

Frederick Ashton, the Ballet and Suffolk

Events listings and trail guide

Thursday 19th May to Sunday 9th October 2011

Look inside for our special events



Margot Fonteyn and Frederick Ashton rehearsing Ondine, 1958 (Roger Wood Photographic Collection/ROH Collections)

Ballet + Frederick Ashton + Suffolk + take part + Mrs Tiggy-winkle + tutus + Cinderella + You shall go to the Ball + Margot Fonteyn's dressing room + ribbons + costumes + clogs + Two Bad Mice + imaginative + tours

Chandos Lodge, Eye, Suffolk

11th - 12th June

Open Gardens at Chandos Lodge in Eye, where Ashton created his ballet *La Fille mal gardée*. Contact Peter Seaman to arrange a visit at other times to Chandos Lodge, Lambseth St, Eye, Suffolk IP23 7AQ

All welcome

Cost £4

Tickets available from Eye Town Hall or at the gate

Christchurch Mansion

For booked activities please call 01473 433691

Sunday 26th June

10am - 4pm

Beatrix Potter Family Day

The Tales of Beatrix Potter have come to life in Christchurch Mansion, with amazing costumes from this Royal Opera House ballet. Bring a picnic and join in the fun. Come and hear 'Beatrix Potter' telling her stories, follow Peter Rabbit's trail through the Mansion to find all his friends, help Mrs Tiggy-winkle with the washing in the laundry and make your own animal mask. Fun for all the family.

Free entry, craft activities £1

26th July - 4th September

Beatrix Potter Trail

Follow this interactive trail through the Mansion to find characters from Beatrix Potter's tales, stopping on the way to help them solve different problems and puzzles.

Trail Sheet: 50p

26th July - 4th September

Beatrix Potter Baskets

Borrow a story basket and find a quiet place to spread out the rug and enjoy a Beatrix Potter tale, before you look for the characters in the Mansion.

Baskets: £1 (£5 refundable deposit)

2nd - 4th August

Sessions: 10.30am, 11.30am, 1.00pm, 2.00pm, 3.00pm

Animal Masks

Use colourful foam to create your own animal mask inspired by the Beatrix Potter characters in the Mansion. Cut and shape the foam, adding details to give your animal real character!

Booked

£1.50 per child



Frederick Ashton and Robert Helpmann as the Stepsisters in *Cinderella*, 1948 (Roger Wood Photographic Collection/ROH Collections)

16th - 19th August

Sessions: 10.15am, 11.15am, 12.15pm, 1.15pm

Cinderella Week

Come and join in the preparations for the ball at Christchurch Mansion, with different activities each day, preparing food, masquerade masks, giant wigs, dancing and dressing up. Decorate your invitation and make sure you come back to see *Cinderella* and *Prince Charming* at the ball on Friday afternoon.

Booked

£1.50 per child

Thursday 18th August

2pm-4pm

Out of the Box: Belle of the Ball

As part of 'Cinderella Week', join our Costumes Curator and view some ball gowns and evening suits from our collection. These costumes will be brought out of our stores especially for this event.

Drop-in

Free event

Ipswich Art School

9th - 10th August

Sessions: 10.30am, 11.30am, 1.00pm, 2.00pm, 3.00pm

Spring, Twirl, Whirl 3D Words Workshop

How can you make a word 3D? How would 'stretch' look? What shape might a 'rhythm' become? Be inspired by the Royal Opera House exhibition in Ipswich this summer and mould a dance related word into the action and shape it using our colourful moulding putty.

Booked

£1.50 per child

Jerwood DanceHouse

To book call DanceEast on 01473 295230 or visit www.danceeast.co.uk for more details.

19th May - 9th October

9am - 9pm

'Come Dance With Me, Ninette de Valois and the story of The Royal Ballet'

Daytime screenings of the Royal Opera House film 'Come Dance With Me, Ninette de Valois and the story of The Royal Ballet', which includes ballets by Ashton, plus an exhibition of photographs of The Royal Ballet in new works.

All welcome

Admission free

Saturday 4th June

11am - 12noon

'Imagine You're a Ballerina' Creative Dance Workshop. Based on the delightful book by Meg and Lucy Clibbon.

3-6 year olds. No dance experience necessary, but do dress up!
£6 per child

Saturday 4th June

2pm - 4.30pm

Ballet Workshop with Sandra Madgwick

Workshop based on repertoire from the ballet *The Dream* by Frederick Ashton, led by former Birmingham Royal Ballet Principal Sandra Madgwick. Workshop may include pointe work for those who are able.

Girls aged 11-18 with minimum Grade 5 ballet
£8 per dancer

Sunday 12th June

11am - 1pm

'Ashton and his Ballets' Lecture Demonstration by dancers from The Royal Ballet, led by Clare Thurman, Education Manager for The Royal Ballet.

For young dancers and families
£5 per person or £15 family ticket

Sunday 31st July

6.00pm

DanceEast Academy end of year show presenting 60 talented young dancers from the region. Includes a piece based on the exhibition, by Royal Ballet Soloist and choreographer Kristen McNally.

All welcome

£6, £4 concessions

Town Hall Galleries and Christchurch Mansion

Saturday 21st May

10.30am - 12noon **Tour at 10.30, lasts 1½ hours**

Join Curator of Art Emma Roodhouse for a private tour of the 'Frederick Ashton, the Ballet and Suffolk' exhibition, across two of the great sites in Ipswich. The tour begins at the Town Hall Galleries in Ipswich.

Suitable for adults

Booked £3 per person

Free Entry

Frederick Ashton, the Ballet and Suffolk

Thursday 19th May to Sunday 9th October

Venues: Town Hall Galleries, Gallery 3, Cornhill; Christchurch Mansion, Christchurch Park

(associated material and events at the Jerwood DanceHouse)

Times: Town Hall Galleries: 10am-5pm, Tues-Sat
Christchurch Mansion: 10am-5pm, Tues-Sun

For more information call 01473 433691
or visit www.rohcollections.org.uk



Frederick Ashton in *Facade*, 1935
(© Gordon Anthony/V&A images/
V&A Theatre Collections)



Places you can visit to explore Frederick Ashton's Suffolk



Yaxley

A small village just west of Eye in Suffolk. Ashton's maternal ancestors the Fulchers farmed the land here for many years and his mother Georgie Fulcher was brought up at nearby Valley Farm. In the 1950's Ashton returned to his Suffolk roots and bought The Old School House and then the Suffolk pink Church cottage, which he renovated.



Chandos Lodge, Eye

Ashton bought this Victorian hunting lodge in 1956. It became a place to soothe his spirits and be in his beloved Suffolk countryside. His passion for gardening turned the grounds into a rural idyll, with tumbling roses and trimmed hedges. The Lodge was a retreat to 'do nothing. I sit and stare' but his time there inspired many of his great ballets such as *La Fille mal gardée*. Look out for the 'crinkle-crinkle' wall of Chandos Lodge.



St Mary's Church, Yaxley

Ashton's great grandfather, Thomas Fulcher, served as churchwarden and many generations of the Fulchers are buried in the graveyard. Ashton and his brother Charlie were christened in the church. And Frederick Ashton is now buried here next to his sister Edith.



Snape Maltings, Aldeburgh

Frederick Ashton collaborated with Benjamin Britten on *Illuminations* (1951) and *Death in Venice* (1973).



Frederick Ashton, the Ballet & Suffolk - exhibition trail



© David Parry Dance House



Jerwood DanceHouse

Foundry Lane, IP4 1DW

A display of photographs and a film on *The Royal Ballet*.

Town Hall Galleries

Cornhill, IP1 1DH

A chance to see Margot Fonteyn's dressing room and costumes from *La Fille mal gardée* and *The Dream*.



Christchurch Mansion

Soane Street, IP4 2BE

Costumes from *Cinderella* and *Tales of Beatrix Potter*



Ipswich Art School

1 Upper High Street, IP1 3QH

Artist Darren Johnston's contemporary installation looking at dance in a different way.

Frederick Ashton, Founder Choreographer of The Royal Ballet, was proud of his roots in Yaxley, Suffolk. This Royal Opera House exhibition celebrates his Suffolk links, his career with The Royal Ballet and the influence of his native countryside on his ballets. This leaflet highlights places associated with Ashton's life and work.

Town Hall Gallery 3: Ashton's long career with The Royal Ballet is recalled in a photographic exhibition, while post-World War II life behind the scenes at the Royal Opera House is evoked in a recreation of Margot Fonteyn's dressing-room. Set and costume designs include those by Sophie Fedorovitch for Dante Sonata and John Piper for The Quest, plus costumes from *La Fille mal gardée*, including Stanley Holden's clogs. Some of the material on display belonged to Ashton and has never been shown before.

Christchurch Mansion: Two displays of costumes from Ashton's ballets are exhibited in the historic room settings. They include his production of *Cinderella*, with costumes worn by Margot Fonteyn, Michael Somes, Robert Helpmann and Ashton himself and nine costumes from *Tales of Beatrix Potter*.

This event is a partnership project between the Royal Opera House, Colchester and Ipswich Museums Service and DanceEast's Jerwood DanceHouse.

(from top right)

Margot Fonteyn and Michael Somes in costume for *Cinderella*, 1949 (Roger Wood Photographic Collection/ROH Collections)

Jonathan Howells as Mrs Tiggy-winkle in *Tales Of Beatrix Potter*, 2009 (Tristram Kenton)

Will Tuckett and members of The Royal Ballet in *La Fille mal gardée*, 2009/10 revival (Tristram Kenton)

