

New additional premises for senior students of Olivia Dow School of Russian Ballet

As from 2008, the new additional premises: *Olivia Dow Dance Academy* is just a 'stone's throw away' from the still functional old studio of *Olivia Dow School of Russian Ballet* in Naxxar. It is mainly used by the increasing number of senior ballet students (Grade IV upwards) and for the Boys' Ballet Class which is also gradually increasing in attendance.

This new studio is designed with 'state of the art' lighting, non-slip rubber carpet in two rooms and it is multi-mirrored. The concept of this additional location came from the Founder and Artistic Director John Baldacchino known also to the students as Mr. John, who unfortunately passed away in February 2007 prior to its completion.

The Olivia Dow Dance Academy includes in its repertoire Classical ballet classes: 'en pointe' level and Inklassico classes which covers both Character lessons and intensive stretching exercises for the well-trained senior ballet students.

With the help of her 2 newly graduated Intermediate Teachers: Jessica Farrugia and Martina Zammit, Olivia Dow manages very well with the ever increasing popularity of the Legat System taught in her ballet school and quite naturally her 'sought after' ballet productions by the *Ballet Russe de Malte*: featuring a cast of students from the *Olivia Dow School of Russian Ballet*.

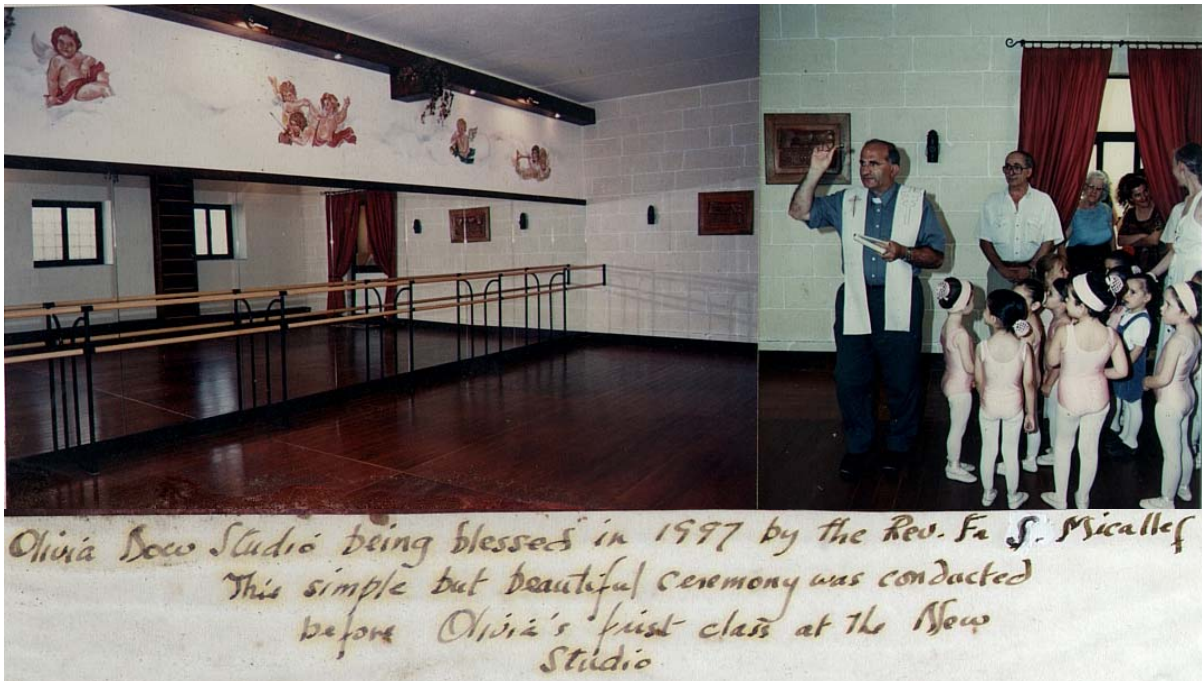


Olivia Dow School of Russian Ballet
106, Leli Falzon Street, Naxxar, Malta.
Tel: 2141 9725 & 2158 3368,
Fax: 2142 2592. Mobile: 9947 4127.
[email: news@oliviadow.com](mailto:news@oliviadow.com)

Olivia Dow's plans for the future

OLIVIA DOW, who is now operating from her new studio in Leli Falzon Street, Naxxar, is producing another new Maltese Ballet, giving her pupils a unique opportunity to perform in public roles which they can safely say were created for them.

OLIVIA DOW's new ballet studio in Naxxar, which will be officially inaugurated in September 1997, before the start of the new term.



*Olivia Dow Studio being blessed in 1997 by the Rev. Fr. S. Micallef
This simple but beautiful ceremony was conducted
before Olivia's first class at the New
Studio*

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Olivia Dow sets up ballet studio

OLIVIA DOW is opening a ballet studio in Excelsior Street, Gharghur on September 27. Like her famous teacher Nadine Nicolaeva Legat, wife of Nicolas Legat after whom the Russian classical ballet system is named. Ms Dow aims to pass on her knowledge and experience to future generations and to create a new, broad-minded, idealistically ambitious artist equipped with abundant knowledge, an artist who will search for new forms and expressions.

Most importantly, she will promote the Legat system. Legat startled the ballet world by graduating directly with the official title of *premier danseur*, a feat unheard of before and never repeated by another man.

He later became the director of *Classe de Perfection*, and most of the famous dancers of the age, including Fokine, Nijinsky, Oboukoff, Leontieff, Anna Pavlova, Kshesinskaya, Karsavina and Trefilova, received their tuition at Legat's hands.

In 1922, Legat was granted permission to leave Russia with his wife Nadine and went to England where they opened a studio. Nadine, a former pupil of her husband's, achieved the highest distinction of Prima Ballerina of the late Imperial Theatres under his tuition and, having equalled his feat of graduating after school examinations as a soloist without a preliminary period in the *corps de ballet*, won world fame through her tours of Europe.

Legat system

In 1923 the Legats founded the Russian Ballet Society in Great Britain. Nadine developed and evolved her husband's methods and taught the Legat system to countless pupils from all over the world, including Olivia Dow.

Gold-medallist Olivia Dow graduated with honours in 1968 and joined famous opera and ballet



OLIVIA DOW, at the age of 15, being trained by Mme Legat herself

companies including the *Pfalz-theater-Munster* and *Pfalztheater-Kaiserslautern* in Germany, where she spent six years touring major cities. She returned to Edinburgh and danced in the ballet *La Syl-*


phide with the Scottish Theatre Ballet and also performed on various programmes on Scottish television.

In 1973, she formed her own company and produced and choreographed shows in Malta, Italy, Holland and England, including *Mayfair*, London.

In Malta, her shows included *The Olivia Dow Spectaculars* at the Preluna Hotel in 1974, *Les Magnifiques* at the Buskett Roadhouse, *Horrorscope* at the Nigret, various shows at the Salina Bay Hotel and other venues and hotels.

The Olivia Dow Spectacular was repeated at Tigullio and then in Mayfair later. It was acclaimed as one of the best spectaculars in town by *Stage and Television Today*.

The Legat System is taught in many countries. The Legat Society's president is Mme Nathalie Krassouska, a third generation ballerina who worked with outstanding choreographers like Massine, Nijinsky, Balanchine and Fokine.



THE OLIVIA DOW BALLET STUDIO

Excelsior Street, Gharghur

Specialist training in

RUSSIAN CLASSICAL BALLET
(Legat System)

Leading to examinations –
Russian Ballet Society

Founded in Great Britain in 1923

Pre-Preparatory ages 3-5

PREPARATORY to Grade IV (ages 5 to 12)

ELEMENTARY 13 to 16+

INTERMEDIATE 14 to 16+

ADVANCED 15 to 17+

Direction: OLIVIA DOW – Adv. Certificate (Hons)
Teacher's Degree (M.R.B. Soc.)

Term: Commencing Monday September 27

Olivia Dow will be at the Studio from

Friday September 17 & 24 from 4 to 6.30 p.m.

Saturday September 18 & 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
and 4 to 6.30 p.m.

For appointment phone 583368 Mobile 0995414

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