

My Favorite Petipa

Ballet is...

Luigi Crispino

Naples, Italy
Corps de Ballet



Swan Lake

"It's so grand, romantic and dramatic. You can read how much passion and love the dancers put through the steps that Petipa choreographed."

Photo by Luigi Bilancio

Jose Sebastian

New York, NY
Corps de Ballet



La Bayadère

"I like the story and the period it is set in. Mostly, I love the music...from the beginning of Nikiya's first solo until the end of the ballet...it's all just so beautiful."

Photo by Renata Pavan

Courtney Lavine

Fairfax, Virginia
Corps de Ballet



Swan Lake

"The storyline of *Swan Lake* is so dramatic...and I love the drama! The music from the second act is perhaps the most beautiful in ballet. I could listen to the pas de deux music over and over."

Photo by Rachel Neville

Tyler Maloney

Wyckoff, NJ
Corps de Ballet



The Sleeping Beauty

"I like how it's a real fairy tale, it's mystical and elegant. I love the range of characters from Carabosse to the Bluebird. This is also one of few ballets that has everyone on stage for most of the ballet, so you feel a real sense of community on stage!"

Photo by Hanna Bass

Sarah Lane

San Francisco, CA
Principal Dancer



Giselle

"It's a beautiful story of forgiveness. I love it because it is a dramatic ballet. For *Giselle*, Act I is dramatic theatrically and through her movement, while Act II is dramatic lyrically and through her facial expressions."

Photo by Owen Bruce

James Whiteside

Fairfield, CT
Principal Dancer



Giselle

"Albrecht is the most involved role for a male principal dancer. I find the story and characters depth-wise to be the most interesting...there's such a wide range of emotions and the virtuosic steps are so iconic to that ballet. And who doesn't love a spooky ghost story!"

Photo by Rosalie O'Connor

Stella Abrera

South Pasadena, CA
Principal Dancer



La Bayadère

"I love the depth of the characters. The ballet touches on all of the universal themes: love, betrayal, envy, power and nobility. The dances are classical, but also have some non-traditional classical movement that can be so much fun to perform. I love portraying Gamzatti...she is so powerful and menacing!"

Photo by Jade Young

Catherine Hurlin

New York, NY
Soloist



Don Quixote

"It's super fun and fierce!"

Photo by Jade Young