

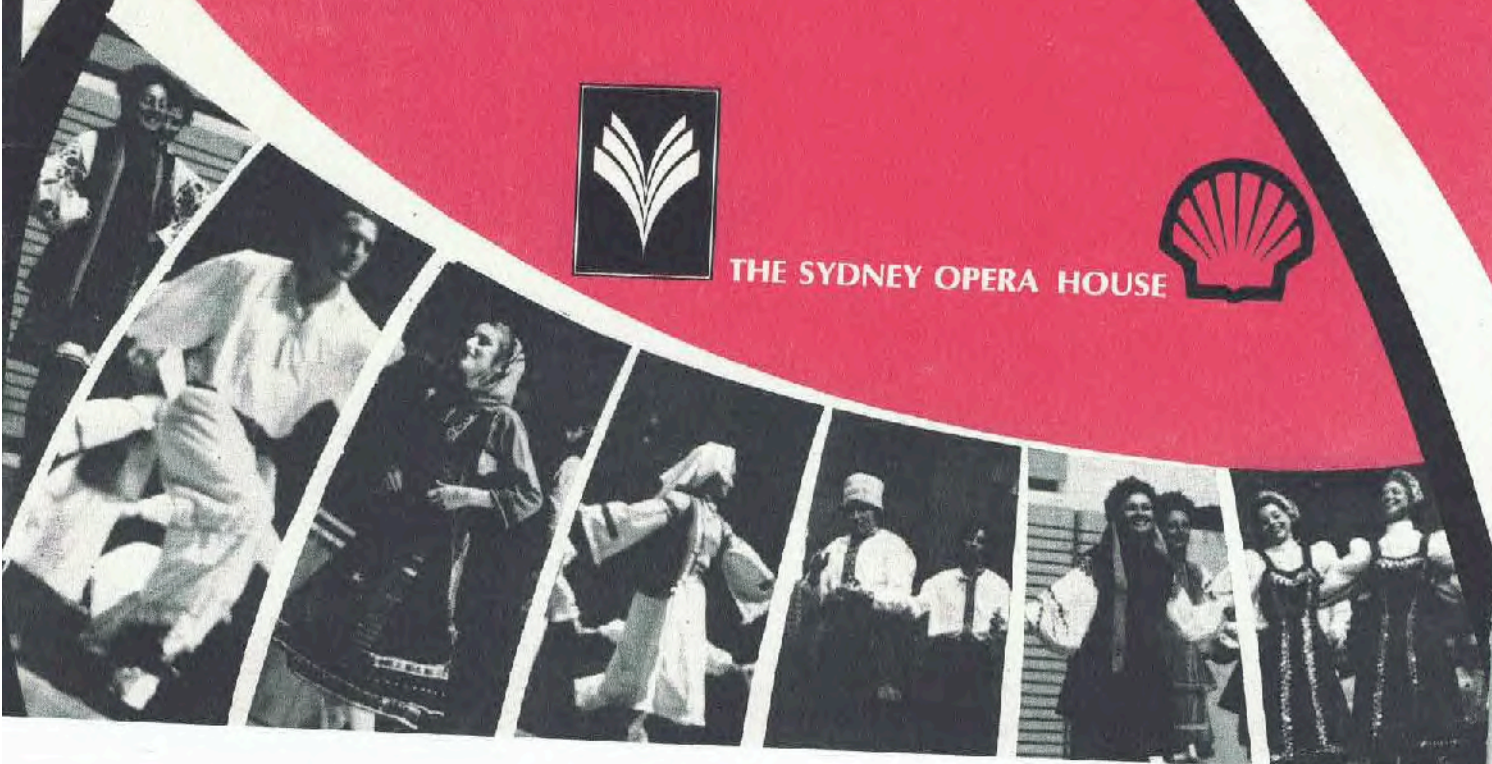
SHELL NATIONAL FOLKLORIC FESTIVAL

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE
OCTOBER 4th, 5th, 6th

1974



THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

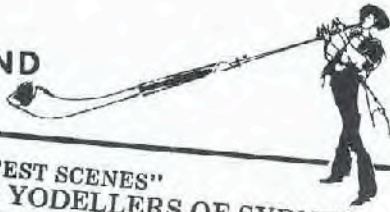


PROGRAM B

Performances: Saturday 5th - 2 p.m.
Sunday 6th - 7 p.m.

1974

SWITZERLAND



"OKTOBERFEST SCENES" THE SWISS YOPELLERS OF SYDNEY

Conductor: Serge Acherman

Alphorn Duet

Traditional Swirling Coin, accompanied by sounds of cowbells and goatbells

"Allimal" (The effects of spring!)

"Meitschi" (Girls can lead you astray!)

Flag Spinning, accompanied by piano accordion (flag spinning was used in olden times by the Swiss mercenary soldier to send messages from one fighting group to another.)

AUSTRIA



AUSTRIAN NATIONAL DANCE GROUP (Adelaide)

Leader and Choreographer: Werner Lachs

Musician: Ferdie Bracko

"Drei Steirer/Trutz Tans

A typical slap dancing Schuhplattler symbolising the "eternal triangle".

SWITZERLAND

"Schwizervolk" (Song honouring the people of Switzerland)

Finale - Alphorns.



ITALY

FOGOLAR FURLAN DANCE GROUP (Adelaide)

Leader & Choreographer: Lorenzo Savio.

1. Furlana. A gracious dance of flirtation which ends in a declaration of love.
2. Lultima Tarantella popular Southern Italian dance.

GREECE

HELLENIC LYCEUM DANCERS

Choreographer: Emilio Tsiligridis
Group of Macedonian Dances

1. Florina Dances:

Leventico

Yerontico

Aeritico

2. Zonapathicos
Dance of Dionisios, God of Wine

3. Anticristos (Courting Dance)

Bride and Groom

Best Man and Matron of Honour

Guest



SERBIA

SERBIAN FOLKLORE GROUP NARODNE ODBRANE

Community President: Dragoslav Markovic
Choreographer: Danica Davidovic

Sumadoka - Traditional dances from the region of Central Serbia

LATVIA

SPRIGULITIS, Canberra Latvian Folk Dance Group

Director: S. Darius.

Supported by:

"JAUTRAIS PARIS", SYDNEY LATVIAN
FOLKDANCE GROUP

Leader: Dr. J. Rungis

LATVIAN VOCAL GROUP "LAIKMETS"

Baritone: A. Rungis ... Flute player: Elizabeth Rice

A ceremony of dance and music and ritual relating to old fertility beliefs.

Ej Saulite Driz Pie Dieva - Song/Dance - the song echoes all over the countryside urging the sun to set, giving the people welcome relief from their daily toil.

Traditional dance - the dancers are carrying decorated branches of the sacred tree.

The Ritual - Offering of flowers, bread and eggs are brought to the sacred stones, together with the 'Jumis', symbol of fertility.

Traditional dance With regained strength and hope the dancers conclude the ceremony.

FIRST

INTERMISSION



In this section the mime introductions are portrayed by GUILLERMO KEYES ARENAS - (courtesy of The Dance Company (N.S.W.)).

INDIA

DR. TAPEN M. MUKHERJEE (Adelaide)

Tabla Solo on Tin Taal - The piece will first be played in a medium tempo ornamented with a wide variety of spot improvisation, followed by the finale in a fast tempo.

WALES

ILLAWARRA WELSH SINGERS

Conductor: Mrs. Doris Williams

1. Ar Hyd Y Nos (All Through The Night) - This is one of the most touchingly beautiful melodies of Wales.

2. Gyfri'r Geifr (Counting the Goats) - A humorous song from Carnarvonshire; the goats are counted in colours white, red, blue.

3. Bryn Calfaria (Laudamus) - One of the best known Welsh chorales.

The "Polonaise" originated as the "Cholzony", a folk dance. It progressed from the peasant's hut to the nobleman's court — changing from the original a dance of gentle delicacy by the girls moving in couples, with the boys' role allowing them only to step in behind the girls. At last, mixed couples were allowed! Later the early dance steps were polished, ornamented by minuet-type bows and curtsies. In the Parisian version this became the Polonaise, which name was adopted by Poland in the 17th century — but the triumphant expansion of the Polonaise came in the 18th century when it opened Royal balls and ceremonial state occasions.

The 'Krakowiak' from the city of Cracow is among the oldest of Polish national dances. The Waltz and Polka are among the unique traditional dances of Lublin . . . the Oberek originates from the Opoczno region. Dynamic and exciting, it is performed in every part of Poland.

DIE SCHWYZER JODLER VO SYDNEY

Ten years ago several nostalgic Swiss were sitting round a table yearning to sing their well loved songs . . . but their Club was not formed until seven years ago. NOW tunes well over 100 years old are sung by the choir of seventeen — some of whom find the old Gothic print rather difficult to read! Yet, with the three alphorns and with champion excellence, they have achieved the ideal of amateur enjoyment.

They now enliven Red Cross functions, the Rocks Festival and many school events, such as the Narrabeen Camp. They appear, too, at the Clubs of other Nationals, who also love folk music.

LIETUVISKU TAUTINIŲ SOKIŲ GRUPE "GRANDINELE"

The fleetness — the living breath of freshness of the Grandinele Lithuanian dancers is a particular asset to any programme of folk-dance. They add a breezy clarity and vitality which is so strong a facet of the dances of many Northerly peoples.

MGA KATUTUBONG-SINING NG PILIPINAS

The Philippine Folk Arts Group (Australia) was organised in 1973 by the Philippine Consulate General in Sydney. The Group is composed of Filipino people from many professions, students and other members of the Filipino community, who are vitally interested in the promotion of Philippine arts, folk songs and dances.

AUSTRIAN NATIONAL DANCE GROUP

Performs the jovial male schuhplattler with exuberance. Their dancing with the ladies presents swirling turning figures and the traditional flirtatious "peeking through the window" formed by the patterns of the dancer's arms. In the programme they join with the Swiss Yodellers in an Alpine Oktoberfest.

FOGOLAR FURLAN DANCE GROUP

Who perform items from the area of Italy surrounding the city of Trieste.

HELLENIC LYCEUM DANCERS

This group was founded in 1950 to present ancient traditional Greek dances at their best. The aim of the Lyceum Club is to preserve both historic and traditional Greek dances and costumes.

THE KALINKA DANCE ENSEMBLE

The Kalinka Dance Ensemble includes young people who have a desire to perform a repertoire from some of the vast number of dances developed in Russia among the people. This new group is searching especially for rapport with the styles of the various areas.

The group includes the well known Sydney Russian Cossack dancers. The director of the group, Theofanis Petsinis, is Greek born but was trained in Russia. After years of professional experience with Russia's touring companies he has now settled in Sydney. The assistant director, Diana de Vos, was previously principal dancer with the Western Australian Ballet Company.

SERBIAN DANCERS

The Serbian National Council in Australia created 17 years ago, the Serbian Dancers, to encourage young people of Serbian descent to learn and enjoy something of their culture. In recent years they have performed widely in Australia touring from their Sydney base as far as Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane.

SPRIGULITIS

Mrs. S. Darius, the Director of the Canberra Latvian Folk Dance Group, has the ability to present her programme in a most impressive ceremonial manner. It becomes truly a theatrical scene with not only the traditional music and dance movements but includes also the very essence of the people in the countryside of Latvia.

This year's scene tells of Latvian peasants toiling from dawn to dusk under cruel masters in ancient days. They pray for an early sunset to relieve their misery of servitude. Christianity was mostly unknown so they turned to their old gods for strength and help; this angered the masters who desecrated the sacred trees. Carrying branches from these severed oaks, the people sought peace and hope by bringing offerings of food and flowers to their spiritually powerful stones.

GUILLERMO KEYES ARENAS

Who appears as a kind of "Pierrot Lunaire" in Programme B to mime the introduction for each of the musical items, is a celebrated artist and choreographer. A member of the Ballet Folklorico de Mexico for some years he is on leave of absence in Australia as Regisseur and Ballet Master with the Dance Company (N.S.W.) for 1974.

Dr. T. M. MUKHERJEE

An expert on various Indian drums. In the programme he will play the well known tabla and also the unusual khol, a clay drum from West Bengal. Dr. Mukherjee will give a short recital based on a 6 matra cycle developed on the khol. He says of this typical East Indian drum that it is ideally suited to be played with folk melodies or with folk dance . . . 'It is almost a way of life in many villages of West Bengal'. It is developed from the traditional Pakawaj.