

The Peter Darrell Trust

SUMMER 2014

2014 has been an exciting year with the screening of Elly Taylor's *Peter Darrell Scotland's Dance Pioneer* as part of BBC4's dance season *Dance Moments* in February and we have received lots of lovely comments from people across the country who saw it.

Scottish Ballet performed excerpts from *Five Ruckert Songs* at the Chekhov International Theatre Festival in Russia and they also announced that they will be restaging Peter Darrell's *The Nutcracker* this Christmas with new designs, by Lez Brotherston.



Costume drawing for King Rat in Peter Darrell's *The Nutcracker*, designed by Lez Brotherston. Artwork: Sophie Martin and Christopher Harrison, courtesy of Scottish Ballet.

Lez trained at Central School of Art and Design, gaining a degree in Theatre Design. He graduated in 1984 and started his career with his first design for the popular feature film *Letter to Brezhnev*. He is an Associate Artist of Adventures in Motion Pictures (AMP) for whom he has designed *Highland Fling*, the multi-award winning production of *Swan Lake* (1999 Toni Award for Best Costume Design and two 1999 Drama Desk Awards for Set and Costume Design); *Cinderella* (1998 Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance), and *The Car Man*.

In 1999 Lez won the Barclays Theatre Award for Outstanding Achievement in dance for his designs for *Carmen*, *The Huntchback of Notre Dame*, *Giselle*, *Dracula* and *A Christmas Carol* for Northern Ballet Theatre. His other work for NBT includes *The Brontes*, *Strange Meeting* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

Other designs for dance include *Greymatter* (Rambert), *Just Scratchin' the Surface*, choreographed for Adam Cooper and *Night Life* choreographed by Tim Rushton.

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The Nutcracker will open at Edinburgh Festival Theatre on Saturday 13th December 2014 and you are cordially invited to a get together between the matinee and evening performance. Spaces are limited so please send us your confirmation as soon as possible. Tickets are £25 which will include 2 glasses of wine or soft drink and canapés. We will be joined by Christopher Hampson, Artistic Director of Scottish Ballet, who has reproduced Nutcracker for the company. It would be really lovely to see you there. A booking form is attached.

The Nutcracker Act 11 – The Kingdom Of Sweets was first performed by Scottish Theatre Ballet on 26 September 1972 at Theatre Royal York and was followed by the full production on 19 December 1973 at the Royal Lyceum Theatre in Edinburgh. Hong Kong Ballet also performed *The Nutcracker* in 1990 and 1995 with designs by the late John Fraser.



Elaine Macdonald and Davide Bombana in Act 11

The Nutcracker, Photograph by Alan Crumlish, 1984



John Fraser's Design for Hong Kong Ballet's Chinese

We are all looking forward to seeing *The Nutcracker* this Christmas. Performances are scheduled for Edinburgh 13 December 2014 -3 January 2015; Glasgow 7-10 January; Aberdeen 14-17 January and Inverness 21-24 January. So don't miss out - book up now.

Our website is constantly being updated with photos and articles - Go to www.peterdarrell.org to see all the latest information.

Thank you for supporting the Peter Darrell Trust and our work.

Angela Petrie, Chairman