

TANYA PEARSON

CLASSICAL COACHING ACADEMY

SELECTIVE SCHOOL FOR THE TALENTED & DEDICATED



Biography

Hassan Sheta

A leading choreographer and teacher, Hassan Sheta was born in Cairo, Egypt. He commenced his classical training in the Vaganova style at the **Cairo Ballet School** before being granted a full scholarship to train in Moscow, Russia. In 1970 Hassan became a Principal Dancer of the **Cairo Ballet Company** and performed a broad classical repertoire including *Les Sylphides*, *Don Quixote*, *Bhaskarai Fountain*, *Swan Lake* and *Daphnis and Chloe*.

During those years, Hassan represented Egypt at classical ballet competitions around the world including Moscow, Leningrad, Havana, Tokyo and Sofia in Bulgaria.

In 1975 Hassan joined the **Frankfurt Ballet** performing in contemporary productions of *Orpheus*, *Macbeth* and as the Moor in Fokine's *Petrouchka*. In 1980 he travelled to Australia and joined the **Sydney Dance Company** - appearing in works including Graeme Murphy's *An Evening* and *Poppy* – touring both Australia and internationally including New York, Washington, Charleston, London and Hong Kong.

During his tenure with the **Sydney Dance Company** he became highly regarded as a classical teacher. In 1982 he joined Tanya Pearson's **Sydney City Ballet** as Ballet Master where he also began to choreograph and produce repertoire. His passion for choreography saw him form his own company, the **Sydney Festival Ballet**, which went on to perform regularly in Sydney and on tours of the East Coast.

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Hassan's extensive repertoire of original works and productions include *Ballet Egyptien*, *Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 4*, *Afternoon of a Faun*, *Francesca da Rimini*, *The Spanish Lover*, *Chopin's Concerto No 2*, *Paquita*, *Les Sylphides*, *Spartacus pas de Deux* as well as the full length ballets *The Nutcracker Suite*, *Cinderella*, *Coppelia* and *La Fille Mal Gardee*.

After many years of teaching in Sydney, in 2004 Hassan was invited to become Ballet Master and Rehearsal Director for the **Tasmanian Ballet**, mounting touring productions of classical repertoire. He is now based in Sydney and is a freelance teacher and choreographer.