

Janette Manrara and Aljaz Skorjanec



Aljaz Skorjanec

Aljaz Skorjanec was born in Ptuj, Slovenia. Aljaz found dancing at an early age when he signed himself up to a local dance class. It was only after being contacted by the dance instructor, who suggested that Aljaz take lessons at a proper dance school, that his mother found out he was attending the classes.

Aged 5 years, Aljaz began attending International Dance Center Fredidance 3 to 4 times a week. His commitment to travel the two hours for lessons continued from primary school through to the end of his high school years. His coaches were Fredi and Daniela Novak, known worldwide for their amazing coaching abilities.

Aljaz has represented his home country Slovenia in many international dance competitions, and won numerous titles. He met his then dance partner, Valerija Rahle early on in his training and the two quickly flew to winning various championships. Aljaz is a nineteen-time Slovenian Champion in Ballroom, Latin, and 10 dance! His strong commitment, impeccable technique, and passionate performances in competitions made him the exemplary dancer he is today. His talent was not unnoticed, as he was approached to be a Professional Dancer in the Slovenian version of Dancing with the Stars, which became his first television appearance.

After he finished competing he auditioned to become a member of the Broadway and international touring show, Burn the Floor. The producers fell in love with his charismatic and technical dancing, and shortly after, he was a lead dancer on the show.

He was a part of Burn the Floor for 4 years, dancing around the world including the West End in London, England. It was here where Aljaz was noticed by the producers of the BBC1 hit TV series, Strictly Come Dancing. Not long after watching his passionate performance, Aljaz was casted as a Professional Dancer in 2013 for Season 11 of Strictly Come Dancing.

His Strictly debut was a huge success, winning in his first year with celebrity dance partner Abbey Clancy during the first all-female final. His other celebrity partners have been Alison Hammond, Helen George and most recently Daisy Lowe.

Aljaz & Janette Biography

Janette Manrara and Aljaz Skorjanec met whilst on a worldwide tour with the Broadway show, Burn the Floor. After years of dancing on international stages, and visiting exotic parts of the world together, they were both cast as professional dancers on the BBC1 hit TV Show, Strictly Come Dancing in the United Kingdom in 2013. They have truly amazing careers, performing in theatre shows, TV shows, cruise ships, and corporate events around the globe. Their passion and admiration for the art of dance is evident in all of the projects they have become a part of. Their individual stories show just how much they love, respect, and cherish their craft, and all forms of art.