

ARTIST BIO: PETR ZUSKA

Petr Zuska

Petr Zuska is a European-format creator, an eminent choreographer within the context of Czech dance who has worked with world-renowned ballet companies. As a dancer, he was always a dynamic performer, a character interpreter possessing an extraordinary sensibility for the choreographer's intention, capable of embracing contemporary movement phraseologies.

Petr Zuska studied choreography and stage direction at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, graduating in 1994. A significant phase in his career was his engagement at the Prague Chamber Ballet (1989–1992 soloist; from 1994 guest artist). Between 1992 and 1998 he was a soloist of the Czech National Ballet in Prague. In 1998 he was engaged by the Munich Ballet, and in 1999 he joined the ballet company of the Augsburg Theatre. In 2000 he was named a soloist of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in Montréal.

From 1990, Petr Zuska has created choreographies for more than 50 productions for both foreign (Hamburg Ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, Boston Ballet, Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo etc.) and Czech (Czech National Ballet, Prague Chamber Ballet, Brno National Ballet etc.) companies. Since 2002, Petr Zuska has been Artistic Director of the Czech National Ballet in Prague.

The choreographies Petr Zuska has created for the Czech National Ballet include Among the Mountains (2002); Ways 03 (2003); Maria's Dream, within the mixed bill Ballet Mania (2005); the feature-length Ibbur, or A Prague Mystery (2005); Requiem, based on Mozart (2006); the feature-length BREL – VYSOTSKY – KRYL / Solo for Three (2007); Extreme and A Little Touch of the Last Extreme (2009); Romeo and Juliet (2013) and Stabat mater (2014); the shorter choreographies Déja vu, The Lyrical, Empty Title, Way Out and Oh Love, which have been frequently performed within Czech and international Gala evenings.

The numerous prestigious awards he has received for his performances and choreographies include the Thalia Prize (1993 and 1997), the Prix Dom Perignon (1999), the Original Choreography prize within the Modern Dance Competition, the Choreography of the Year, the Czech Literary Fund and Opera Plus Prizes, and other accolades.

www.petrzuska.cz