

THE TRIBUNE

Arts & Entertainment

Photographer travelled the world for dance shots

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Correspondent

David Street's skill in capturing the world of dance through photography, which has won him wide acclaim in Canada, has now brought him international recognition.

This summer, the Stouffville resident spent several weeks photographing dancers from some of the most prestigious companies in the world to promote the Orange County Performing Arts Center's 1998 International Classic Dance Season.

"I've worked for them a number of times over the last four years through a contact at the National Ballet (of Canada)," said Street.

"Back in May I was booked to go down to California to photograph some new board directors in Orange County."

Two weeks before he was due to leave, he received a call asking if he would be interested in photographing a number of international dance companies for the organization's 1998 brochure.

"Half an hour later, I hung up and said to the kids, 'I'm off to Cuba and Italy and France and England. Can you look after yourselves?'"

The center itself is one of the largest privately-funded theatre complexes in the United States and receives no government grants.

"It's been open 10 years and has always had a dance season — this year they wanted to expand it."

Although photographs were available from each company, Street's contact wanted the brochure to have a specific, cohesive format, which could be achieved only by using a single photographer. And it wasn't just his dance background which made him an excellent choice for the project.

"One of the reasons this assignment came about is that I have a particular backdrop, which I now know measures 17 x 30 feet and weighs 36 lb., and I took it to all the locations."

As a result, "It looks as though all the dancers flew over to my studio for the photography when, in fact, it was the other way round."

It may have been easier for the dancers, but it was no picnic for Street. "It isn't easy flying into Cuba with 10 pieces of camera equipment," he observed, wryly.

"It took 20 hours to fly there because you can't go directly and I arrived in Havana at 12.30 a.m."

Add to that the fact that he doesn't speak a word of Spanish and it's hardly surprising that just getting through customs was something of a challenge.

After completing his work with the National Ballet of Cuba, "I came back here for a day and a half and then flew to London (England)." There he met up with his assistant and the two took off for Genoa, Italy, to photograph the Balletto di Toscana "with only eight pieces of equipment."

His next stop was France and the National Ballet of Marseilles, where he met the famed choreographer, Roland Petit. From there, he and his assistant flew back to London to photograph the Rambert Dance Company.

"I came back on the Sunday, spent two days here, attended (youngest son) Alex's Grade 8 graduation and left on the Tuesday for New York to photograph the New York City Ballet at the Lincoln Centre."

The brochure has been extremely well received, he said.

"It's been a phenomenal success. Dance tickets for the season are way ahead of estimates and there have been many requests for additional copies of the brochure."

Interest in his work has already been expressed by other organizations as a result of his involvement in the project, he added.

Street's work ranges from performing arts and corporate photography to private portraits. He can be reached at 642-0479.



CHAPLIN DANCES: Stouffville's David Street took this spectacular shot of performers in Le Ballet National de Marseille in France, as part of a globe-trotting assignment to put together a brochure on dance companies.

Live music returns to the Heritage Arms in September

FULLERTON'S

Trivia returns with new host Bill McKee, from 7-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday brings back Grant Fullerton, followed by the popular Celebrity Jam on Sunday night from 6 to 10 p.m. Located at 6211 Main St. Please call 642-5360 for details.

SGT. PEPPERS PUB & GRILL

Wednesday it's Margarita & Pizza night. On Sunday nights bring your voice, instrument and friends to Jam Night and Industry Night, starting at 6 p.m. Located at 5694 Hwy. 7, Markham. Call 471-9876.

JAKES ON MAIN PUB AND GRILLE

NFL season is back at Jakes. Catch all the action on 20 TVs and a large screen. Q-107 and Dave Kirkland return on Mon., Sept. 22. Bud girls and

prizes. Monday night it's 2 for 1 wings. A live DJ spins the latest tunes on Friday and Saturday nights. Located at 202 Main St., Unionville. Call 470-6955 for details.

MICKEY RATS

Located at 6400 Main St. Please call 640-7287 for details.

FOOTLOOSE NITE CLUB

Slo-pitch Sundays: the best of classic rock featuring "Dr. Wobbely Pops" live. Flashback Mondays: D.J. Scratch spins the best R&B, Hip Hop, Old Skool, Reggae. Turnabout Tuesdays: Eric Norris teaches beginner country line dancing 7:15 to 11 p.m. Whirlwind Wednesdays: D.J.'s Brandon and Adrian spin all alternative new and retro. Thursdays: Norris teaches intermediate to advanced country line and partner dances, 7:30-9:30. All request country dance 9:30 to 11 p.m. All

request new country, dance and rock 11 p.m. - 2 a.m. Funbar Fridays: D.J. Griz spins all request hits and classics. The Bomb Saturdays: D.J. Gerbs and special guests spin the best R&B, Hip Hop, Old Skool, Reggae. All ages every week. Over 16 a must. Call 294-9728 for more details.

HERITAGE ARMS

Live music is back on Thursday and Saturdays in September. Half-price wings on Mondays and Tuesdays. There are 24 draft beers on tap and an outdoor patio. The upstairs bar is available for private parties. Please call 294-1300.

THE TOWN CRIER RESTAURANT & PUB

Open for real English breakfast seven days a week. Introducing the new "pitcher package" on Tuesdays and Thursdays: 60-ounce pitcher of beer with either wings or nachos for \$13.50.

spotlight

Come sample their brand new lunch and dinner specials prepared by George the chef. Live entertainment every Friday night. Located at 6298 Main St. Please call 642-6937 for details.

THE EARL OF WHITCHURCH

Located at 6204 Main St. Please call 640-8300 for details.

To promote your event in Spotlight, fax the details to (905) 294-1538, mail to 9 Heritage Rd., Markham, L3P 1M3, or e-mail to econsun@istar.ca.