



Ballet at Crossroads - International Seminar on Ballet Pedagogy  
Theatre Academy Helsinki, Finland  
23.-25.10.2009

This seminar aims at enhancing communication between the different traditions of ballet and creating a space for international exchange between ballet educators, researchers and artists. It also aims at developing the quality of ballet pedagogy and professional education of ballet teachers, dancers and choreographers. Experts from France, Russia, Canada, USA and Finland will share their views on the tradition, excellence in education and new directions to develop ballet education and give it academic credibility as well as artistic excellence. The Department of Dance and Theatre Pedagogy of the Theatre Academy Helsinki is arranging the seminar in co-operation with The Association of Ballet Pedagogues.

## PROGRAMME

### Friday

- 11:30 – 12:30                    ***Registration and coffee***
- 12:30 – 13:00                    ***Opening of the seminar***  
Professor Doris Laine  
Performance by The Finnish National Opera Ballet School students
- 13:00 - 15:00                    ***Keynote: Developments in ballet pedagogy - European perspectives***  
Elisabeth Platel, Paris Opera Ballet School  
Petr Silkin, The Vaganova Ballet Academy, St. Petersburg
- 15:15 – 16:00                    ***Panel: Ballet pedagogy in Finland today***  
Arja Tervo, Finnish National Opera Ballet School  
Maija Hänninen, The Finnish Ballet Pedagogues' Association  
Kaija Kontunen, Sonja Tammela Dance Institute
- 16:15 – 17:15                    ***Performance: Future ballet teachers as artists***  
*Me and you – here at the moment*  
Choreography Pauliina Pesonen, Dancers Laura Poikolainen  
and Karoliina Lumikko, Savonia University of Applied Sciences  
*TSU*  
Choreography Paula Salosaari and students from Oulu University of  
Applied Sciences

## Saturday

- 9:00 – 10:15 **Workshop: Holistic approach in ballet pedagogy**  
Heli Kauppila, Theatre Academy Helsinki
- 10:30 – 11:45 **Keynote: Ballet pedagogy meets higher education**  
Susan Koff, New York University/American Ballet Theatre School
- 12:00 - 13:15 **Panel: Finnish ballet at crossroads**  
Kirsi Aromaa, Maija Hänninen, Doris Laine, Minna Tervamäki and Arja Tervo, former and current dancers of The Finnish National Ballet
- 13:15 – 14:15 **Lunch**
- 14:15 – 15:30 **Workshop: Letting balance take care of itself**  
**Lecture: Neuromuscular and neurophysiological connections to core muscles, source of dance technique and artistic expression**  
Anne-Mari Autere, University of Nice, Sophia Antipolis, France
- 15:30 – 17:30 **Lecture demonstrations: Ballet pedagogy as a developing field of academic study in Finland**  
*Introduction*, Eeva Anttila, Theatre Academy Helsinki  
*The challenge of combining skill-training and personal growth in a ballet class*, Heli Kauppila, Theatre Academy Helsinki  
*Practical tools to creation in ballet*, Paula Salosaari, Savonia University of Applied Sciences
- 17:30 – 19:00 Reception with performances by young ballet dancers/students

## Sunday

- 9:00 - 10:15 **Workshop: Pushing off from gravity**  
Anne-Mari Autere, University of Nice, Sophia Antipolis, France
- 10:30 – 11: 45 **Keynote: Evolution versus Revolution**  
Mavis Staines, Canada's National Ballet School, Toronto
- 12:00 – 13:00 **Panel: Towards a global dialogue**  
Petr Silkin, The Vaganova Ballet Academy, St. Petersburg  
Susan Koff, New York University/American Ballet Theatre School  
Mavis Staines, Canada's National Ballet School, Toronto  
Sampo Kivelä, The Finnish National Ballet
- 13:00 – 14:00 **Closing of the seminar**  
Paula Tuovinen, Rector of the Theatre Academy Helsinki  
Performances by young students from Helsinki Dance Institute

### **Information, registration and inquiries:**

[www.teak.fi/balletatcrossroads](http://www.teak.fi/balletatcrossroads)

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