

THE YADA
DANCE COMPANY Ltd.

PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY
FELIX BUSUTIL
FEATURING CHOREOGRAPHY BY
JUSTIN ROY BARKER



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THE YADA DANCE COMPANY Ltd.

presents

MINESTRONE



PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY
FELIX BUSUTTIL
FEATURING CHOREOGRAPHY BY
JUSTIN ROY BARKER

*"You grow up the day you have
the first real laugh - at yourself!"*

ETHEL BARRYMORE

*"Do not take life too seriously.
You will never get out of it alive!"*

ELBERT HUBBARD

*"We cherish our friends not for their
ability to amuse us, but for ours
to amuse them."*

EVELYN WAUGH

*"No man is a failure who is
enjoying life"*

WILLIAM FEATHER

*"Use whatever makes you laugh -
movies, sitcoms, Monty Python,
records, books, cartoons, jokes,
friends. Give yourself permission
to laugh - long and loud and out loud
- whenever anything strikes you as
funny. The people around you may
think you're strange, but sooner or
later they'll join in - even if they don't
know what they're laughing about!"*

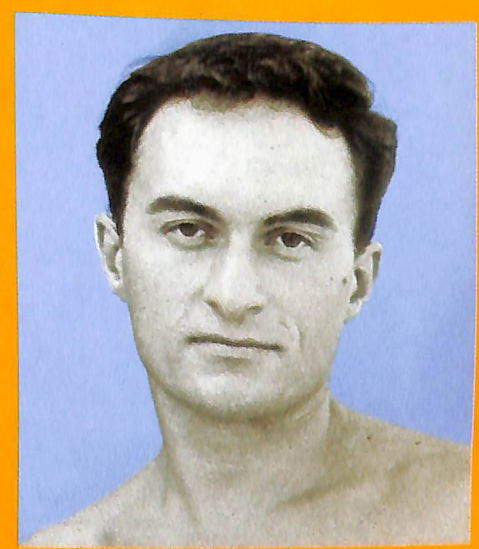
Have Fun...Enjoy the show!

FELIX BUSUTTIL, born in Victoria, Gozo, started dancing at the age of seventeen at the Alison White Dance school. He furthered his studies at the Tanya Bayona Poutiatine Academy of Ballet where he took up Classical Ballet. In September 1984, he set up the Young Actors and Dancers Association Y.A.D.A., with the help of Mrs Janatha and the late Mr. Paddy Stubbs. His first theatrical choreography was 'Guardian of the Light' at the Catholic Institute in February 1985.

He was later awarded a two-year scholarship at Madame Brigitte Espinosa's The London Studio Centre, where he majored in Classical Ballet, Jazz (Matt Mattox and Rock Jazz), Tap, Spanish, Contemporary (Martha Graham), Improvisation and Singing. His teachers mainly included Barry McGrath, Anya Evans, Stephen Mear, now dance captain at West End theatres, Theresa Kerr, Ana Ricarda, tap-expert Bill Drysdale and Matt Mattox colleague, Jackie Mitchell.

During his two-year stay in London, Felix worked extensively namely at the Battersea Show Palace, the Leicester Square Show Palace, the Wimbledon Theatre and also in the U.S.A. on board the luxurious 'MS Celebration'. On arrival back in Malta, together with Justin Roy Barker, he opened the College of Jazz Dance which is now respected as one of the foremost dance schools in Malta. He also carried on with the upkeep and progress of standards within the Y.A.D.A. Dance Company and throughout these last eight years has choreographed various operas, operettas, national theatrical celebrations and television productions for the company including Y.A.D.A.'s 10th Anniversary Celebrations in 1994. Inspired by 'RIVERDANCE - The Show' and Bill Whelan's music, Felix decided to stage 'FIREDANCE' enlisting the talents of five other choreographers and giving Maltese dancers, singers and musicians the opportunity to perform in a stage spectacle and Maltese audiences the opportunity of watching them.

Last year he worked with Silvio Oddi, Canale 5's Primo Ballerino, together with the Y.A.D.A. Dance Company in Sicily. The Company has also performed in Germany, U.K., Italy, Tunisia, Dubai, Portugal and Turkey. Felix is now a member of the Dance Council, Malta - 'Conseil Internationale de la Danse' affiliated within UNESCO, whose President is the loved Ms Tanya Bayona. He also currently teaches at and Fitness Club, St. Julian's. For the future, Felix hopes strongly towards the setting up of a National Dance Company, reflecting our national heritage of spirituality, the depth of our culture and our love for the Arts.



THE YADA DANCE COMPANY Ltd.

A Brief History...

'The Young Actors and Dancers Association', Y.A.D.A. was formed in September 1984 to initially set up a stage production. Felix Busuttill thought of amalgamating various actors and dancers from different schools to stage 'Guardian of the Light'. Together with Monica Grech Cumbo he tried to win over the sympathy of M.A.D.C. but his creation was turned down. However with the help of Mr Paddy and Mrs Janatha Stubbs, Y.A.D.A was formed and 'Guardian of the Light' materialised. Since then as they say, the rest is history. Since that first show at the Catholic Institute in February '95 the list is endless... 'Ants', M.A.D.C's production at the Manoel Theatre in 1985; 'Romeo and Juliet' at the University Theatre August 1985; 'Zaghzugh' November 1985; 'X-cited' May 1986 and 'ISKRA' at the Mediterranean Conference Centre 1986; 'In-Nisga ta' Gensna' 25th Anniversary Celebrations in the presence of H.R.H. Prince Phillip and other international officials; 'La Traviata' January 1990; Charles Camilleri's 'Maltese Cross' 1995; Malta Song Festival for the Eurovision Song Contest 1992...

Y.A.D.A. in all its versatility has already performed in many hotels, night clubs and pop concerts on the island and are now artistic collaborators with the prestigious Westin Dragonara Resort.

The Company has also performed in Stuttgart, on Sudwestfunk T.V. in Baden Baden, in Cambridge, U.K. and recently alongside Canale 5's Primo Ballerino Silvio Oddi in Italy.

In 1994 Y.A.D.A. celebrated its 10th Anniversary with its much acclaimed 'Dance Spectacular' at the Mediterranean Conference Centre and three years later on the same stage 'FIREDANCE' was created and applauded with over one hundred dancers participating. During the same year the Company won joint first place in the Jazz Section of the Maltafest Choreographic Awards and toured Italy. Y.A.D.A. also represented Malta in Istanbul, Turkey during the 'Malta Week' in September of 1997. In April 1998 the company put up another production by the name of 'ERA' which was also extremely successful and last October another production 'TANGO' with a cast of 25 dancers was yet another tremendous success. Following this, Y.A.D.A. then went on to perform in Tunisia and Dubai for another 'Malta Week' in November, 1998 as well as representing Malta in Portugal in December, 1998 through the Dance Council. The company also performed for the Malta Song For Europe Festival held at the Mediterranean Conference Centre last February as well as their participation in the music video of Malta's song entry for the Eurovision Song Contest 1999. This July following 'CENTURY - THE DANCE SHOW' (the production for the tenth anniversary celebration of The College of Jazz Dance) the company performed in Sardegna for the third year running on 9 and 10 July, 1999. The Company are currently performing weekly at the Westin Dragonara Resort as well as being the resident dance company on the television programme entitled 'Tiramisu' on PBS every Sunday evening.

Y.A.D.A. now has the reputation of Malta's leading dance company and continues to thrive both locally and abroad.



The College of Jazz Dance

Felix Busuttill and Justin Roy Barker (both graduates of The London Studio Centre) founded the College of Jazz Dance in October 1989. It was first established within the Safari Sanctuary in Sliema. Later on, in October 1992, the College moved to its new premises in San Gwann and now boasts of more than 300 students. The original subjects at the school were Matt Mattox and Rock Jazz taught by Felix, Justin and now Claire Cassola A.I.S.T.D. The school timetable has now expanded to include ballet taught by Ms. Alison Bird L.I.S.T.D., Dip. L.C.D. and assisted by Ms. Johane Casabene A.I.S.T.D., MA (LUDT) and more recently, Spanish taught by Ms. Caroline Abela I.d.B (I) and Latin & Ballroom by Ms. Elaine Zerafa, a member of the U.K. Alliance for the professional teachers of dance.

The College holds an annual school show entitled 'Dance Overture' in which all students participate and where awards and scholarships are presented, the latest being 'Century - The Dance Show' held last July at the Mediterranean Conference Centre to commemorate the College's tenth anniversary. As was done since 1997, the school also presents an annual six-month scholarship at the London Studio Centre in London, U.K. to its most outstanding student.

Anyone visiting the school will not only be impressed by the good standard of dance technique but will also feel the energy and creativity which characterise the school's feeling.

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JUSTIN ROY BARKER. Born in England, Justin Roy Barker started his dancing career at the age of thirteen in his hometown in Redditch. After attending a number of dance schools, he enrolled at the London Studio Centre for a three year diploma course in Classical and Modern Ballet, Contemporary Dance, Pas de Deux, Luigi Rock and Matt Mattox Jazz. Whilst still in training, he toured around the United Kingdom for some time with the London City Ballet and took part in their production of Swan Lake. He also performed in the annual school productions at the Bloomsbury & Wimbledon Theatre.

Immediately after moving to Malta in 1989, Justin set up The College of Jazz Dance with Felix Busuttill. Since then he has been teaching and choreographing students from age four upwards. Every summer Justin and Felix choreograph, stage and perform in their annual school show.

Since he has been in Malta, Justin has performed and staged numerous choreographies mainly with the Y.A.D.A. Dance Company and The College of Jazz Dance, namely Malta's 25th Independence Anniversary (1989), Malta Song Festival (1991/92/94/96), Maltafest (1994/97), Dance Spectacular (1994), Firedance (1997), Era (1998) and Tango (1998). He has also performed with other local theatre companies, namely the Tanya Bayona Dance Theatre Company in Les Sylphides (in which he performed the main role).

In the last ten years, Justin has also performed abroad in Italy and Sardinia with the Y.A.D.A. Dance Company and in Tunisia, Switzerland and Germany with the Tanya Bayona Dance Theatre Company. After returning from a dance course at the 'Vaganova Academy of Ballet' in St. Petersburg, Russia in 1992, Justin has achieved Honours results in all major Cecchetti ballet exams up to the Advanced Level.



Palkett

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The cast

Renato Dimech



Catherine Straubridge



Mario Grech



Staron Abela



Daniela Fajon



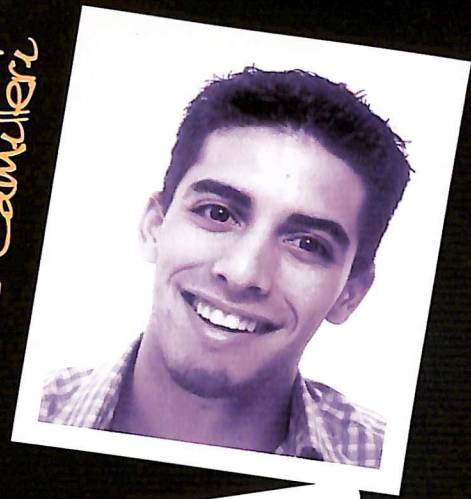
Amya Galea



Claudine Zerafa



Chris Camilleri



Nickise Sultana



Daron Galea



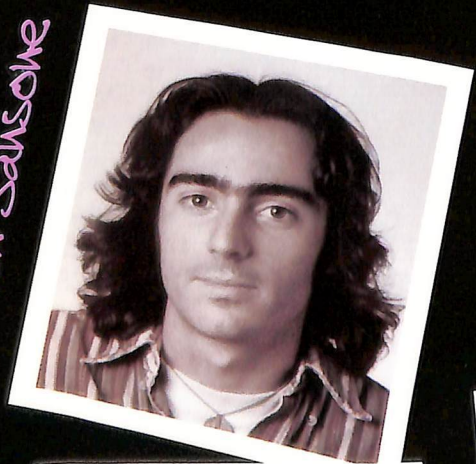
Fiona Mckeown



Giselle Camilleri



Simon Sansone



Daphne Smith



Stephise Camilleri



Tamara Borg



Donald Mallia



Ruth Farrell



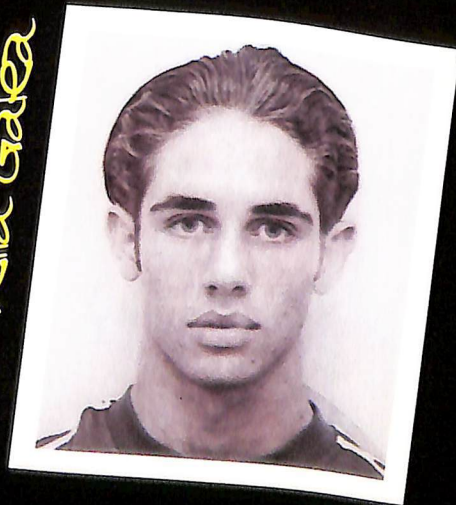
Tiziana Casla



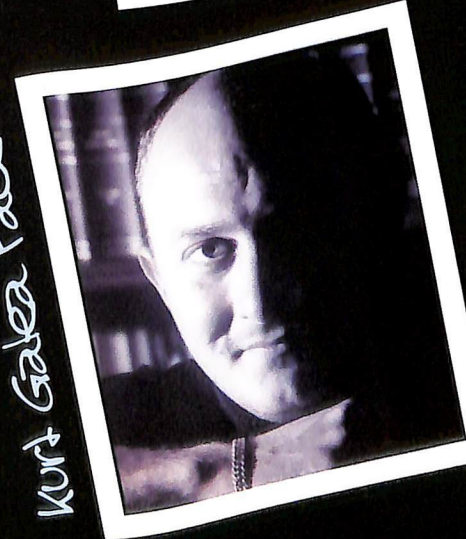
Amanda Vella Laurenti



Sam Vella Galea



Kurt Galea Pace



Yasmine Nuvoli



Ray Calleja



Marianne Muscat



act one
moments in life

1. "MINN FEJN SER NIBDIELEK SINJURA?"
MUSIC BY GONZALEZ ENTITLED "HAVEN'T STOPPED DANCING YET"

2. ELEMENTARY DATING
NARRATOR - RAY CALLEJA FEATURING FELIX BUSUTTIL

3. OKKUPAT
MUSIC BY KING CURTIS ENTITLED "MELANCHOLY SERENADE"

4. TRAFFIC JAM
PART ONE - MUSIC BY DEAN ELLIOT AND HIS BIG BAND ENTITLED "LONESOME ROAD"
PART TWO - MUSIC BY THE JOHN BUZON TRIO ENTITLED "MR. GHOST GOES TO TOWN"

5. MUMENTI MALTIN
a) GHONELLA
MUSIC BY CHARLES CAMILLERI ENTITLED "COUNTRY DANCE"
b) BIZZILLA
MUSIC BY CHARLES CAMILLERI ENTITLED "THE WATCHMAKER FROM GOZO"
c) GURNATA XOGHOL
MUSIC BY CHARLES CAMILLERI ENTITLED "WALTZ"
d) IL-PIKNIK
MUSIC BY FREDDIE PORTELLI ENTITLED "GENNA TA' L-ART"



6. ANIMAL KINGDOM
a) PLIGHT OF THE BUMBLE BEE
MUSIC BY RIMSKY-KORSAKOV ENTITLED "FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLE BEE" FROM "THE TALE OF TSAR SALTAN"
b) CI-WA-WA
MUSIC BY LUIS OLIVEIRA AND HIS BANDODALUA BOYS ENTITLED "CHIHUAHUA"
DOGS ARE REAL AND WERE WELL-TREATED S.P.C.A. PLEASE NOTE
c) THE OSTRICH
MUSIC BY YMA SUMAC ENTITLED "TAKI RARI"

7. THE CHAPEL OF LOVE
"CHAPEL OF LOVE" AND "BOOGIE WOOGIE BUGLE BOY" SUNG BY BETTE MIDLER

8. A CONVERSATION
"HOLIDAY FOR STRINGS" BY THE VOICES OF WALTER SCHUMANN

9. MRS. ROWINSKY'S GET-TOGETHER
"TWO STEP NADYA" PERFORMED BY THE TEREM QUARTET

...interval...



1. DANCE OF THE COMEDIANS
MUSIC PERFORMED BY THE ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA ENTITLED "DANCE OF THE COMEDIANS" COMPOSED BY BEDRICH SMETANA CHOREOGRAPHY BY JUSTIN ROY BARKER

2. THE NAUGHTY BOOKS
MUSIC BY VARIOUS ARTISTS CHOREOGRAPHY PERFORMED BY THE "ULTRA-CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY" "A MURDEROUS APPROACH TO PORNOGRAPHY"

3. STRANGELY BALLROOM
MUSIC BY VARIOUS ARTISTS CHOREOGRAPHY PERFORMED BY THE "EXCELLENT BALLROOM FORMATION GROUP"
"WE REGRET TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT COUPLE NO.5 HAVE BEEN ABRUPTLY REPLACED BY TWO OF OUR NOVICE DANCERS... THANK YOU"

4. FELICIA
MUSIC FROM "TANGO" BY E. SABORIDO CHOREOGRAPHY PERFORMED BY FELIX AND FELICIA HERSELF

5. SOUNDS OF RELAXATION
MUSIC FROM PLANET SOUP CHOREOGRAPHY PERFORMED BY THE "HARA KRISHNA DANCERS"

6. "YEAH, BABY!"
MUSIC FROM "SWEET CHARITY" - THE OVERTURE

7. GISELLE LA SYPHILLIDES
MUSIC IS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF ADOLPHE CHOREOGRAPHY PERFORMED BY "THE COMINO STATE BALLET"



act two
divertissement

8. MACHO ESPAÑA
MUSIC BY THE MANUEL TRIO ALL THE WAY FROM SEVILLE "LA RAFFA TRIO"



9. SWAN LAKE
MUSIC BY TCHAIKOVSKY CHOREOGRAPHY PERFORMED BY "THE DECEPTIVE BALLET COMPANY OF MALTA" DANCERS COACHED BY MADAME ALISON BIRDIKOVA

10. "GHALL-GHADA, SINJURA ...AU REVOIR"
MUSIC BY GONZALEZ ENTITLED "HAVEN'T STOPPED DANCING YET"



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“Qagħdna bil qiegħda ħdejn xulxin u VERA dħaqna”

Eddie u Freddie

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HO HO HI HI

HAAAAA

HAAA...

OHOHOH!

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Prince Challie

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Felix



“p...xxejt tahti.”

il- taghna

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Acknowledgments

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Artistic Director & Producer
Felix Busuffil
Featuring Choreography by
Justin Roy Barker

Production & Public Relations Co-ordinator
Catherine Strawbridge
assisted by **Mario Grech**

Set Design & Construction
Harry Borg
Stage Manager
Harry Borg
Backstage
Matteo Buttigieg

Costumes designed by
Felix Busuffil, Justin Roy Barker,
Elvia Leone Ganado & Ernest Camilleri

Costumes by
Ernest Camilleri & Elvia Leone Ganado
assisted by **Delina Abdilla**

Wardrobe
Elvia Leone Ganado & Ernest Camilleri

Props Manager
Mario Grech

Props Co-ordinator
Marco Buttigieg
assisted by **Silvana Sant'Angelo & Isabella Attard**

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assisted by **Smits - Assistant Engineer**
Ian Borda, Adrian Pisani - Backstage Crew

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Diane Nikovic

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Peter Bartolo Parnis



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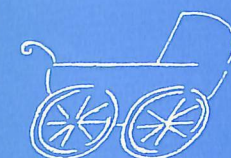
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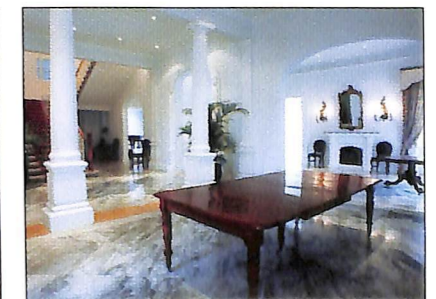
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