

GREGORY AARON

Gregory Aaron brings his versatility of dancing in prestigious companies such as Oregon Ballet Theater, The Hartford Ballet and the Boston Ballet as well as co directing Atlanta Festival Ballet with Nicolas Pacaña for twenty-six years and Balletcenter Cebu, Philippines, for eleven years to his position as Artistic Director of Motion Studios of Performing Arts, Abu Dhabi.



Since 1989 Mr. Aaron guided the nonprofit company Atlanta Festival Ballet; budgeting for two major productions, two repertory seasons, Spring Gala, and Summer Gala performances a year. While his primary energies are directed toward choreography and artistic involvement, Mr. Aaron oversees a staff of five as well as various guild committees, ticketing, programs and backstage coordination. The company is made up of professional dancers, complemented by serious student apprentices, who gain valuable experience and superior training in this endeavor. Many of Mr. Aaron's students have been accepted to or received scholarships from major ballet programs and schools across the country.

Highlights of Mr. Aaron's dancing career include: Romeo and Juliet with The Hartford Ballet, Nutcracker Prince and Chinese in The Nutcracker, man at the table in the world famous ballet The Green Table, touring France, Milan, Rome, Venice, Naples and Reggio Calabria, Italy, Taormina and Palermo, Sicily, and Broadway's Uris Theatre, dancing with Rudolph Nureyev and The Boston Ballet in Don Quixote, Swan Lake and Giselle.

During his career he has choreographed a myriad of ballets, such as The Nutcracker, The Little Mermaid, Alice in Wonderland, Peter Pan, Beauty and the Beast, Cinderella, and Coppelia as well as neo-classical ballets such as Eclipse, Bella Amore, Paganini, Outcast, Back to the Fifties, and Sing Sing Sing.

In 2001, Mr. Aaron was invited to dance, teach, and choreograph for Ballet Center of Cebu Philippines. Subsequently he choreographed the children's fairy tale The Little Mermaid that toured to Dumaguete and performed at the prestigious Silliman University. In 2003, he was invited by Girlie Royeca to stage and perform The Little Mermaid on the island of Mindanao, touring to Davao City, General Santos, and Cagayan de Oro. Additionally he was invited to teach at the Cultural Center of the Philippines for Ballet Philippines.

In 2005 Mr. Aaron returned to the Philippines to stage his latest ballet, The Jungle Book. In the fall of that year, he staged The Nutcracker (which has delighted audiences in the Southern Crescent of Atlanta for 25 years), which was performed in Davao City, Tagum City, and General Santos City.

In 2007 he introduced the International Summer Series wherein dancers from all over the Philippines are invited to attend. Valuable Partnerships have been made with Girlie S. Royeca, The Royeca Schools of Ballet, Davao City and General Santos City, Henedina Rocamora, Jete Dance Studio, Dapitan City, Dipolog City, Lipa Ballet, Lipa City Batangas, Mr. Victoriano Tirol of University of Bohol and Sister Celestina Tangan of Holy Spirit of Bohol; Bright Academy, Childlink Learning Center, Abraham Montessori, GT Northeast Academy, Campbell Academy. San Roque College de Cebu. Also in 2007 Mr. Aaron created the OUTREACH PROGRAM for underprivileged and disenfranchised students. Over three hundred students have been served from Barangay's Pasil , Jao Island, Subangdako, Labangon, and Lapu Lapu City, Cambaro and Mandaue.

In 2016 Mr. Aaron formed a partnership with the City of Bogo Science and Arts Academy (CBSAA). This partnership will have lasting affects on the lives of graduates from the K-12 program , preparing them to immediately go into professional work in the world of ballet.

Gregory Aaron directed Atlanta Festival Ballet School and Company for twenty-six years, annually producing two full-length ballets. He was responsible for training students for acceptance and to receive scholarships to schools and companies across the United States of America.

Mr. Aaron enjoys teaching students of all ages and levels. As a choreographer He has choreographed numerous ballets for ages three to adult, beginner to advanced. He is responsible for broadening the scope of students he's directed by introducing international festivals and competitions to the students he's directed including exciting locations like; Knoxville Tennessee, Greensboro North Carolina, Houston Texas US, Penang, Malaysia and Hong Kong, China.

In July 2013 Mr. Aaron signed an agreement between Balletcenter and The Russian Ballet Society of Thailand, which has far reaching results for the exporting of ballet teachers. To date eight ballet dancers have been accepted to teach in the Kingdom of Thailand.

2015 was a whirlwind year for Mr. Aaron; he set Little Mermaid for performances held at the University of Malaya performed by Roche Dance Studio Artistic Director Zse Ye and Equinox Dancing Studio Artistic Director Mei Lin Ng. A new friendship was formed with LayNa Ballet, LayNa Chan Artistic Director Kuching, Sarawak, Borneo where Mr. Aaron guest taught. December saw the premier of Mr. Aaron's ballet Mulan which was performed by A La Pointe Ballet Academy, Janice Khoo Artistic Director and Gwen School of Dance, Gwen Teoh Villenguez Artistic Director at the Dewan Sri Penang.



Mr. Aaron has also guest taught, choreographed and Directed internationally in Malaysia; Gwen School of Dance, Penang, Gwen Teoh Villenguez, Artistic Director, A La Pointe Ballet Academy, Penang, Janice Khoo, Artistic Director, City Ballet, Ipoh, Rosalina Ooi, Artistic Director, ACTS School of Performing Arts, Kuala Lumpur, Angeline Yew, Artistic Director, Equinox Dancing Studio, Equal Stage Dance Studio, Klang, Mei Lin Ng, Artistic Director; The Russian Ballet of Thailand, Chiangmai, Jaruypan Jainawan, Artistic Director.

Presently he is; Artistic Director Emeritus of Atlanta Festival Ballet, Georgia USA, Artistic Director of Balletcenter, Cebu Philippines, and serves as an Artistic Associate for the Lipa Ballet School, Batangas, Jete Dance Studio of Dapitan and Dipolog City and The Royeca Schools of Ballet Davao City and General Santos Cities.

Mr. Aaron began his training under one of the Southwest's leading choreographers Susan Francis. He then went on to study under the founding director of Ballet El Paso at The University of Texas at El Paso, Ingeborg Heuser. Both teachers had immense influence on his early training and inspired him to excel in the study of ballet and to become a professional dancer. He was awarded a stipend scholarship to study at the Houston Ballet Academy, where he studied under Ben Stevenson, Clara Cravey, Eve Pettinger and Frederick Stroebel.

In 1979, Mr. Aaron joined The Hartford Ballet as an apprentice and soon became a company member. In 1982, E. Virginia Williams invited him to join The Boston Ballet. Mr. Aaron began guest dancing and teaching in 1984. As a principal with the Ruth Mitchell Dance Company, he performed Sal Aiela's Nocturno at the Riverside Church Theatre. In 1986 he was asked to become a member of the Pacific Ballet Theatre (now known as Oregon Ballet Theatre) and was featured as the Nutcracker Prince in James Canfield's production of The Nutcracker. While there he also danced in Just for Fun, Peasant Pas de Deux, Cabacon and world premiere of Mr. Canfield's The Third Stage.

Mr. Aaron continues to perform, teach, produce, and choreograph a variety of works across the globe. He has developed not only his distinctive artistic style but also his exceptional ability to prepare and produce outstanding ballet performances.

