



# Beautiful ballet at the Quarry

by Judith Treby

AH! A BALMY summer evening; a magical setting in one of Perth's most delightful outdoor venues and the anticipation of a superb performance from WA Ballet, Australia's oldest ballet company and one of its most innovative and talented.

Add to the evening's ambience, a picnic basket filled with your favourite nibbles, a bottle of good wine and the company of a fellow ballet lover. Good food; good wine; good company and wonderful ballet. What could be better?

This month, the company, as part of the Perth International Arts Festival, will present the first of four outstanding productions beginning at the Quarry Amphitheatre in a groundbreaking season of dance by artistic director, Ivan Cavallari.

In realising part of his vision for WA Ballet and in response to his invitation, he welcomes to Perth, for the first time, three world-renowned choreographers. These are Petr Zuska, artistic director of the National Theatre Prague, who will present *Bolero* featuring Ravel's famous score and the lighthearted

and amusing *Maria's Dream* and husband and wife team Paul Lightfoot and Sol Leon, resident choreographers of Nederlands Dans Theater who will present the Australian premiere of *Step Lightly*.

To complete the Ballet at the Quarry programme, selected works from WA Ballet's Genesis 2007 season will also be included.

Following on from the Quarry season will be more exciting performances in May. The company, with choreography by Ivan Cavallari and accompanied by the superb WA Symphony Orchestra will perform a contemporary version of *The Nutcracker* with the score and characters by master composer Tchaikovsky.

No doubt, ballet lovers will be looking forward to seeing Ivan's modern interpretation of this much-loved ballet.

The performances will run from 16 to 31 May at His Majesty's Theatre.

From 31 July to 2 August, the Regal Theatre in Subiaco will be the venue for WA Ballet's, Ballet at the Regal season - a contemporary ballet dance extravaganza which will display the talent of both

acclaimed Australian and international choreographers.

Two new works by Australian Natalie Weir and the exciting new Spanish choreographer, Alejandro Cerrudo, will be performed along with *Bolero*, *Maria's Dream* and *Step Lightly*.

The company returns to His Majesty's Theatre for performances from 12 to 27 September of John Cranko's full Stuttgart production of *The Taming of the Shrew*.

Ivan Cavallari's success in securing this ballet is a major coup for WA Ballet.

*The Taming of the Shrew* will feature an expanded company of 32 dancers including the star of the Stuttgart Ballet Filip Barankiewicz and will be accompanied by the West Australian Symphony Orchestra.

WA Ballet chairman, Bret Mattes encourages the Perth community to 'experience something new' and come along to any one or all of the exciting and innovative ballets to be presented in 2008.

Bookings are at BOCS Ticketing.

For event information and credit card sales call 9484 1133 from 9am to 8pm Monday to

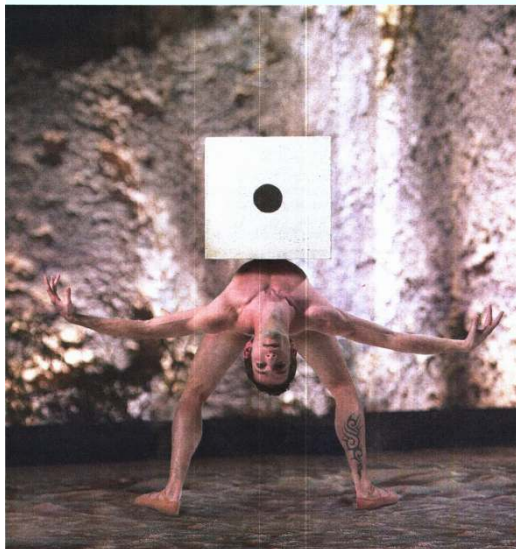
Saturday or country callers can book and make enquiries (freecall) on 1800 193 300 from 9am to 8pm Monday to Saturday. Call 9321 6831 for group bookings.

## WIN WIN WIN

**To be in the draw to win one of five double passes to a performance of Ballet at the Quarry, call Have a Go News on 9227 8283. Please get in quickly, as due to time constraints, tickets will be awarded to the first five callers to ring in. Only over 45s eligible.**

## \*Sabry Ghalem-Cherif

Born in Marseille, France he began training at Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Danse de Marseille Roland Petit when the school first opened in Marseille, France and has danced with Jewne Ballet de France, Paris Opera Ballet, Bavarian State Ballet, Dutch National Ballet and joined West Australian Ballet in July of 2006. Sabry's career highlights include touring to Japan during his training, performing for Queen Beatrix of Holland and touring to Venice with Bavarian State Ballet.



Sabry Ghalem-Cherif\* in a scene from Bolero  
Image by: Jon Green