



DAVID NEEDHAM

David trained at Sheila Payant School, Manchester and the Arts Educational School (Golden Lane, London).

He was soloist with English Bach Festival and Scapino Ballet, Amsterdam before becoming Principal with Northern Ballet Theatre, where he created and performed many leading roles.

His Musical Theatre Credits include: *Evita* (Tango Dancer), *Fiddler on the Roof* (with Topol), *Pirates of Penzance* (Broadway production), *Damn Yankees* (Fosse part), *My Fair Lady*, *The King and I* (Simon of Legree), *Hot Stuff* (Ballroom Dancer) and *Arlene Phillips Hot Gossip*.

TV appearances include: Featured dancer (*The Les Dawson Show*), *Young Generation* BBC TV, several films and dance documentaries.

As a Choreographer: David's credits include works for Scapino Ballet, Northern Ballet Theatre, *Blood Wedding* (Contact Theatre), *Company* (Manchester Evening News Best Musical Award 1990), *Cabaret* (Sheffield Crucible), *Broadway Bound* and Stephen Sondheim's *Assassins*, Winner of TMA Best Regional Musical Award 1994 (Library Theatre), *The King and I*, *West Side Story*, *Hot Stuff*, *Aladdin*, *Heavenly Bodies*, *Singing in the Rain*, *Oliver* (in association with Sir Cameron Mackintosh), *Peter Pan* (Broadway Musical version), and *The Wizard of Oz* (RSC version), all at the Leicester Haymarket Theatre.

Divorce me Darling (Chichester Festival Theatre) was the winner of the TMA Awards 1997 starring Lilliana Montevecchi and Ruthie Henshall, and *Follies* at the Royal Festival Hall London.

David has mounted several productions of *Coppelia*, *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker*, *Giselle* and original works for classical ballet companies both here and abroad. He spent several years coaching and choreographing in America where he was delighted to work with the renowned Laura Alonso who invited him to visit Cuba to teach where he was appointed Artistic Director of Western ballet Theatre of Puerto Rico.

David has received many awards both here and abroad for his choreography and in 2002 was awarded The Midlands Arts Award for Best Stage Production for his work on *West Side Story* at the Leicester Haymarket.

David guest lectures and adjudicates for all the leading dance societies; BBO, ISTD, IDTA, NATD and RAD as well as the All England and Mollylake Awards. He is also Head of Productions at Northern Ballet School and senior teacher at The Hammond, Chester.

Recent productions have been the new, successful version of *Hot Stuff* and the *The King and I*, both at the Curve Theatre, Leicester, prior to mounting this version of *The King and I* for the Edinburgh Festival Theatre and National Tour. He has also choreographed *Gypsy* starring Caroline O'Connor and *Hello Dolly* starring Janie Dee. David has recently been made an Honorary Member of The British Ballet Organisation for services to Dance.