

THE PETER DARRELL TRUST

NEWS

August 2026



Ixan Ferrer rehearsing Chéri

Photographer: Lachlan Monaghan

We are delighted to let you know that **Ballet Nights** returns to Glasgow's Theatre Royal this September, following its sell-out success in 2025. Founded in 2023 by former Scottish Ballet soloist Janiel Devernay-Laurence, Ballet Nights has been touring the UK and abroad with its uniquely structured format, presenting world-class dance and live music to many thousands of people. Hosted with style, wit and insight by Devernay-Laurence, these unforgettable performances showcase all styles of dance, including important heritage pieces.

As part of this clever curation, **Ballet Nights** has presented Peter's **Five Ruckert Songs** and the wedding pas de deux from his **Chéri** in both London and Glasgow and now, on 2 and 3 September, Glasgow audiences will have the rare opportunity of seeing **Chéri** again - quintessential Darrell - after many years, on its 'home' stage of Theatre Royal.

The roles of Léa and Chéri will be performed by Birmingham Royal Ballet's established star Daria Stanculescu, alongside up-and-coming Cuban sensation Ixan Ferrer. The specially commissioned score for **Chéri** is by composer David Earl. For **Ballet Nights** the extraordinary pianist Viktor Emanuel will be performing it live.

The Peter Darrell Trust would like to thank Benesh International and the generous donors for supporting this project making it possible for this *pas de deux* to be performed accurately. Thanks also to Carlos Acosta, Director of Birmingham Royal Ballet, for making it possible for Daria and Ixan to take part in Ballet Nights. The programme will also include in stars from Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo and Taiwan's B.DANCE, as well as Scotland-based dance pioneers PCK Dance, and leading contemporary voices, James Wilton Dance, alongside so much more.

Book now to experience this unmissable line-up showcasing international ballet stars, leading contemporary voices, rising new talent, heritage ballets and live music

TICKETS FROM £19.50 2 & 3 Sept 2026 | Theatre Royal Glasgow

BOOK NOW



Daria Stanculescu;

Photographer: Johan Persson

Daria Stanculescu trained in Bucharest, Monte Carlo and Munich and performed with Bavarian National Ballet from 2006-12, Ballet Zurich from 2012-14 and joined Birmingham Royal Ballet in 2014. She became First Artist in 2018 and Principal Character Artist in 2025. With Birmingham Royal Ballet she has performed in Carlos Acosta's *Don Quixote* as Dulcinea; in Frederick Ashton's *Enigma Variations* (Lady Mary Lygon), *Façade* (Tango Pasodoble). In David Bintley's *Cinderella* (Stepmother), *Carmina Burana* (Roast Swan); John Cranko's *The Taming of the Shrew* (Pas de six); Kenneth MacMillan's *Romeo and Juliet* (Lady Capulet); Hans van Manen's *5 Tangos*; Peter Wright's *The Nutcracker* (Arabian Dance), *The Sleeping Beauty* (Carabosse) and Peter Wright and Galina Samsova's *Swan Lake* (Spanish Dance, Prince's Companion).



Ixan Ferrer was born in Havana, Cuba and trained at the National Ballet School of Cuba. He was invited to the Assemblée Internationale 2023 at Canada's National Ballet School and in the same year reached the semi-finals at Youth Grand Prix México. He was awarded scholarships to The Royal Ballet School, Canada's National Ballet School and the School of Nashville Ballet. He was also in the top 12 in the finals of Youth America Grand Prix (2024) before joining Birmingham Royal Ballet in September 2024.

Ixan Lorca Ferrer; Photographer: Johan Persson



A date for your diary - Saturday 15 August

A chance to catch up and raise a glass to those friends who are unable to join us.

Venue: GWR, 1051 Great Western Road, Glasgow G12 OXP, Saturday 15 August from 1.30pm till around 5.30pm. If you would like to join us, please email peterdarrelltrust@gmail.com so that we can let the venue know approximate numbers. We would love to see you there!



Peter Mallek - We are sad to report the death in July of Peter Mallek who was a principal dancer with Scottish Ballet in the 1970's where he performed many of the lead roles. Peter trained in Vienna under the Russian teacher Harry Pluciss, a former pupil of the world-famous ballet master Pushkin. He performed with several of the national ballet companies of the world - American Ballet Theatre, London Festival Ballet, Scottish Ballet, Australian Ballet and the Dutch National Ballet. Peter founded Vienna Festival Ballet in 1980 and was Artistic Director bringing classical repertoires to broader audiences across the UK and Europe. Peter is survived by Gill Mallek (née Gill), a former ballet dancer who trained at the Elmhurst Ballet School and danced with the Vienna Festival Ballet.

The Peter Darrell Circle of Friends - why not join us to support our work and keep in touch with exciting developments?

For just £2.00 per month you will receive our Newsletters and regular updates highlighting events and opportunities, not forgetting invitation to special events and performances. We hope you might consider supporting us - it's a modest donation, but it will make a difference to the Trust's work in preserving and promoting Peter's work. You can do this by setting up a direct debit (contact us on: peterdarrelltrust@gmail.com)

Or by donating directly through our Justgiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/thepeterdarrelltrust>

In the meantime, we hope you are having a good summer and we look forward to welcoming you on 15 August and at Ballet Nights on 2 and 3 September!
The Trustees, Peter Darrell Trust

EMAIL AND DATA PROTECTION: The Peter Darrell Trust will only use your email or address to contact you with information about the Trust and will not release your details to any third parties. If you don't want to receive our Newsletters and updates, please email and we will remove you from our database.

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