

JAMES TAYLOR

Born in London, James is a graduate of the prestigious Royal Ballet School in London. His professional dancing career includes working for: The Royal Ballet in Covent Garden, where he performed for Queen Elizabeth on her 60th Birthday, The National Ballet of Portugal Lisbon, The National Ballet of Canada Toronto and Sydney Dance Company. He has worked with many world-renowned choreographers including Sir Frederick Ashton, Sir Kenneth MacMillan, Rudolf Nureyev, Jiri Kilyan, William Forsythe, Glen Tetley, David Parsons and Graeme Murphy. He has also performed with many international ballet stars including, Rudolf Nureyev, Sir Anthony Dowell, Silvie Guillem, Mikhail Barishnikov, Fernando Bujones, Gelsie Kirkland, Karen Kain, Alessandra Ferri, John Meehan, Margaret Illman, Rex Harrington, Leanne Benjamin and Viviana Durante.

As a choreographer he has worked with Sydney Dance Company and West Australian Ballet. In 2001 James was a founding member, resident choreographer and assistant artistic director of The Bondi Ballet.

James has also been a dance evaluator for Cirque Du Soleil in Sydney. He has twice been invited to adjudicate The Sydney Eisteddfod Ballet Scholarship at the Sydney Opera House, as well as working for the RAD in NSW and Jakarta.

He currently teaches regularly at Sydney Dance Company, Academy Ballet and The North Shore Dance Academy, as well as being a sought after freelance teacher, choreographer and adjudicator both in Australia and overseas.

Commercial works

In 1996 James was a finalist at the Sir Robert Helpman Choreographic Awards and formed his own business, Smeg Productions, producing dance based entertainment for corporate clients, including DKNY, BMW, Porche, ABN Amro, The Attorney General, MTV, Johnny Walker Classic, 2day FM , Channel [V], Coca Cola and Opera Australia.

In 2016 James was the Festival Director for Short + Sweet Cabaret Sydney

He has worked extensively with James Karp, owner of the Magician's Cabaret for over 17 years as Choreographer and Director for La Fortuna, La Lumiere, The Chamber of Secrets and Las Vegas Confidential the Musical.

James has choreographed musical productions of West Side Story, Cabaret, Sweet Charity, Grease, Peter Pan, The Producers and D'rags to Riches as well as numerous full-scale production shows at most of Sydney's infamous dance parties and nightclubs.

James also works extensively with Slide Lounge in Sydney where he is the Choreographer for 'El Circo', and Director/Choreographer of 'El Circo Rouge', 'El Circo Blanc' and the award winning 'Vampire Stoies' and 'Risque Revue'.

His own cabaret creation 'Voyeur' become one of Slide's resident shows.

He also had a sell out season of 'Bordello Blues' at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and 'The Lady of Shangahi' at the Sydney Fringe Festival with Nikki Nouveau.

James is the founder of the Aussie Pole Boys, a male pole dancing group, who won the inaugural Australian National Pole Dancing Championships in 2009.

Other credits include Underbelly 111 The Golden Mile for Australian Channel 10.