

FELD BALLET TECH

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Sir Isaac's Apples

The world premiere of Eliot Feld's ballet "Sir Isaac's Apples", set to Steve Reich's Drumming (1971), marked an exciting beginning to the Juilliard Centennial Celebration on September 28th at the Peter Jay Sharp Theater. The cast featured the entire Juilliard Dance Department, with live music performed by the Juilliard Percussion Ensemble. The ballet was set on a large scale ramp which occupied the entire stage. In a *New York Times* review, John Rockwell described "Sir Isaac's Apples" as "very special for its ambition and epic scale and, finally, artistic accomplishment." He describes the choreography itself as "stunning and terrifying: the kind of visionary spectacle that only the art of dance can provide."

The Queen of Buganda Visits Ballet Tech

The Ballet Tech School welcomed the Queen of Buganda, Sylvia Nagginda Luswata, on September 15. Her Royal Highness has an active interest in promoting ballet studies in Buganda, and was interested in witnessing the activities of Ballet Tech first hand. She recently started a school in Buganda called The Kampala Ballet & Modern Dance School, A Royal Ballet Academy. During her visit, she observed ballet classes, and discussed the curriculum and philosophy of the school with Ballet Tech's Director of Faculty and Director of Operations. She hopes to incorporate this into her own school in Buganda. Also discussed was the possibility of a future exchange between the two ballet schools. The visit, which coincided with the United Nations Summit, proved to be a cultural learning experience for both schools.



First Row: Christine Sarry, Her Royal Highness Sylvia Nagginda Luswata, Associates of the Queen. Second Row: John Treadwell, Associate of the Queen, and Maggie Christ

Fall Open House

Ballet Tech welcomed guests to our Fall Open House event on September 29th. Friends of Ballet Tech enjoyed open ballet classes of students in grades 4- 12. After the classes, guests were invited to enjoy a reception catered by Fifth Avenue Epicure and Le Pain Quotidien. The open classes were an exciting start to the school year.

Beginner Program

Each January beginner ballet students are bused from public schools across the city to Ballet Tech, where they will have their first experiences with ballet. This year, 1,034 public school students are invited to enroll in the school-time release beginner program, which is scheduled to begin on January 18th, 2006. Throughout the spring and fall, the Ballet Tech staff held auditions in public schools citywide, auditioning about 25,000 children in total for the program. Students enrolled in the beginner program will attend weekly morning ballet classes, where they will learn the fundamentals of ballet.

Featured Ballet Tech Alumnus

Sean Scantlebury, a native of Barbados, graduated from Ballet Tech's New York City Public School for Dance in 2000. Upon graduation, he went on to a professional dance career, joining Eliot Feld's Ballet Tech company. Mr. Scantlebury has since joined Battery Dance Company, with which he has performed and taught in New York, Poland, Morocco, Tunisia, Israel, Jordan, Vietnam, Malaysia and Australia. He is also Battery Dance Company's teaching artist at P.S. 257 in Brooklyn. While Battery Dance Company is his home dance troupe, Mr. Scantlebury is also currently performing with Dance Anonymous, Westchester Ballet and John Passafiume Dancers. In addition to dance, Sean has been studying martial arts for four years, and will be going for his black belt in January.

Upcoming Events:

MANDANCE PROJECT 2006

Ballet Tech's 2006 spring season, *MANDANCE PROJECT*, will run for two weeks from May 31 – June 11, at the Joyce Theater in New York City. The season will include 11 performances by the professional dancers, and 2 Saturday matinee Kids Dance performances. The repertoire includes both premieres and revivals, all choreographed by Eliot Feld.

2005-2006 Open Auditions:

Ballet Tech's remaining open auditions will be held at noon on the following dates: February 4, 2006; March 4, 2006; May 6, 2006; and June 17, 2006. The auditions will be held at Ballet Tech: 890 Broadway, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10003. To register for an open audition, or for more information, please call (212) 777-7710, or visit <http://www.ballettech.org/auditiondates.html>.



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