOUR
HAMILTON	TUTUS
HUAN	WANGANUI

A Q U T E M R R S C E C O E I
 N U R U Y E K N L A O P D N V
 I A A T Q J A A A N P R V I S
 R T M U Q B S I T V Z E B U C
 E R I S O S A E B J R T R N H
 L E T Y I T M A T C Y W W A N
 L B L C I P V G A O P O E G S
 A E A A O Y H R R U U E R N B
 B L K R B M G M L E O R D A A
 L T A P M I V H E L Y Y N W L
 Z R A L L E C N A D A T A C L
 Y A V L H A M I L T O N O T E
 A D N O M Y A R P R I M A W T
 I N B C M R Z H U A N M F D N
 X Z Z B S B J G H G O R A G F

Hi there

I'm Andrew, as you know!

I've been with the company for 3 years and am about to set off on my second Tutus on Tour journey. Every two years it is time for the company to gear up, split in half and trek throughout New Zealand for Tutus on Tour. At the ballet company we affectionately call it "Smalls Tour" as we perform in dozens of smaller venues compared to our regular seasons. Being from the South Island I am really excited about travelling north this year and getting to enjoy parts of the country I haven't visited yet (and hopefully some warmer weather – fingers crossed!).

The Smalls Tour rehearsal time is very busy as we have to learn and perfect 5 very different works! Some are very classical and some new contemporary works too. I have been lucky enough to have been asked to choreograph a piece for the company this tour. It is called *Theme and Deviations*, and is a blend of ballet and contemporary dance – giving the dancers the best of both worlds!

And not only the dancers appreciate the change of styles on this tour. It is the perfect package for audiences too. Something for every taste. Hopefully you all can't wait to come along to see us. If not on Tutus on Tour, then *Swan Lake* or our brand new *Cinderella*.

Anyways, better be off, another busy day ahead! Keep working hard, loving what you do and believing in yourselves, but most of all having fun!

Take care,

Andrew Simmons



Photo: Maarten Holl

Angelina Ballerina's Pop-up Dancing School

By Katharine Holabird and Helen Craig
 Published by Penguin Group. RRP \$40.00

This is an amazing pop-up, press-out and play world with three dimensional scenes and dancers to perform your own ballet. Angelina, Alice, and Henry, with Miss Lilly are invited to stay at the Royal Ballet School. They meet other dancers, rehearse, and perform a special ballet, Fairy Fantasia.

The book opens up into three carousels – the school with bedrooms, the rehearsal room, and a grand stage ready for the performance. There are play characters to press out, wheels to turn, flaps to lift and doors to open – hours of fun for all. This is a most attractive book and would make a wonderful gift for an Angelina fan, and the rest of the family would enjoy the paper engineering.

