



BRECON FESTIVAL BALLET

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KATY SINNADURAI

Artistic Director

Katy was born in London and trained at the Arts Educational School and Central School of Ballet. In 1987, she became a corps de ballet dancer with the Bavarian State Ballet (Bayerische Staatsballett) in Munich, where she remained for three years, dancing in all the major classical ballets as well as some modern works and operas, and touring to other European cities.

On her return to London in 1990, Katy joined London City Ballet, dancing at Sadler's Wells and touring throughout the UK and abroad. With this company, Katy danced in more productions from the classical ballet repertoire, including a few solo roles. She particularly enjoyed the more dramatic roles, such as Lady Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*, and Emilia in *Othello*.

After seven years as a professional ballet dancer, and with over 1000 performances behind her, Katy retired from the stage in 1996 and moved to Brecon in 2000 to bring up her young family. Here she moved into the Fitness Industry, gaining qualifications in Group Exercise and Advanced Pilates Matwork. In 2007, she gained a Diploma with distinction in Classical Ballet Teaching, and joined Mid Wales Dance Academy as ballet mistress, teaching the senior pupils. She now teaches a variety of classes, including Body Conditioning and Back Care group classes at Theatr Brycheiniog, and one-to-one Pilates lessons in her private studio for a wide variety of clients, including elite athletes, pre and post-natal clients, and referrals for injury rehabilitation.

Over the last 15 years, Katy has choreographed for more than 40 local productions at Theatr Brycheiniog, including Brecon High School's musical productions, Westender's Pantomime Society productions, and the Brecon Baroque festival. For Mid Wales Dance Academy, Katy introduced Pilates and repertoire to the senior students' programme, and adapted many well-known classical ballets for the annual showcase. She has also created original choreography for the students, such as *Etudes* (in collaboration with composer and pianist, Paul Shallcross), and the *Mid Wales Medley* (Mid Wales Dance Academy's signature piece).

Katy served on the board of directors at Theatr Brycheiniog for a number of years and is also a regular guest teacher for Wales national ballet company, Ballet Cymru. In 2018, she was invited as a guest teacher to Maine State Ballet, USA.

In 2020, Katy was awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's New Year's honours list, for services to dance education, training and performance.