



José Antonio Checa

Professor Convidado

Licenciado em Pedagogia da Dança pelo Conservatório Superior de Dança María de Ávila, em Madrid, Espanha. Iniciou a sua formação na Escola Karen Taft com Tatiana Stepanova. Durante os verões, participou com o Teatro Académico Nacional de Ópera e Ballet de Odessa, na Ucrânia, e com o Teatro de Ballet Leonid Jacobson, em São Petersburgo, Rússia. Posteriormente, concluiu os seus estudos com mérito na classe de Vitaly Afanaskov, na prestigiada Academia Vaganova do Ballet Russo, na mesma cidade.

José interpretou, no Teatro Mariinsky de São Petersburgo, a Dança Espanhola de O Quebra-Nozes e o Pas de Deux de O Talismã. Durante os anos de formação, participou na Competição Internacional Tanzolymp, em Berlim, Alemanha, onde conquistou a medalha de ouro. De seguida, obteve uma bolsa do Ministério da Educação, Cultura e Desporto de Espanha.

Enquanto estudante, interpretou papéis solistas para a Companhia Miniaturas Coreográficas de Leonid Jacobson e para o Teatro Hermitage, ambos em São Petersburgo, assim como papéis principais com a Cátedra de Alicia Alonso, em Madrid. Paralelamente, foi convidado pela Companhia Suite Española a participar na produção do bailado Carmen. Após este espectáculo, Roger Salas escreveu no jornal El País: "O jovem José Antonio Checa tem futuro e garra." Foi então que Farukh Ruzimatov o convidou a integrar a companhia que dirigia, o Teatro Mikhailovsky de São Petersburgo, tornando-se o primeiro bailarino estrangeiro a integrar uma companhia russa, como solista. Interpretou James em La Sylphide, Mercutio em Romeu e Julieta, o Peasant Pas de Deux de Giselle, Ali em Le Corsaire e o Ídolo de Ouro em La Bayadère.

Em 2010, José Antonio Checa integrou o Tulsa Ballet, nos Estados Unidos, como bailarino solista. Teve o privilégio de trabalhar com coreógrafos de renome mundial como Jiri Kylian, Yuri Possokhov, Val Caniparoli, Nicolo Fonte, Ashley Page, Adam Houghland, William Forsythe, Wayne McGregor, Christopher Bruce, Edward Liang, Ben Stevenson, Tony Fabre, entre outros. Interpretou igualmente obras de coreógrafos como Marius Petipa, George Balanchine, Sir Kenneth MacMillan, Mikhail Fokine, Paul Taylor, Christopher Wheeldon, Twyla Tharp, John Cranko, entre muitos outros.

Em 2015, integrou o Sarasota Ballet, na Florida, EUA, sob a direcção de Iain Webb, como bailarino solista, interpretando diversas obras de repertório clássico e contemporâneo. Trabalhou novamente com vários dos coreógrafos referidos e interpretou coreografias de Sir Frederick Ashton.

Foi bailarino convidado do Alvin Ailey Ballet, em Nova Iorque, Estados

Unidos. Ao longo de todos estes anos, José conciliou a sua carreira artística com a docência. Lecionou no Tulsa Ballet, Prestige Dance Company e Theatre Arts Dance Company, todos em Tulsa, EUA, e é professor convidado no SLK Ballet, em Nova Iorque, na De La Arts Dance Company, em Cincinnati, no Margaret Barbieri Conservatory e na Sarasota Ballet School, ambos em Sarasota, EUA, no Joven Ballet del Pirineo de Jaca, na Escola Karen Taft de Madrid e na Associação de Profissionais da Dança da Comunidade de Madrid, Espanha. Foi professor titular no centro Madrid Factory para a formação de bailarinos profissionais.

Foi também professor convidado do Conservatório de Dança José Granero de Puertollano, do Conservatório Profissional de Dança da Corunha, da Escola Profissional de Dança de Castela e Leão, em Valladolid, entre outros. Ministrou workshops em Turim, Itália, na Accademia di Danza e Spettacolo di Ivrea, e deu masterclasses em Donosti-San Sebastián.

Foi jurado em prestigiados concursos nacionais e internacionais, como a VIII Gala de Bailarinos Murcianos, o Concurso de Dança Vaslav Nijinsky, ambos em Espanha, e o XXII Tanzolymp International Dance Festival, em Berlim, Alemanha.

Em outubro de 2020, abriu a sua própria escola e companhia jovem, José Antonio Checa Ballet. Com este projecto, conseguiu que os seus alunos fossem admitidos em escolas de grande prestígio, como a Royal Ballet School e a English National Ballet School, em Londres, Reino Unido, a Academia Vaganova de São Petersburgo, Rússia, a Academia da Scala de Milão, Itália, a Escola da Ópera de Paris, a Academia Princess Grace do Mónaco, a Universidade Palucca de Dresden, Alemanha, e a Escola do Finnish National Ballet, em Helsínquia, Finlândia, entre outras. Por outro lado, os seus alunos foram contratados por companhias como a Ópera de Paris, o Scottish Ballet, na Escócia, a Companhia Nacional da Grécia, o Ballet Nacional do Soudre, no Uruguai, o Sibiu Ballet Theatre, na Roménia, o Miskolci Ballet, na Hungria, o Ballet Ruse, na Bulgária, entre outras.

Atualmente, concilia a sua carreira como bailarino com a docência, lecionando nos Estados Unidos no Conservatório Margaret Barbieri, em Sarasota, na escola do Tulsa Ballet, na Prestige Dance Company, na Theatre Arts e na Academy of Ballet and Theatre Arts, todas em Tulsa, no SLK Ballet, em Nova Iorque, e na De La Dance Company, em Cincinnati. Em Espanha, é professor convidado da Associação de Profissionais da Dança de Madrid e de diversos outros centros.



José Antonio Checa

Guest Teacher

Holds a degree in Dance Pedagogy from the María de Ávila Higher Conservatory of Dance in Madrid, Spain. He began his training at the Karen Taft School with Tatiana Stepanova. During the summers, he trained with the Odessa National Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre in Ukraine and the Leonid Jacobson Ballet Theatre in Saint Petersburg, Russia. He later completed his studies with honors in the class of Vitaly Afanaskov at the prestigious Vaganova Academy of Russian Ballet in the same city.

José performed at the Mariinsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg the Spanish Dance from The Nutcracker and the Pas de Deux from The Talisman. During his training years, he took part in the International Tanzolymp Competition in Berlin, Germany, where he won the gold medal. He subsequently received a scholarship from the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport.

As a student, he performed soloist roles for the Leonid Jacobson Choreographic Miniatures Company and for the Hermitage Theatre, both in Saint Petersburg, as well as principal roles with the Alicia Alonso Chair in Madrid. At the same time, he was invited by the Suite Española Company to take part in the ballet Carmen. After this performance, Roger Salas wrote in El País: "The young José Antonio Checa has future and grit." It was then that Farukh Ruzimatov invited him to join the company he directed, the Mikhailovsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg, making him the first foreign dancer to become a member of a Russian company, as a soloist. He performed James in La Sylphide, Mercutio in Romeo and Juliet, the Peasant Pas de Deux in Giselle, Ali in Le Corsaire, and the Golden Idol in La Bayadère.

In 2010, José Antonio Checa joined Tulsa Ballet in the United States, becoming a soloist dancer. He had the privilege of working with world-renowned choreographers such as Jiffi Kylián, Yuri Possokhov, Val Caniparoli, Nicolo Fonte, Ashley Page, Adam Hougland, William Forsythe, Wayne McGregor, Christopher Bruce, Edward Liang, Ben Stevenson, Tony Fabre, among others. He has also danced works by Marius Petipa, George Balanchine, Sir Kenneth MacMillan, Mikhail Fokine, Paul Taylor, Christopher Wheeldon, Twyla Tharp, John Cranko, and many more.

In 2015, he joined Sarasota Ballet in Florida, USA, under the direction of Iain Webb, as a soloist dancer, performing a wide range of classical and contemporary ballet repertoire. During this time, he continued working with many of the aforementioned choreographers and performed works by Sir Frederick Ashton.

He has been a guest dancer with Alvin Ailey Ballet in New York, United States. Throughout all these years, José has combined his performing career with

teaching. He has taught at Tulsa Ballet, Prestige Dance Company, and Theatre Arts Dance Company, all in Tulsa, USA, and is a guest teacher at SLK Ballet in New York, De La Arts Dance Company in Cincinnati, the Margaret Barbieri Conservatory and Sarasota Ballet School, both in Sarasota, USA, the Joven Ballet del Pirineo de Jaca, the Karen Taft School in Madrid, and the Association of Dance Professionals of the Community of Madrid, Spain. He was a resident teacher at Madrid Factory, a center for professional dancer training.

He has also been a guest teacher at the José Granero Dance Conservatory in Puertollano, the Professional Dance Conservatory of A Coruña, the Professional Dance School of Castilla y León in Valladolid, among others. He has led workshops in Turin, Italy, at the Accademia di Danza e Spettacolo di Ivrea, and has given masterclasses in Donostia-San Sebastián.

He has served as a jury member at prestigious national and international competitions such as the VIII Gala of Murcian Dancers, the Vaslav Nijinsky Dance Competition, both in Spain, and the XXII Tanzolymp International Dance Festival in Berlin, Germany.

In October 2020, he opened his own school and youth company, José Antonio Checa Ballet. Through this project, his students have been accepted into prestigious institutions such as The Royal Ballet School and the English National Ballet School in London, United Kingdom; the Vaganova Academy in Saint Petersburg, Russia; the La Scala Academy in Milan, Italy; the Paris Opera Ballet School; the Princess Grace Academy in Monaco; the Palucca University of Dance Dresden in Germany; and the Finnish National Ballet School in Helsinki, Finland, among others. In addition, his students have been contracted by companies such as the Paris Opera Ballet, Scottish Ballet in Scotland, the National Ballet of Greece, the National Ballet of SODRE in Uruguay, the Sibiu Ballet Theatre in Romania, the Miskolci Ballet in Hungary, and the Ruse Ballet in Bulgaria, among others.

He currently combines his career as a dancer with teaching, giving classes in the United States at the Margaret Barbieri Conservatory in Sarasota, the Tulsa Ballet School, Prestige Dance Company, Theatre Arts, and the Academy of Ballet and Theatre Arts, all in Tulsa, as well as SLK Ballet in New York and De La Dance Company in Cincinnati. In Spain, he is a guest teacher with the Association of Dance Professionals of Madrid and at various other institutions.