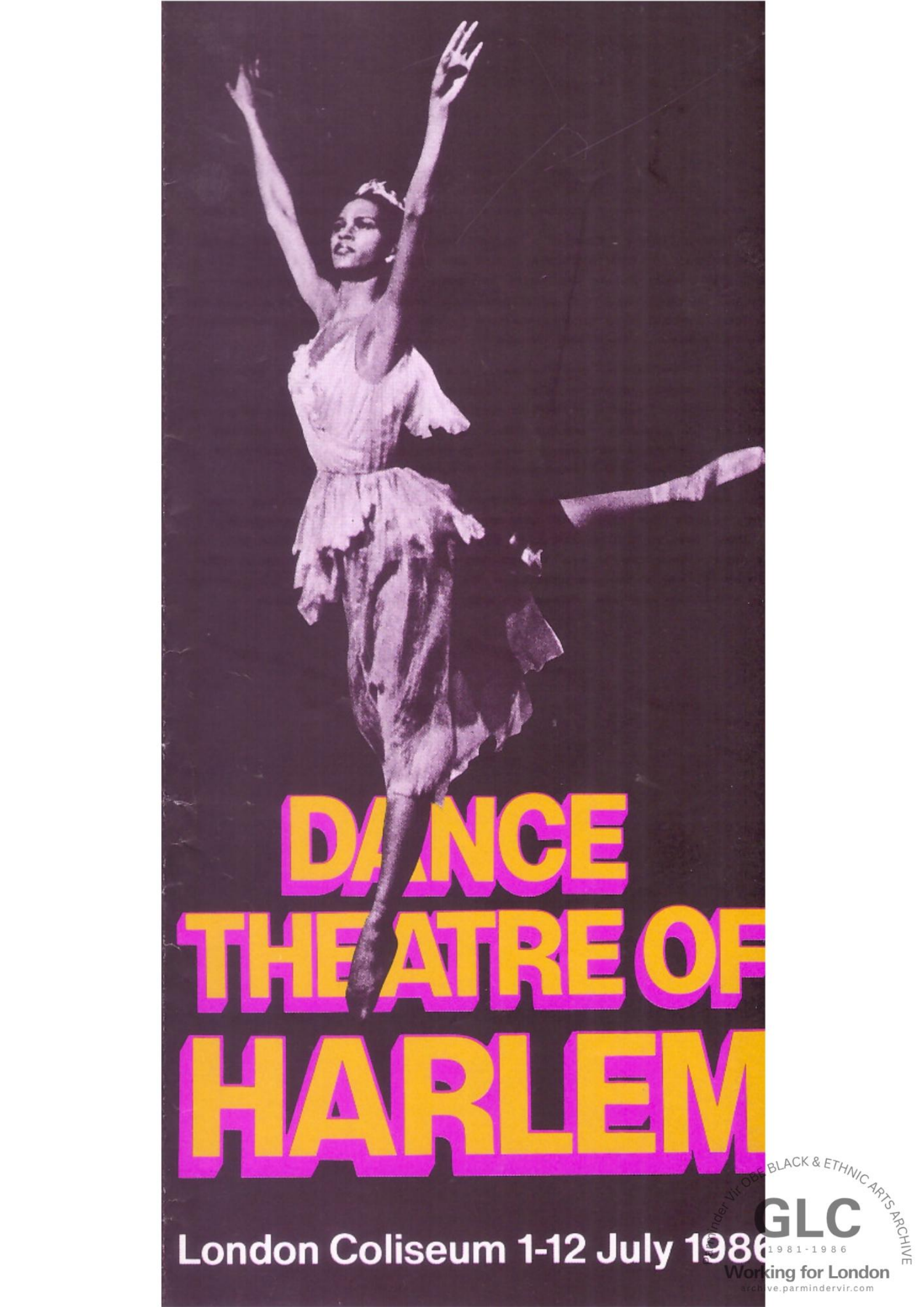




DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM

London Coliseum 1-12 July 1986

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DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM

In 1974 the Dance Theatre of Harlem appeared in London for the first time and took the city by storm. Since that memorable occasion the company has been a regular and extremely popular visitor to London

Not only is Dance Theatre of Harlem one of the most important ballet companies in North America, it has also been acclaimed internationally during the many overseas tours it has undertaken. Its performers have broken attendance records in theatres around the world, danced in command performances for royalty and entertained state visitors at the White House in Washington.

Alumni of the school and company have gone on to careers with other dance companies and in other areas of the performing arts. In recent years Dance Theatre of Harlem has broadened its repertoire of works, adding the classics from the American and Ballet Russes repertoire and the company has moved through the old barriers to become an artistic triumph in the mainstream of American dance.

For this 1986 season Arthur Mitchell has chosen a programme which will include five ballets not previously performed by the company in London and he is bringing back the highly praised production of *Giselle* which had its world première at the London Coliseum in 1984. *Firebird*, one of the sensations of the company's last visit, is returning as is the ever-popular *Serenade* and Geoffrey Holder's *Banda*.

Founders
Arthur Mitchell
Karel Shook

Dance Artists
Karen Brown
Joseph Cipolla
Stephanie Dabney
Julie Felix
Lorraine Graves*
Yvonne Hall

Dean Anderson
Joselli Audain
Anjali Austin
Tyrone Brooks

Lisa Attles
Sharon Bogan
Carol Crawford
Marcia de Castro
Robert Garland
Nina Gilreath
Kellye Gordon
James Goree

Conductors
David LaMarche
Michael Lloyd

Director
Arthur Mitchell

Charmaine Hunter
Virginia Johnson
Carl Jonassaint
Melanie Person
Cassandra Phifer
Eddie J Shellman

Cubie Burke
Darrell Davis
Elena Dominguez

Karen Henry
Gregory Jackson
Christina Johnson
Erika Lambe
Hugues Magen
Adelaide Mallette
Nicolette Marshall
Mitchell McCarthy

* Ballet Mistress

Musical Director
Milton Rosenstock

Lowell Smith
Linda Swayze
Judy Tyrus
Augustus Van Heerden
Derek Williams
Donald Williams

Pierre Lockett
Judith Rotardier
Theara Ward

Bernard McClain
Allen Sampson
Willow Sanchez
Endalyn Taylor
Keith Thomas
Laurie Woodard
Leslie Woodard

"This *Giselle* is imaginative,
alive and true"
Clement Crisp, Financial Times, 1984

"... a *Giselle* that will go down
in the history books"
Rob Baker, New York Daily News

"This is one of those performances
that has the whole audience
holding its breath in wonder;
a performance to treasure for
a lifetime"
Kate Clark, Morning Star

Giselle Eddie J Shellman, Virginia Johnson
Photo: Marbeth

"... this is a must-see-'em troupe that should not be permitted to leave town until it has shown us all of its jewels"
Laurie Horn, Miami Herald

"DTH performs with an intensity of passion and purpose that underlies the dramatic qualities of each work it produces"
Joe Mazo, Women's Wear Daily

"It is a looming personality, and the desire to reach across the footlights, that makes Mitchell's company such a vividly dramatic ensemble ..."
Daniel Webster, Philadelphia Inquirer

"... as thrilling and feline a group of natural classical dancers as you will find anywhere in the world ..."
David Gillard, Daily Mail, 1984

"The Dance Theatre of Harlem, directed by Arthur Mitchell, is one of the world's finest ballet companies with extraordinary versatility and vitality ..."
Fernau Hall, Daily Telegraph, 1984

"... a company of dancers who fill the stage with a welcoming warmth"
Jennifer Dunning, New York Times



Stars and Stripes Donald Williams, Stephanie Dabney
Photo: Johan Elbers

Diary of performances

Evenings at 7.30pm
Saturday Matinees at 2pm

Tue 1 July
Stars and Stripes/Fancy Free/Concerto in F
Wed 2 July
Stars and Stripes/Fancy Free/Concerto in F
Thu 3 July
Allegro brillante/Giselle
Fri 4 July
Concerto in F/Fancy Free/Stars and Stripes
Sat 5 July Mat & Eve
Allegro brillante/Giselle

Mon 7 July
Serenade/Voluntaries/Firebird
Tue 8 July
Serenade/Voluntaries/Firebird
Wed 9 July
Voluntaries/Banda/Stars and Stripes
Thu 10 July
Voluntaries/Concerto in F/Banda
Fri 11 July
Serenade/Equus/Firebird
Sat 12 July Mat & Eve
Serenade/Equus/Firebird

Part of

London Dance Festival 1986

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Designed by Sue Chennells

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Battley Brothers Printers 37 Old Town Clapham London SW4 0JN

Fancy Free
Cubie Burke
Photo: Martha Swope



Allegro brillante

(DTH 1975)
Running time: 15 minutes

Choreography: George Balanchine
Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Costume execution: Zelda Wynn

George Balanchine composed a number of works to Tchaikovsky scores, notably *Serenade* (1934), *Ballet Imperial* (1941), *Theme and Variations* (1947), *The Nutcracker* (1954), and staged the Tchaikovsky Festival. In 1956 he invented *Allegro brillante*. He described this work as a concentrated essay in the extended classic vocabulary in which a maximum amount of choreography development, contained in a rather restricted area of time and space, accompanies the full resources of the orchestra and solo piano.

Banda

(DTH 1982)
Running time: 22 minutes

Music, choreography, scenery and costumes:
Geoffrey Holder

Banda is a dance of Baron Samedi, one of the most powerful of the Haitian Voodoo deities. He is the Sovereign of the Cemeteries, Lord of Eroticism; the Eternal Figure posted at the timeless crossroads at which all men, and even the sun, one day arrive. He is the Guardian of the Past, of the history of the race; an aristocratic King of the Clowns. His scarf and cane are the symbols of life and pleasure. And the cross on the tomb is his symbol.

Concerto in F

(DTH 1986)
Running time: 27 minutes

Choreography: Billy Wilson
Music: George Gershwin
Scenery and costumes: Carl Michel

This is Mr Wilson's interpretation of New York as depicted in the music of George Gershwin.

Equus

(DTH 1982)
Running time: 38 minutes

Choreography: Domy Reiter-Soffer
Music: Wilfred Josephs
Scenery and costumes: Domy Reiter-Soffer

Based on the play by Peter Shaffer, the main action of the ballet takes place in a psychiatric hospital, the Strang family home, a stable and a field at night. The ballet is divided into scenes, indicating a change of time, locale or mood.

Fancy Free

(DTH 1985)
Running time: 27 minutes

Choreography: Jerome Robbins
Music: Leonard Bernstein
Scenery: Oliver Smith
Costumes: Kermit Love

Fancy Free, Jerome Robbins' first ballet, is about three American sailors on leave in Manhattan and what happens when they become involved with some girls. It was an instant hit when it premiered in 1944 and it was the inspiration for the Robbins-Bernstein musical *On the Town*.

Firebird

(DTH 1982)
Running time: 30 minutes

Choreography: John Taras
Music: Igor Stravinsky (1945 version)
Scenery and costumes: Geoffrey Holder

Taken out of the Russian setting this *Firebird* is a magnificent staging by John Taras with the exotic brilliance of Geoffrey Holder's scenery and costumes. Performed to the 1945 Stravinsky score, this is a tale of a magical bird and the triumph of good over evil.

Giselle

(DTH world première 1984)
Running time: 90 minutes

Choreography: Frederic Franklin
Music: Adolphe Adam
Scenery and costumes: Carl Michell

Frederic Franklin's staging of *Giselle* for Dance Theatre of Harlem had its world première at the London Coliseum. Set in the 19th-century Creole society of Louisiana in the richly evocative surroundings of pre-Civil War America, the classic tale is spun out with Giselle led to her death by heartbreak when she discovers her beloved Albrecht is betrothed to another.

Serenade

(DTH 1979)
Running time: 35 minutes

Choreography: George Balanchine
Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Costumes: Karinska

Set to Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings*, this was the first ballet created by Balanchine in America. 'There is no "story" although much is hinted – love, rejection, mourning – nothing specified. There are no characters; there are dancers, not people who anguish, following the ebbing of the score. It's all in the music,' says Balanchine. – Nancy Reynolds, Repertory in Review

Stars and Stripes

(DTH 1984)
Running time: 30 minutes

Choreography: George Balanchine
Music: John Philip Sousa
adapted and arranged by Hershey Kay
Scenery: David Hays
Costumes: Karinska

A ballet in five campaigns, it is a kind of balletic parade based on the themes of Sousa's patriotic marching-band music. The campaigns, or movements, feature each regiment in turn; following a grand *pas de deux* all combine in the finale as a giant American flag appears.

Voluntaries

(DTH 1984)
Running time: 28 minutes

Choreography: Glen Tetley
Music: Francis Poulenc
Scenery and costumes: Rouben Ter-Arutunian

Voluntaries by music definition are free-ranging organ or trumpet improvisations that are often played before, during, or after religious service. The Latin root of the word also connotes desire or flight and the ballet is conceived as a linked series of voluntaries.

Booking Information

London Coliseum
St Martin's Lane
London WC2N 4ES

Box Office

Open 10am to 8pm
Closed Sundays and 26 May

Telephones

01-836 3161
Seat reservations (held 3 days)
01-240 5258
Credit card bookings
01-379 6212
Ticketmaster credit card bookings
01-836 7666
Recorded booking information

Cheques

Payable to English National Opera
accompanied by bank card
when booking in person

Booking opens

6 May by post
19 May at the Box Office

Ticket Prices

Stalls	£17	£15	
Dress Circle	£17	£15	£13
Upper Circle	£10	£8	
Balcony	£5	£4	

Box Seats

Stalls	£17
Dress Circle	£15
Upper Circle	£8
Stage	£8

Firebird
"... sends its audience into a
whooping spell of delirium ...
the house cheered as if it has
just seen an adventure yarn,
and so it had"

Anna Kisselgoff, New York Times

Cover: Giselle Lorraine Graves
Photo: Leslie E Spatt
Firebird Stephanie Dabney
Photo: Leslie E Spatt