

OLIVIER PATEY BIOGRAPHY

Olivier Patey entered the "Dance School" of the Paris National Opera in 1966, where he studied with such teachers as Raymond Franchetti, Gilbert Mayer and Alexandre Kalioujny. In 1972, he took classes at the Royal Ballet School (London) with Richard Glasstone, Walter Trevor, Terry Westmoreland, Brian Shaw. In 1973, at the age of 16, he joined the Paris National Opera Ballet, where he was immediately cast for soloist parts by such choreographers as Alicia Alonso, George Balanchine, Youri Grigorovitch, Jérôme Robbins, Pierre Lacotte. **Roland Petit choreographed the role of Georges Hugon for Olivier in his Ballet Nana (1976)** created for Karen Kain.

In the following years he performed numerous title roles both in the repertoire (*Sylvia, La Sylphide, Vaslaw, Le Songe d'une nuit d'été, Etudes, Don Quichotte, Roméo et Juliette*) and new productions by Alvin Nikolaïš, John Neumeier, Heinz Spöerli and Karole Armitage. In 1983 he was promoted to **Premier Danseur (First Dancer)**. **Rudolf Noureev**, later the Artistic Director of the **National Opera of Paris**, gave him the parts of Franz in *Coppélia* and of the Young Man in « *Les Mirages* » by **Serge Lifar**. He danced "The man she loves" in the Paris Opera's Premiere of *Jardin aux lilas* by Antony Tudor.

At the **Paris Opera**, he danced with ballerinas Dominique Khalfouni, Wilfride Piollet, Ghislaine Thesmar, Elisabeth Platel, Sylvie Guillem, Monique Loudières, Elisabeth Maurin, Marie-Claude Pietragalla, Isabelle Guérin and Yannick Stéphant.

In 1981, in the Paris Opéra-Comique, **Olivier Patey** presented his first choreography, which he created for **Marie-Claude Pietragalla**. In the following years several of his ballets were included in the repertoire of ballet companies worldwide (Ballet Nacional de Cuba, Bucharest National Opera, Korean National Ballet.).

Invited to perform in **India** by the « *National Center of Performing Arts* » and the *Alliance Française* at the **Tata Theatre** in Mumbai and at the « **Sri Aurobindo Auditorium** » in **Auroville**, he presented a choreography, "*The Girl of Sixteen*" on a music composed specially for him by his very dear friend french composer **Igor Wakhevitch**, well known in the world of dance for his many works with **Carolyn Carlson, Rina Schenfeld**, etc. This choreography of Patey was a transposition of the **Ten Avatars of Lord Vishnu (Dashavatara)** and presented under the form of a duo performed by **Elisabeth Platel**, Prima Ballerina of the "*Paris National Opera Ballet*" and Olivier Patey himself. **Sri J.R.D. Tata** in person attended the « grand premiere » at the « **Tata Theatre** » in Mumbai.

Since 1983, **Olivier Patey** has organised ballet tours with dancers of the Paris Opera (Madagascar, India, Nigeria, Japan, South America, Spain, etc.). In 1988, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the A.F.A.A (*Association Française d'Action Artistique*) invited Olivier to produce intercultural missions by organising ballet tours and to work as a guest choreographer abroad (Syria, Paraguay, Cuba, Indonésia, Chile, Mexico, Argentina, Ukraine, Romania, Russia etc.). In 1995, he started to collaborate with concert companies as a producer, tour-manager and European representative. Among those are *Rial & Eshelman Artes Escenicos* (Madrid), *Konzertdirektion Landgraf* (RFA), *Konzertdirektion Schlöte* (Salzburg), *Norddeutsche Konzertdirektion* (Bremerhaven – RFA), *Palast Management* (Berlin) and *Sherwood Prod.* (Paris).

In 1997, after working with choreographers **Lucinda Childs, Dominique Bagouet**, Mark Morris and Daniel Larrieu, he decided to leave the Paris Opera and to begin an international freelance career. He obtained the following year the licence as an artistic agent from the French Ministry of Labour.

In 2000 he became deputy director and chief ballet-master at the Staatstheater Braunschweig and started teaching intensively, which resulted in his work with German ballet companies in Rostock, Düsseldorf, Leipzig, Dresden and Chemnitz. From 2002 to 2010, he was invited as a guest teacher at the Compañia Nacional de Danza de Mexico, the Korean National University of Arts in Seoul, the Kiev National Opera, the National Ballet of Korea, the Russian National Ballet School in Perm, the the National Ballet in Bucharest and the National Ballet in Belgrade. For the National Romanian Ballet in Bucharest he created two ballets in 2004: *Calatori in Infern* and *Patetica* . More recently he has been

comissioned by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to collaborate with the ballet companies in Novosibirsk and Ufa (Russia), Tbilisi (Georgia), Dalian (China), Ljubljana (Slovenia), Astana (Kazhakstan), Istanbul (Turkey), Skopje (Macedonia) as well as guest teaching the Scottish Ballet, the Béjart Ballet in Lausanne and the Teatr Wielki in Warsaw.

Recently he has cooperated on organising and promoting the “Video Live Translations” of the **Bolshoi Ballet (Moscow)** for the French media company PATHÉ-LIVE (Cinémas Gaumont-Pathé).

Olivier Patey is a member of the SACD in Paris (Société des Auteurs et Compositeurs Dramatiques), Member of the International Dance Council (CID-UNESCO), General representative of the **Serge Lifar Festival and Competition** (Kiev) in the European Union. He is also a regular jury member in several international ballet and choreography competitions (Paris, Rome, Osaka, Kiev, Budapest, Sochi, Lodz, Istambul). In 1996 he was made **Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters** by the French Government.

In August 2013 he joined Royal Ballet of Flanders as Ballet Master.