

# Russell Kerr Lecture in Ballet and Related Arts

The Inaugural Russell Kerr Lecture:

# KRISTIAN FREDRIKSON: A DIVERSE CAREER

New Zealand theatre costume designer who gained an international reputation—a Petone boy made good.

## by Dr Michelle Potter

Adam Concert Room, Te Koki - New Zealand School of Music, Victoria University of Wellington. 3:00 p.m., Sunday 11 February, 2018

The event has valued support from Te Koki, New Zealand School of Music.

11 February, 2018 is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the day Jon Trimmer joined New Zealand Ballet under the direction of Poul Gnatt in 1958. To mark this occasion, the lecture will open with Sir Jon performing together with William Fitzgerald, in *Lark*, choreographed by Loughlan Prior, of RNZB, piano accompaniment by Hamish Robb and Beth Chen, of NZSM. *Lark* is performed by kind permission of Royal New Zealand Ballet.

Title: LARK

Choreographer: Loughlan Prior

Dancers: Sir Jon Trimmer and William Fitzgerald

Musicians: Hamish Robb and Beth Chen

Music: "The Lark" (Farewell to St Petersburg no. 10), by Mikhail Glinka; Italian Polka (piano duet), by

Sergei Rachmaninoff; "Serenade" (Petite Suite no. 6), by Aleksandr Borodin.

## Designs by Kristian Fredrikson: New Zealand

Work	Company	Year of Premiere
A Night in Venice	Opera Technique (Inc)	1962
Amahl and the Night Visitors	Opera Technique (Inc)	1962
La vie parisienne	Opera Technique (Inc)	1963
The Winter Garden	New Zealand Ballet	1963
Charade	New Zealand Ballet	1967
Titania Wakes	New Zealand Ballet	1981
The Firebird	New Zealand Ballet	1982
Orpheus	New Zealand Ballet	1982
Swan Lake	Royal New Zealand Ballet	1985
Tell Me a Tale	Royal New Zealand Ballet	1988
A Servant of Two Masters	Royal New Zealand Ballet	1989
Faust	Wellington City Opera	1989
Jean: the Ballet of Jean Batten	Royal New Zealand Ballet	1990
The Magic Flute	Wellington City Opera	1991
Cinderella	Royal New Zealand Ballet	1991
Swan Lake	Royal New Zealand Ballet	1996
Peter Pan	Royal New Zealand Ballet	1999
A Christmas Carol	Royal New Zealand Ballet	2001
The Nutcracker	Royal New Zealand Ballet	2005

**Dr. MICHELLE POTTER**, a leading Australian dance scholar and historian, holds a doctorate in Art History and Dance History from Australian National University, and is writing a book about Kristian Fredrikson. Her website ... on dancing can be found at <a href="http://michellepotter.org">http://michellepotter.org</a>.

The organizing committee for the Russell Kerr Lecture in Ballet and the Related Arts is: Nigel Boyes, Ian Lochhead, Keith McEwing, Anne Rowse, Bill Sheat, and Jennifer Shennan. The lecture will be offered annually for a five year series. To contribute to the fund, or for more details, email <a href="mailto:jennifershennan@xtra.co.nz">jennifershennan@xtra.co.nz</a> or <a href="mailto:annesudell@orcon.net.nz">annesudell@orcon.net.nz</a>.

A Night in Venice

Music by Johann Strauss II; original libretto
by F Zell and Richard Genée



Production Premiere: 2 October 1962, Wellington Technical College Theatre, Wellington, performed by Opera Technique (Inc). Production by Harry Baker (direction), Tanya Jakubove and Kevin Mansfield (choreography), Kristian Fredrikson (costumes), Allan Lees (set).

# Amahl and the Night Visitors Music and libretto by Gian Carlo Menotti



Production Premiere: 10 December 1962, Epuni Community Centre, Wellington, performed by Opera Technique (Inc).

Production by Alix McMillan (producer), Leonie Ralph (choreography), Kristian Fredrikson (costumes), Allan Lees (set).

**Listen online** to an oral history interview with Kristian Fredrikson recorded in 1993 at this link: <a href="http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-217150893/listen">http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-217150893/listen</a>

### Other reading:

- Cockerill, Ian. 'The Face: Kristian Fredrikson. Set designer', The Weekend Australian, 30 November-1 December 2002, R3.
- Fredrikson, Kristian. 'Dance design in the 20th century.' Art on View (National Gallery of Australia), 17 (Autumn 1999).
- Shennan, Jennifer. A time to dance. The Royal New Zealand Ballet at 50 (Wellington: Royal New Zealand Ballet, 2003).
- Shennan, Jennifer & Anne Rowse (eds), *The Royal New Zealand Ballet at Sixty* (Wellington: Victoria University Press, 2015).

#### Kristian Fredrikson Scholarship

Read about the Kristian Fredrickson Scholarship set up to perpetuate his memory and his contribution to the performing arts at this link: <a href="http://www.fredriksonscholarship.org">http://www.fredriksonscholarship.org</a>.



Kristian Fredrikson, design for two Spanish dancers in Russell Kerr's *Swan Lake*. Royal New Zealand Ballet, 1996. National Library of Australia, Papers of Kristian Fredrikson MS 10122.