



RAMBERT



Wednesday 18 November, 2015

RAMBERT BECOMES FIRST PERFORMING ARTS ORGANISATION TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION FOR ITS ARCHIVE SERVICE

Rambert has become the first performing arts organisation to be awarded Archive Service Accreditation in recognition of its valued role as an exemplar in knowledge, practice and accessibility which have led to its leading position in the field of dance and performance archives.

Accredited Archive Services ensure the long-term collection, preservation and accessibility of our archive heritage. Accreditation is the UK quality standard that recognises good performance in all areas of archive service delivery. Achieving accredited status demonstrates that the Rambert Archive has met clearly defined national standards relating to management and resourcing; the care of its unique collections and what the service offers to its entire range of users.

The Rambert Archive holds significant collections documenting the evolution of dance in the UK and the Company's pioneering work from the 20th century through to the present day. With over 500 costumes, 700 posters and thousands of images, objects, dance notation, music and footage, the Rambert Archive tells the story of Britain's oldest dance company from classical ballet, through to a leading force in 21st century contemporary dance.

The Archive's collections are a valued tool both internally and externally providing access for researchers, schools, dancers, dance fans, the local community and the wider.

Arike Oke, Rambert Archivist commented:

"Achieving UK Archive Service Accreditation is a real high point in the development of the Rambert Archive. I'm grateful to Rambert's volunteers, supporters, dancers and staff, and to the Heritage Lottery Fund for their help and enthusiasm in bringing the Rambert Archive up to this nationally recognised standard of best practice and accessibility."

The Archive Service Accreditation Panel noted,

"...this was a model of how an archive operating in a specialist and focused environment can become an inspiration and a core part of delivery. The Company's heritage is evidently part of Rambert's lifeblood, and they are to be congratulated on having followed this to develop excellent infrastructure and a role for the archive which is valued, embedded and integral. The Panel noted among other excellent practice the exemplary development on digital preservation, both receiving and offering support to the wider sector."

The Panel offered particular congratulations to Rambert on becoming the first Accredited Archive Service among performing arts organisations, an appropriate accolade for Rambert's leading role in this part of the sector."

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For further information and images please contact Press and Media Manager, Kate Hassell Tel: 020 8630 0612 / 07921 264 564 or email: kate.hassell@rambert.org.uk

Notes to editors

Rambert is Britain's national dance company. It presents new and historic dance works to audiences in all parts of the country, performed by world-class dancers and accompanied by live music, alongside extensive outreach, education, participation and professional development work.

Rambert Archive

Access to the Rambert Archive is free by appointment.

To arrange a visit contact archivist Arike Oke Email: arike.oke@rambert.org.uk or tel: 020 8630 0608

www.rambert.org.uk

Rambert, 99 Upper Ground, London, SE1 9PP

Archive Service Accreditation

Archive Service Accreditation is the UK standard for archive services. It defines good practice and identifies agreed standards within the archive sector.

It is a UK wide quality standard which offers a benchmark for gauging performance, recognising achievement and driving improvement within the archives sector.

Archive Service Accreditation is awarded by the UK Archive Service Accreditation Committee, representing the entire archive sector.

It is supported by a UK wide partnership of The National Archives, National Records of Scotland, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, the Welsh Government through its CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales division, Archives and Records Association, Scottish Council on Archives, and Archives and Records Council Wales.