



Volume 1, 23rd March 2005



Newsletter 14th March 2005

Dear Odyssey Youth Dance Theatre Members,

This newsletter is an update of "Odyssey On Stage",
Tour and Travel information.

Tour and Travel arrangements are advanced than our "Odyssey On Stage" workshops performance programs rehearsals will intensify from April 3rd 2005.

"The Odyssey On Stage" adventure commences in 7 months. We must be program and performance ready to our highest standard by August 2005. It must be a priority for all performers to be present at all scheduled workshops for us to all to work to the standards of quality performance and professionalism that our performance organisers and audiences expect of us.

We have the talent, team and motivation to make this tour something special and the adventure of a lifetime for everyone, but we all need to make our commitment to come together and work together, no matter what it takes.

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3rd April 2005

Full Company Odyssey Youth Dance Theatre Workshop and Rehearsal

DATE: SUNDAY APRIL 3RD 2005

VENUE: EPPING BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL HALL
213 VIMIERA ROAD, EASTWOOD, 2122 NSW

TIME: 1.00pm TO 5.00pm ALL ENSEMBLES & ALL VOCALISTS



PERFORMANCE PROGRAMS

The music, costumes, staging and technical requirements for all performance programs are close to being finalised. The programs are of 20, 30, 40 minutes duration. The New York – Paris sectors will be the most demanding for OOS with workshops, classes and performances everyday.

We have applied for performance(s) within the “Fringe Festival” youth program but will not know what our involvement will be until after applications close, late April 2005.

London & Barcelona sectors will be far more relaxed with low key dance arts components and more cultural and sightseeing activities, as one would expect from a fantastic tour itinerary. The tour finale of course is a 7 day cruise around Spain, France & Italy in the Mediterranean where we can expect at least 2-3 performances. It seems that we will have about 10 performances throughout the tour at this stage.

We have a confirmed performance in New York at the site of the “USS Intrepid”. This is an aircraft carrier museum and a highly popular attraction in NY. At first the prospect of performing on the deck seemed wonderful, but moving major exhibits such as tons of planes, to create a stage and appropriate audio, is not feasible. We will have a New York skyline as our set, and a captive audience on an ideal stage, on a large area of the pier. We will arrange for photos on the deck (and just about everywhere else on tour).

COSTUMES

We have started to spend our budget on costumes already and original designs have accompanied our performance applications and audition material overseas.

Welcome Home Kristin

Our creative director, Kristin Agnoli returns to Australia and to the Odyssey Youth Dance Theatre in the week March 21st after 6 months of professional choreography and performances with Celebrity Cruise Lines in the USA, Mexico and Caribbean. You will all get to meet Kristin on 3rd April and OOS-2005 will really start to come together from thereon.



Travel News

Flight Schedule: Confirmed.

The London to Dublin and Dublin to Barcelona flight sectors have come up as extra flight sectors as OOS-2005 has exceeded its allowable mileage over the basic fare, originally offered. This has come about because of unavailable flight schedules, unsuitable flight carriers, and the fact that planes do not fly in a straight line from one destination to another or direct. The cost of flying to the additional destinations is minimal, in fact the taxes are almost as much as the fare.

Carriers: Confirmed

United Airlines – Sydney to All USA Destinations; USAir - Philadelphia to Paris; British Midland – Paris to London; British Airways – London to Dublin, Dublin to Barcelona, Barcelona to London; Thai Airlines – London to Bangkok/Sydney.

Cruises: Confirmed

7 Days Caribbean ex. Port Canaveral.
7 Days Mediterranean ex. Barcelona.

Hotels: Confirmed

- Holiday Inn - Maingate West/Disneyworld.
- Milford Plaza - Theatre District, NY, NY.
- Holiday Inn - London City.
- Regency Hotel - Dublin

Hotels: Subject to Confirmation

- Disneyland - Paris: Hotel Cheyenne or El Paso.

Our preferred hotel in Barcelona is not available. We would like to stay in the Ramblas or Gothic Quarter to avoid all day bus charter costs. Trying to find something appropriate and affordable has been a challenge. We are working on this sector currently.

Itinerary: Details for Dublin & Barcelona will be posted on the ClassRooms Around The World, Odyssey On Stage 2005 web pages.

www.classroomsaroundtheworld.com.au

Dublin details are confirmed. Barcelona details are subject to accommodation location.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel quad & triple share arrangements are cost saving considerations, but it has not been possible to fulfil all accommodation requests, particularly for quad share arrangements.

Most of us do not know each other at this early stage, and it is not possible to have 4 single beds available in hotels, (except on the cruise sectors). Quad share hotels in UK & Europe are rare.

Where I have been able to book quad share rooms, it needs to be clearly understood that these rooms are 2 double bedded rooms and persons requesting & sharing these rooms will also be sharing a bed. In some quad rooms, I have added a Rollaway bed. The most persons in a hotel room will be four (4). Generally, ladies on our tours feel comfortable with this arrangement.

We have a small, single male group and I have ensured that all members of this group will have their own bed, most likely in a triple or twin configuration.

If you do not want the quad or triple share

hotel arrangement please let CATW P/L know, but be aware that the basic tour cost is on a quad share arrangement and upgrades to triple and double/twin are at a higher rate and cost.

PHOTOS

2 X Passport Photos are required from each tour member (performing and non-performing), as soon as possible.

I require a photo ID for CATW P/L & OOS-2005 records and for the "Tour Handbook" which is a detailed compendium of all things you need to know about before the tour and on the tour, including itinerary and destination information, day to day schedules, rules, laws, rosters, room lists, contact details, OYDT & performance information...

Be advised also, that share configuration may change from one hotel to another, due to availability, hotel policy, French Law, and that there will be new tour member inclusions for the Europe sector.

This Newsletter will also include Cabin Lists. The European Cabin List will have variations from the Caribbean Cabin List.

If there is anything that does not suit you, please let CATW P/L know, as soon as possible. By all means, feel free to discuss



TOUR AND TRAVEL OPTIONS.

An OPTION is a personal choice or selection of some aspect of the tour itinerary or its schedules, the cost of which is NOT INCLUDED in the basic tour, but arrangements for reservations, ticketing and transport can be made on a group basis if they are viable and cost effective.

The Options will include:

- 1 Vocal or Dance Classes in NY. Vocal classes will be more expensive.
- 2 Broadway Theatre. One choice of 3 Shows.
- 3 Radio City Music Hall Backstage Tour.
- 4 Shipboard Excursions – To Be Advised, Individual reservations made on board. Special conditions for unaccompanied OYDT members under 18 years.
- 5 Moulin Rouge – 9.00. p.m. pending availability, or 11.00.p.m. Show. 85.00- 95.00 Euros
- 6 Eiffel Tower Observation Deck.
- 7 Harrods & Oxford Street Shopping instead of London Tower.
- 8 West End London Theatre.
- 9 Transport & Guide to Florence & Pisa. Plus One Admission. (Duomo/Bell Tower or Uffizzi Gallery).
- 10 Transport & Guide to Rome. Plus One Admission (Colosseum).
- 11 Transport & Guide to Pompeii/Naples. One Admission (Pompeii Archaeological Site).

*Cost for Options 9-11 pending tour group numbers. Max 50 persons.

An OPTIONS FORM will be available through the CATW/OOS-2005 website and also distributed at the 3rd April 2005 OYDT rehearsal. These forms will also have available/current costs information.

Next Payment

Due 1st May 2005

This payment will be an estimated 50% of the basic tour cost due, per person (less all payments made).

As soon as the, Disneyland-Paris and Barcelona hotels are confirmed, I will be able to provide costs for accommodation variations

(and full cruise costs for all cabin share configurations)

Final Payment

Due 27th July 2005

An itemised account and invoice for the balance of payment will be mailed by 4th July 2005.

PASSPORTS

You will need a valid passport. It must be current and valid for the time that you return to Australia. 6 months validity is a good rule. No VISAS are required for Australian citizens to OOS-2005 destinations. Please advise if you have citizenship of another country.