

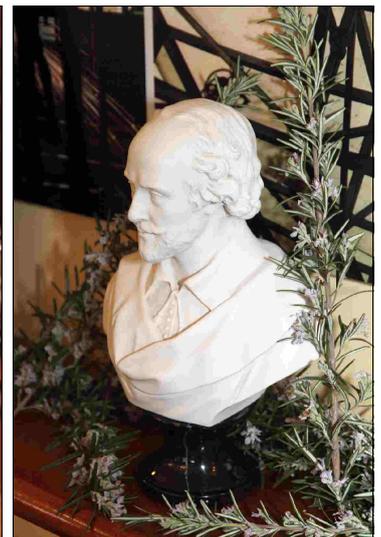


## Out and About with the Vic-Wells

This year the Vic-Wells Association has been 'out and about' to a wide variety of venues and events. The annual Shakespeare's Birthday Party at the Old Vic is still being talked about. There was great disappointment that the visit to the Rose Theatre had to be postponed but the Sutton House outing was a great success.



Sutton House - Photo: NTPL Geoffrey Frost



"At the Old Vic!"

The house takes its name from the Founder of Charterhouse School (1611), Sir Thomas Sutton. Over the years it has survived under a collection of different names and is the oldest domestic building in East London. Members were able to enjoy the results of the £2,000,000 restoration programme carried out in the 1980's. The historical importance of Sutton House (built in 1535) was obvious to all as guide Richard Moss led Vic-Wells members through a room by room guided tour of the building.



Tamara Karsavina in "The Firebird" Ballet

Lots more outings are being planned – including a talk and visit to the highly popular Diaghilev Exhibition at the V&A. Not to be missed! Diaghilev's extraordinary company, which survived a twenty-year roller-coaster of phenomenal successes and crippling problems, revolutionised ballet. As importantly, Diaghilev's use of avant-garde composers, such as Stravinsky and designers such as Bakst, Goncharova, Picasso and Matisse, made a major contribution to the introduction of Modernism. Watch this space for more information.

If you have any comments about past events or suggestions for future outings, do let us know. Tim Rooke (020 8352 0492)

Our visit to the **V&A's Diaghilev Exhibition** will commence with a talk at **11am on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> October**, for full details please get in touch with our Chairman, **James Ranger**. His contact number is on the back page of this issue.

# NEWS from The Old Vic

## Kevin Spacey to play Richard III



Kevin Spacey as Richard II

Artistic Director of the Old Vic, Kevin Spacey, will star in the title role of *Richard III* for the final season of The Bridge Project. Following two critically acclaimed years, The Bridge Project will again be directed by Academy Award-winner Sam Mendes. The Bridge Project is a unique three year series of co-productions by The Old Vic, BAM and Neal Street, devoted to producing large-scale, classical theatre for international audiences.

Commenting on the 2012 season, Sam Mendes said, "I'm delighted to be working with Kevin again for the first time since *American Beauty*, and I am doubly thrilled that he will be leading year three of The Bridge Project.

*Richard III* is a play I love, and a role I think Kevin is born to play. I'm also thrilled that the partnership between the three entities has strengthened and blossomed over the course of this venture".

*"This is a role Kevin was born to play!"*

Kevin Spacey commented, "Sam Mendes is one of the finest Directors I have had the pleasure to work with and to gain this opportunity is beyond my wildest hopes. I love Sam's perspective on a role, carving and shaping the actor. With such a remarkable character before me this one's going to be a memorable experience".

Natasha Harris, Deputy Director of Development at The Old Vic said, "We've all been longing to see Kevin in another Shakespearean role since the triumph of his *Richard II* in 2005 when Trevor Nunn directed him. To see how he tackles this huge and challenging Machiavellian role in Shakespeare's epic tragedy, we think, will be the theatregoers' must see of 2012".

*Richard III* is one of the best known and popular of Shakespeare's plays and great actors of every generation have been drawn to the part of the hunchback Duke of Gloucester who became Richard III. Edmund Kean was Richard in 1831 at The Old Vic. Olivier played him onstage with The Old Vic Theatre Company at the New Theatre in the late forties and then immortalised him in the famous 1955 film. Richard Eyre, who will direct *A Flea in Her Ear* for The Old Vic later this season, directed Ian McKellen as Richard at the National Theatre, set in a fictionalised fascist 1930's Britain. And Al Pacino directed a filmed documentary, *Looking for Richard*, in 1996 in which Kevin Spacey also appeared.



Edmund Kean as Richard III

# NEWS from Sadler's Wells

## Ballet's very-grandes dames are back!



Trocks backstage

Founded in 1974 by a group of ballet enthusiasts, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo first struck a chord with their inspired blend of parody that pays a playful homage to the formal world of classical ballet, with all the parts played by men. Thirty six years and over 500 cities later, The Trocks have become an international phenomenon. Under the artistic direction of Tory Dobrin, the company has garnered huge popularity with fan clubs as far afield as Japan, and regular tours across the world. They have

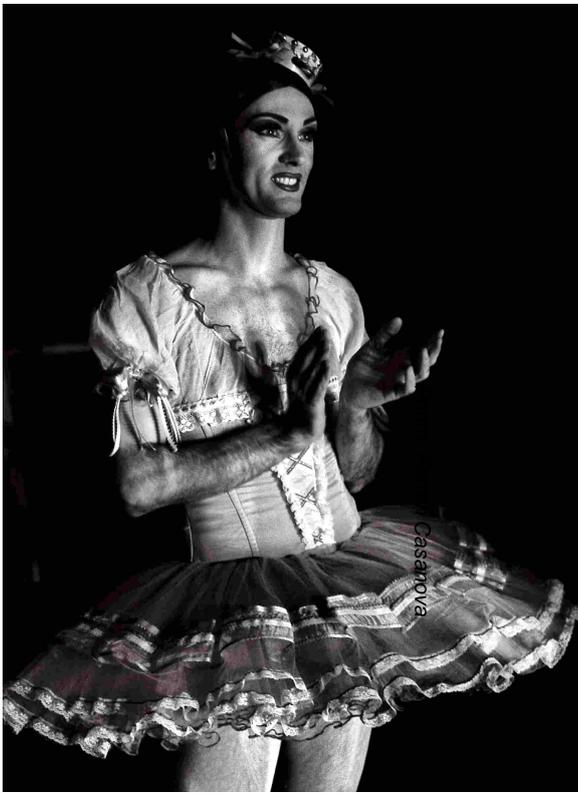
been the subject of many television shows including a *South Bank Show* documentary and an appearance on the Royal Variety Performance in 2008. The performers appearing at the Peacock Theatre include Chinese dancer Long Zou, who graduated from London's Central School of Ballet in 2009 before promptly joining The Trocks. Like all of the performers in the company, Zou has two unique on-stage aliases according to whether he is dancing 'male' or 'female' roles; Zou's female persona is Nina Enimenimynimova, whose frail spiritual qualities see her described as, "a lemon soufflé poised delicately on the brink of total collapse".

*"The Trocks take on Act Two of Swan Lake to hilarious effect"*

As part of Programme One, *Patterns in Space* sees The Trocks pay tribute to the late Merce Cunningham, one of the giants of contemporary choreography, with a "post modern dance movement essay" featuring live music after John Cage. Programme One also features a pas de six from *La Vivandiere*, inspired by Arthur Saint Leon's choreography and set in a small Hungarian village. *Raymonda's Wedding* adds to the programme, described as, "a traditionally confusing divertissement in two scenes", and based on the ballet that has baffled audiences since its



Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo



premiere at the Mariinsky in 1898. *ChopEniana* completes Programme One, which is a renamed *Les Sylphides* set to Chopin's dreamlike score.

The two works in Programme Two presented in London for the first time are *Harlequinade* and *Valpurgeyeva Noch*. Petipa's rollicking ballet *Harlequinade* portrays the commedia dell'arte with antics, magic, transformations, and romance, and is taken on by The Trocks in a pas d'action. *Valpurgeyeva Noch* sees The Trocks present their version of the Bolshoi Ballet's work and is set to the Faust opera music that has been used by many noted choreographers. Each performance of Programme Two features a Pas de Deux that is announced on the night, with possibilities including extracts from *Sleeping Beauty* and *Le Corsaire*. Programme Two is completed by The Trocks' signature piece, an extract from Act Two of *Swan Lake*, which sees the Trocks take on the all time favourite love story to hilarious effect, set to Tchaikovsky's score.

In preparation for the London season *The Times* sent journalist Tim Teeman to New York to experience a Trockaderan make-over. Describing what it was like to wear a tutu (sparkly orange, beaded and corseted) he said it felt, " *bloody marvellous!*" adding, " The prospect of returning to civvies seems a drudge. That is the *magic* of the Trocks."

The Trocks will perform at the Peacock Theatre from 14 – 25 September.

Lisa-Marie Bowler

### Attendance at BRB rehearsals at Sadler's Wells

Vic-Wells Chairman, James Ranger, comments, "As a result of Richard's Reavill's article in the last edition of the *Broadsheet* and my subsequent letter, the Chairman of Birmingham Royal Ballet, Professor Michael G Clarke CBE DL, wrote to me as follows:

*Dear Mr Ranger*

*I have had the opportunity to read the material which you sent me (for which I am grateful) and to talk to BRB colleagues. Having done that and thought carefully about the points you have raised I am afraid I have nothing new to add. I hope you will be at one of our performances at Sadler's Wells in the autumn and that we may have a chance of meeting then.*

*With best wishes, Michael".*

### Bristol Old Vic

The £19.3million redevelopment of The Old Vic is well underway - a project that will see the Theatre Royal and surrounding buildings transformed into a flexible complex with up to ten performance areas described as "free-form and multi-purpose". Builders are presently rediscovering aspects of the original Georgian theatre which dates back to 1766.

However, Artistic Director Tom Morris has pointed out that the architects are not attempting an "absolutely authentic restoration" but refurbishing the theatre in a way that "allows it to sing in its own voice".

To date, £10.5million has been raised with £6.1million coming from the Arts Council England, £1 million from Bristol City Council and £3.4 million from trusts, foundations and private donations.

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual Members of the Vic-Wells Association are reminded that, unless paid by Standing Order, their Subscriptions became due for payment on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Please complete the enclosed form and return it with your cheque to the Membership Secretary as soon as possible at the address on back page.

## Wendy's Final Farewell



“A fantastic celebration of a wonderful life”

Some lucky Vic-Wells members attended the Celebration put on by Wendy's friends earlier this year, appropriately held at the Noel Coward Theatre. The hour-long programme included film snippets of Wendy performing as a child. In the hornpipe dance her tiny feet flew amazingly fast. Clive Francis began, reciting Noel Coward's *The Boy Actor*, followed by Romany Padjak of the Royal Ballet, dancing a solo from *The Wise Virgins* which Wendy had danced with the Vic-Wells Ballet. Nicky Henson and Phyllida Law contributed followed by a most impressive Jaqui Dankworth singing *If Love Were All* from *Cowardy Custard*, which Wendy had produced. Sir Derek Jacobi recited *The Owl and The Pussy Cat* in a most suggestive manner followed by Dame Judi Dench reminiscing.

Dame Cleo Lane, not to be upstaged by her daughter, sang *Just my Bill* from *Showboat*. Freddy Franklin, who flew in from New York where, at the grand old age of 96, he is still performing Friar Lawrence in ABT's *Romeo and Juliet*, told us that when Wendy was fifteen she auditioned him, aged 18, to join the Dolin and Markover company where later they danced together.

Patricia Routledge completed the performance and brought the house down with her rendition of *I've Been to a Marvellous Party*, from *Cowardy Custard*. What a fantastic celebration of a remarkable life.

James Ranger

## Ninette de Valois: Adventurous Traditionalist

### Conference April 2011

The Royal Ballet School is to host a Conference to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the death of the Founder of the Royal Ballet School and Companies,



Dame Ninette de Valois (1898 – 2001)

This significant and wide-reaching event will be held from 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> April 2011.

The aim of the Conference is to facilitate a rigorous and multi-disciplinary exploration of de Valois' life and legacy, while promoting a productive exchange between dance practitioners, academics, social historians and cultural commentators, in the context of ballet and the wider theatre.

The full programme is still to be confirmed but will include lectures, presentations and demonstrations, film previews and performances by The Royal Ballet School and Companies.

Booking for the Conference has now opened. Places are limited and demand is expected to be high. For further information and to book please contact:

[www.royalballetschool.co.uk/dvconference](http://www.royalballetschool.co.uk/dvconference)

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Vic-Wells Association will take place on **Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010 promptly at 7pm**. Please ask at the Stage Door desk for directions to the room. As usual, it is hoped that a guest speaker will complete the evening's proceedings.

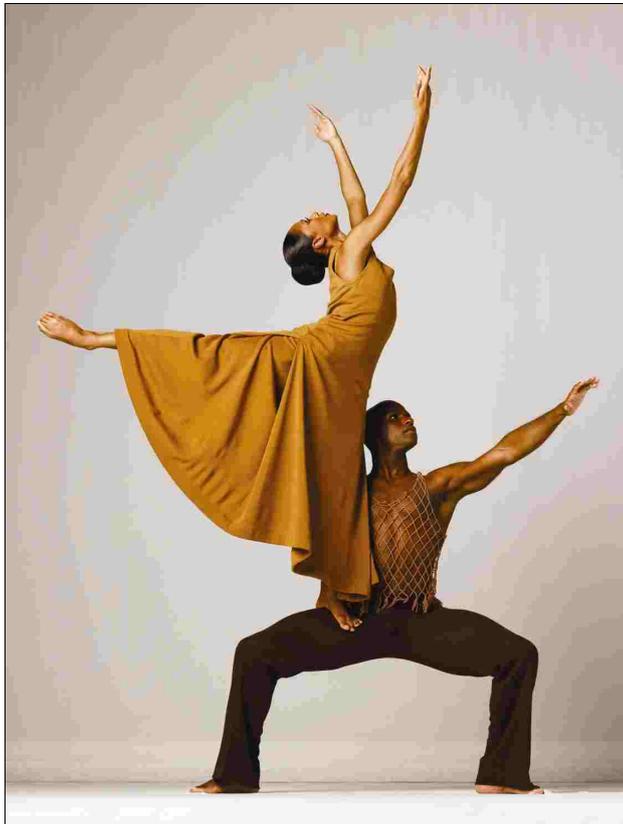
# WHAT'S ON



Sadler's Wells 0844 871 0090  
Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R 4TN

[www.sadlerswells.com](http://www.sadlerswells.com)

14 - 25 Sept. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater



28/29 Sept. Russell Maliphant Company  
- *After Light*  
5 - 9 Oct. Akram Khan Company  
- *Vertical Road*



12 - 16 Oct. Birmingham Royal Ballet -  
*Romeo & Juliet/Pointes of View*  
19 - 21 Oct. Rosas - *The Song*  
27 - 31 Oct. Tanztheater Wuppertal :  
Pina Bausch - *Iphigenie auf Tauris*

2/3 Nov. Emanuel Gat Dance  
- *Winter Variations* (UK premiere)  
9 - 13 Nov. Rambert Dance Company -  
featuring *Awakenings*



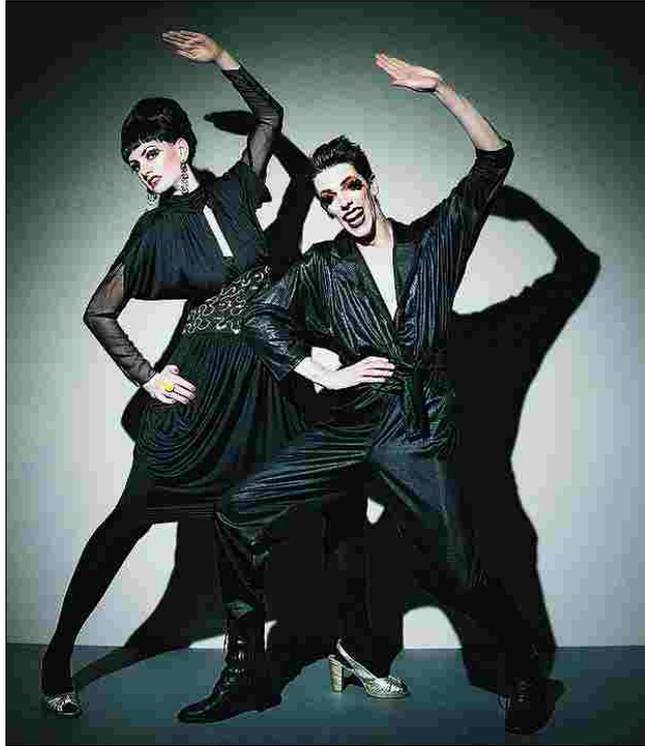
17-20 Nov. Wayne McGregor:  
Random Dance - *FAR*  
25/26 Nov. Jasmin Vardimon Company - *7734*  
30 Nov. - 23 Jan. New Adventures  
- *Matthew Bourne's Cinderella*  
Lilian Baylis Studio 0844 871 0090  
23 Sept - 3 Oct. Rosemary Butcher  
- *Festival of Miniatures*  
6 - 9 Oct. Greogiry Maqoma & Sidi Larbi  
Cherkaoui - *Southern Bound Comfort*





# WHAT'S ON

13- 15 Oct. Jonathan Burrows & Matteo Fargion  
- *Cheap Lecture & The Cow Piece*  
23 Oct. Arcosm Company - *Echoa*  
7 - 23 Dec. Bourgeois & Maurice - *Can't Dance*



**Peacock Theatre** 0844 871 0090  
Portugal Street, Kingsway, London WC2A 2HT

14 - 25 Sept. Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo



28 Sept. - 30 Oct. The 7 Fingers - *Traces*  
2 - 20 Nov. Balé de Rua  
1 Dec. - 9 Jan. *The Snowman*



## Old Vic Theatre

Waterloo Road, London SE1 8NB  
[www.oldvictheatre.com](http://www.oldvictheatre.com)

3 Sep - 27 Nov Noel Coward - *Design for Living*  
4 Dec - 5 Mar George Feydeau - *A Flea in her Ear*

To book tickets for all productions  
at The Old Vic: 0844 871 7642



Design for Living

## Victoria & Albert Museum

Cromwell Road,  
London SW7 2RL  
25 Sept. 2010 - 9 Jan. 2011

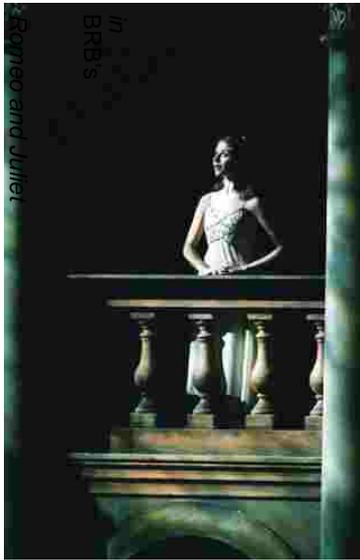
10.00 to 17.45 daily  
Diaghilev and the  
Golden Age of the  
Ballets Russes,

1909 - 1929

£10 Adults

£8 Seniors

£6 Students, 12-17-year olds  
and, ES40 holders



Rachel Peppin as Juliet



BRB's

## REHEARSALS AT SADLER'S WELLS

### AUTUMN 2010

Listed below are the rehearsal opportunities for October and November which are most likely to be in the afternoon. In the case of the BRB rehearsals they are primarily intended for Friends of the BRB and it may not be possible for our members who are not BRB Friends to attend (see letter from the BRB Chairman on page 4). Please check with Richard Reavill (0149 187 2574) nearer the time to check the exact time of the rehearsal. If you are on his email list you will be informed automatically and of any other opportunities that may arise. Please arrive 15 minutes before the rehearsal time and pay £5 to the Committee Member present.

Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October: **Birmingham Royal Ballet - Romeo and Juliet**

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> October: **Birmingham Royal Ballet - Pointes of View**

Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> November: **Rambert Dance Company**

## The Vic-Wells Association

*Founded in 1923 by Lilian Baylis CH*

### Chairman:

Mr. James Ranger  
Cromer Cottage  
Cromer, Stevenage  
Herts SG2 7QA  
0143 886 1318  
[jim\\_ranger@hotmail.com](mailto:jim_ranger@hotmail.com)

### Social Secretary:

Ms Kirsten A Sheridan  
626 London Road  
Ditton, Aylesford  
Kent ME20 6BX  
01732 842433  
[isishestia@yahoo.com](mailto:isishestia@yahoo.com)

### Secretary:

Dr. Richard Reavill  
7 Nuns Acre  
Goring, Reading  
Berkshire RG8 9BE  
0149 187 2574  
[vicwells@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:vicwells@tiscali.co.uk)

### Membership Secretary:

Professor Liz Schafer  
372 Stroude Road  
Virginia Water  
Surrey GU25 4DB  
0134 484 2836  
[e.schafer@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:e.schafer@rhul.ac.uk)

### Treasurer:

Mr. Neville C Taylor  
Flat 1  
128 Gloucester Terrace  
London W2 6HP  
0207 262 5898  
[neville.taylor@homecall.co.uk](mailto:neville.taylor@homecall.co.uk)

### Broadsheet Editor:

Mrs Marjory Agha  
18 Pembroke Road  
Kensington  
London W8 6NT  
0774 684 7126  
[marjory\\_gha@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marjory_gha@hotmail.co.uk)

The copy deadline for the next issue of  
*The Broadsheet* is  
**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2010.**

Please send items or letters for  
publication to the Editor (details above)  
to arrive before this date.