

Wiener Staatsoper Ballettakademie

PATRICK ARMAND School Director

Born in Marseille, France, Patrick Armand studied with Rudy Bryans, his mother Colette Armand, and at the Ecole de Danse de Marseille. He won the Prix de Lausanne in 1980 and continued his studies at the School of American Ballet and at the Centre de Danse International in Cannes. In 1981, he joined the Ballet Theatre Français and was promoted to principal dancer in 1983.

That same year, Patrick was nominated for a Laurence Olivier Award for his performance in BÉJART's Song of a Wayfarer with Rudolf Nureyev. In 1984 he was invited by Peter Schaufuss to join the London Festival Ballet (now English National Ballet), where he danced for six years before joining the Boston Ballet in 1990, under the direction of Bruce Marks. While in Boston he received the E Virginia Williams Inspirational award for his work with the company.

Patrick's repertoire includes many leading roles in works by Ashton, Balanchine, Cranko, MacMillan, Petit, Tetley, and van Manen. Notably, in 1988, Patrick performed Siegfried in the world premiere of Natalia Makarova's Swan Lake at London Festival Ballet (now English National Ballet). That same year, he was voted best dancer of the year by the British magazine, Dance and Dancers. In addition, he has had work created on him by such choreographers as

Bohbot, Bruce, Tharp, and Wheeldon, among others. As a guest artist, Patrick performed with the Australian Ballet, the Bayerische Staatsballet, the Deutsche Oper Ballet (Berlin), the Kirov Ballet, and the Noriko Kobayashi Ballet Theatre.



In 2002, he took over the direction of Studio Ballet Colette Armand in Marseille. He has also been a frequent guest teacher notably The Royal Ballet company and school, the National ballet of Canada company and school, Teatro alla Scala company and he

is invited regularly in Japan by the Japan Ballet Association to teach and coach.

In 2003, Patrick co-produced Act III of Raymonda for the Noriko Kobayashi Ballet Theatre at Tokyo's New National Theater. In 2006, he was appointed teacher and ballet master of the Teatro alla Scala in Milan. He also choreographed a production of Don Quixote for the Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb, which premiered in June 2010.

In 1998 and 2009, Patrick served as a jury member of the Prix de Lausanne and from 2010 until 2020 he was invited as a teacher and coach for the competition.

In 2010, he was appointed principal of the SF Ballet School Trainee Program and on September 1, 2012, he assumed the position of SF Ballet School associate director. Patrick was named director of the School at the 2017 Student Showcase Dinner, for which he was honorary chair.

At the end of the 2023 season, Patrick stepped down from his position in San Francisco to pursue freelance teaching and coaching.