

TIMING: 46:00

ÉTUDES

Ballet and Choreography by Harald Lander

Music by Carl Czerny

Adapted and Orchestrated by Knudåge Riisager

Staged by Thomas Lund

Artistic Advisor: Lise Lander

Lighting Design by Nananne Porcher **after** Harald Lander

Études may perhaps be considered as a pictorial representation of the work which must be accomplished by dancers throughout the long and difficult climb which brings them to the top where they arrive at the fullness of their art and technique. It illustrates the complete development of classical ballet from the basic five positions to that pure virtuosity which is related to romanticism.

Choreographed by Harald Lander to the music of Carl Czerny arranged by Knudåge Riisager, *Études* was created in 1948 at the Royal Opera House in Copenhagen for the Royal Danish Ballet. In 1952 it was staged for the Paris Opera and has since remained in the repertoire of the Paris Opera Ballet. During official tours of the company, *Études* has been performed at the opening performances in Moscow, London, and Brussels. It has also been presented at numerous galas, including the London Festival Ballet's performance at Monte Carlo in honor of the wedding of Grace Kelly to Prince Ranier of Monaco. The American Ballet Theatre production was first presented at the 54th Street Theatre on October 5, 1961 with the cast headed by Toni Lander, Royes Fernandez, and Bruce Marks.

“Études means so much to me, because this ballet is an expression of myself, and of my thoughts on dance. Dancing is not just delivering some steps to the audience. The purpose of ballet is, increasingly so, to combine spirit, dance, and music!”

– Harald Lander