FROM: **AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE**
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ANDRÉ LEVASSEUR

André Levasseur was born in Paris in 1927. He first studied design at the École de la Haute Couture Parisienne, and began his career as a fashion designer, working for Christian Dior for several years. During this period, he designed his first work for the theatre, John Taras's *Piege de Lumiere*.

Following this came other works for the theatre: Hector Berlioz's *Romeo et Juliette* for the Marquis de Cuevas, given in the courtyard of the Louvre, *Pas de Trois* for the Paris Opera, costumes for Serge Lifar's *Les Noces Fantastiques*, *Homage to a Princess* for London Festival Ballet, *Comme les Dieux* for the Theatre de l'Oeuvre in Paris, and *Fanfare Pour le Prince* for the Prince Rainier-Grace Kelly wedding. For five seasons he designed a number of costumes for the cabaret in Monte Carlo.

Levasseur's works for The Royal Ballet have been the Frederick Ashton ballets *La Peri* (in collaboration with Ivor Hitchens) in February 1956, which he redesigned in August 1957, *Birthday Offering* in May 1956, and *La Valse* in March 1959. His last work for The Royal Ballet was another Ashton work in May 1962, the *Raymonda Pas de Deux*, danced by Svetlana Beriosova and Donald Macleary.

Levasseur died on January 31, 2006, in Nanterre, Hauts-de-Seine, France.

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