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## AJKUN BALLET THEATRE IN AUSTRALIA

The New York City Ballet Company Scouts Talented Dancers in Australia



(New York) September 4, 2017 – Ajkun Ballet Theatre has toured Australia since 2002, with a variety of offerings ranging from performances, workshops and funding for dancers and dance students who are interested in what the United States offers for dance and ballet.

Offering employment and educational opportunities to dancers, Ajkun Ballet Theatre's multicultural roster features Australian professional dancers looking to broaden their performance

opportunities overseas. Our Full-Time <u>Trainee</u> Program, the highly competitive July & August program, <u>Performing in New York</u>, and the January Dance Celebration, <u>New York Winter Festival</u>, have customarily seen a significant participation of well-trained Australian dancers.

This year's tour is led by Australian native Emily Williams, who participated in master classes as a promising, young dance student with AjkunBT principal dancer <a href="Brittany Larrimer">Brittany Larrimer</a> at her home studio in Canberra. Emily credits the <a href="Ajkun Methodology">Ajkun Methodology</a> for her tremendous technical advancements since joining Ajkun Ballet Theatre; "The Ajkun Methodology has changed my technique for the better. It has made me focus on my weaker areas whilst giving me the tools to improve them. I am now more flexible than I have ever been during my dance career and have to strength to achieve steps I never thought I would be able to. The Ajkun Methodology has allowed me to explore my technique and pushes me to my limits so I can improve and grow to become best dancer I can be."





Ms. Williams is thrilled to be undertaking the responsibility of representing her New York City company in her home country and providing direct opportunities to funding, contracts and admission to AjkunBT's variety of educational programs to Australian dancers.

## **AUDITION** in **SYDNEY** at 1:00pm on **Friday**, **September 29**, **2017** at Village Nation Performing Arts.

## About Ajkun Ballet Theatre in Australia

In 2001, the first representation of graduates from the Australian Ballet School attended Performing in New York, Ajkun Ballet Theatre's intensive program. The success of this first venture led to the invitation of <a href="Dr. Chiara Ajkun">Dr. Chiara Ajkun</a> to teach in Professional Ballet Schools and Companies throughout Australia in 2002. The same year, the <a href="AjkunBT Fund">AjkunBT Fund</a> received the first contributions from private and government organizations in Australia, aimed to facilitate participation from downunder to the various programs of the Ajkun Ballet Theatre. Since, pre-professional and professional dancers from virtually all qualifying Dance Institutions in Australia have attended Performing in New York, benefiting from the enhanced training and exposure to AjkunBT's Partners in Dance, a network of over 150 dance companies, worldwide, that employ dancers from the Ajkun Ballet Theatre's roster and programs. From 2004, the Ajkun Ballet Theatre has brought its Company Artists to perform the Company's trademark repertoire throughout Australia. Since 2008 Australian Dance Students have been offered the opportunity to attend the Dance in Italy Festival, to reconcile their heritage with the opportunity to meet AjkunBT overseas. Australian Dancers have also attended the New York Winter Festival – held annually in January – a celebration of dance through workshops and performances and a suitable introduction to the Big Apple for very young dancers.

Audition details are published at www.ajkunbt.org | AUDITIONS

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT AJKUNBT ON:













