

Krzysztof Pastor

Krzysztof Pastor began his ballet training with the Ballet School in his home town of Gdańsk. After his training, he joined the Polish Dance Theatre in Poznań (1975) where he worked with Conrad Drzewiecki, winning the position of one of the company's leading young artistic personalities. In 1983 Pastor became a soloist with Le Ballet de l'Opéra of Lyon in France, dancing ballets by Gray Veredon, Hans van Manen, Kurt Jooss and others. From 1985 to 1995, he danced with the Dutch National Ballet (Het Nationale Ballet), working with many well-known choreographers. He danced major roles in both classical and neoclassical ballets, as well as modern dance works.

Pastor completed his first choreographic work in 1986 for an international gala performance in Łódź. After creating several ballets for the Dutch National Ballet's workshop programmes, in 1992 he was asked to design a ballet for the company's main programme: the successful "Shostakovich - Chamber Symphony". In the 1997/98 season he joined the Washington Ballet as its choreographer in residence, and became the Dutch National Ballet's choreographer in residence in the 1998/99 season. Pastor has since gained considerable recognition as an international choreographer, creating nearly fifty ballets to date, including the highly acclaimed "Do Not Go Gentle...", and "In Light and Shadow"; the large-scale, full-length production "Kurt Weill", "Acid City", "Don Giovanni", "Tristan", "Dangerous Liaisons"; and "Symphony Fantastic".

In 1995 Pastor's duet "Detail IV" won the Gold Choreography Award of the Helsinki International Ballet Competition. In 2000 he was awarded the Medal of 200 Years of Polish Ballet by the Ministry of Culture in Poland, and the Dancers Fund '79 Choreography Prize in the Netherlands.

Alongside his work for the Dutch National Ballet, Pastor has created ballets for many companies in other countries, such as the Royal Swedish Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow, Scottish Ballet, Washington Ballet, Ballet Opera Dresden, Israel Ballet, Royal Flemish Ballet, Ballet of the Polish National Opera in Warsaw (Górecki's "Third Symphony", 1994), National Ballet of Lithuania, National Ballet of Latvia, Donau Ballet, Hungarian National Ballet, National Theatre in Brno, Ankara State Ballet, Australian Ballet, West Australian Ballet, Royal New Zealand Ballet, and Hong Kong Ballet.

In 2010 director Krzysztof Pastor received the prestigious Terpsichore Award which was presented by the Polish Theatre Artists Union. In 2011 he was awarded by the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage, the highest cultural award, the "Gloria Artis" Gold Medal for his choreographic achievements around the world and for his artistic and organizational effort to raise the prestige of ballet art in Poland. Krzysztof Pastor is currently Artistic Director of both the Polish National Ballet and Lithuanian National Ballet.

Phil R. Daniels and Charles Cusick Smith

Phil and Charles have worked in the UK and internationally designing opera, ballet, drama, musicals and pantomime.

Recent productions: *Hello Dolly*; *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*; *Rigoletto*, *Carousel*; *Pinocchio*; *39 steps*; *West Side Story*; *La Cage Aux Folles*; *A Waltzdream* (Austria); *Raymonda* (Estonia); *Alice in Wonderland* (Ballet du Capitole, France); *Spamalot* (Tour in Germany and Switzerland); *Glass Menagerie*; *Cider with Rosie* and *Cinderella* (Cheltenham Everyman Theatre).

Phil trained at Bristol Old Vic and has designed work performed at the National Theatre (UK) and for the BBC.

Charles trained at the Glasgow School of Art and the Slade in London and was awarded twice for his designs in the UK, most notably the Theatre Management of Great Britain, 'Best Designer' in 1993 and the Evening News Award 'Best Designer' 1986.

Thirty of their designs were acquired by the Victoria and Albert Museum in London for inclusion in the permanent National Collection (UK).