

OLIVER PARDINA

FULL BIOGRAPHY

A native of France, Olivier Pardina was born to be a dancer. Raised in a very artistic family, he is exposed to the world of dance and classical music at a very young age. His father was a renowned Ballet Teacher, Choreographer, and Artistic Director and his mother, a celebrated Opera Singer.

At age 10, inspired by his father, he begins his training under his watchful eyes before moving to Paris to continue his studies with the Master Teachers of the Paris Opera.

At age sixteen, after replacing in the nick of time an injured Principal Dancer at an International Dance Gala, he is promoted to Principal Dancer with the Nice Opera House (France). At age 20, he wins the first prize in a National Ballet Competition organized by the French television and he is offered a contract by celebrated choreographer Maurice Bejart.

Between the ages of sixteen and thirty two, Pardina performs as Principal Dancer with various prominent European Ballet Companies and tours extensively as a guest artist and as ambassador of the French culture abroad.

During his years as Principal, Pardina performs around the world the leading roles of the Grand Ballets of the repertory as well as contemporary pieces. He is chosen by renowned choreographers to perform their work; amongst so many others: Birgit Cullberg in the Ballet "Miss Julie" alternating with Rudolf Nuryev's and Hans Van Manen in the Ballets "Songs without words", "Five Tangos" and "Septet Extra"...

During a tribute to French choreographers, he is chosen by Serge Lifar to perform his production of "Suite en Blanc" and by Marcia Haydee to perform a filmed production of Serge Lifar's "Phedra".

Invited by the RAI, the Italian TV channel, he performs in a film production of "Romeo and Juliet" with the Roma Opera House and he is selected by Moses Pendleton, creator of the Momix and Pilobolus Dance companies to perform his world premier creation of the role "Pulcinella".

During the final years of his stage career while performing with the Nancy Opera House, Rudolf Nuryev's chooses him as his understudy and he takes over several of his roles. Pardina receives a standing ovation after replacing him at the Coven Garden in London in the role of "Petrouchka" during a tour of the show "Homage a Diaghilev".

As a recipient of the teaching degree awarded by the French government, he is called upon by Rosella Hightower to evaluate the level of the National Conservatory of Dance and he is later appointed as Artistic director and Principal Teacher of the school of the Nice Opera Ballet.

In 1991 after years of performing on stage, Pardina moves to Florida and dedicates his full time to nurturing the next generation of dancers where he was a teacher with the Harid Conservatory for many years. His students have won major prizes at national and international Dance competitions and many of his students are now Principal Dancers with renowned Ballet Companies in the United States and overseas.

Mr. Pardina is still very active as a jury member and as a guest teacher for national and international Ballet competitions notably for the New York City's finals of the Youth America Grand Prix. Amongst his many guest appearances he taught at the Rock School in Philadelphia, the Orlando Ballet School, the San Francisco Ballet School ..., and he was invited by the American Ballet Theatre, the Teatro de Rio de Janeiro and the Cordoba Ballet Company (Argentina) to teach the company dancers.

In 2013, Olivier Pardina was appointed Principal Teacher of the Pre-Professional division of the Miami City Ballet School