

Katy Sinnadurai BEM Artistic Director

Katy trained at Central School of Ballet and worked professionally with two ballet companies, Bayerische Staatsballett in Munich and London City Ballet. With these companies Katy danced in over a thousand performances, including all the established classical repertoire, touring throughout the UK, Europe and the Far East.

In 1996, she retired from the stage and moved to Brecon in 2000 to bring up her young family. She became a qualified Pilates instructor and has taught Pilates-based classes in Brecon for over 2 decades.

As a qualified ballet teacher, Katy teaches the senior students at Mid-Wales Dance Academy and many former pupils have gone on to full time training and are now working as professionals.

Over the last 20 years, Katy has choreographed for over 50 professional and amateur productions at Theatr Brycheiniog, including musicals, pantomimes, fundraising concerts, *Strictly Come Dancing* tours and the *Brecon Baroque Festival*.

In 2018 she co-founded Brecon Festival Ballet (now a registered charity) with Lesley Walker, with the aim of bringing high quality professional dance to mid-Wales. The productions feature Wales-based professional dancers and musicians performing alongside members of the local community in full-scale productions. In 2019, BFB's first production of *The Nutcracker* won critical acclaim and is now an annual feature of the Brecon calendar.

Katy served on the board of directors at Theatr Brycheiniog for a number of years and is also an occasional guest teacher for companies such as Ballet Cymru, National Dance Company Wales and 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.