

Biography short version

Martino Müller

Choreographer

Director

of

modern dance, ballet, entertainment and musical productions

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Martin Müller was born in Aarau, Switzerland.
Originally a dancer and an artistic ice skater.

Martino Müller is a Swiss choreographer based in Amsterdam. His first professional engagement was as a dancer with the Karlsruhe Ballet in Germany. A year later, he joined the Stuttgarter Ballet directed by Marcia Hydé. His original interest in classical ballet changed when he came in contact with the contemporary work of Jiri Kylián. He then moved to the Netherlands to fill a position with the Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT I). Martino ventured into choreography in 1992, when he was asked to work for NDT II, the junior group of the Dutch company.

His first choreography 'Who's Watching Who' proved to be a striking debut and received an important support prize award from the Dutch arts organization.

That same year Martino was invited to work for the Festival der Künste in Bad Gleichenberg, Austria. This led to a production called 'A Woman Can Take You To Another Universe—Sometimes She Just Leaves You There' – which NDT I subsequently included in its own repertoire. NDT I then asked him to create a new piece. The premiere of this creation, 'Heidi,' took place in 1994.

Since then he has choreographed for various prestigious dance companies, including the Lyon Opera Ballet, the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Komische Oper Berlin, the Gulbenkian Ballet in Portugal , the Stuttgart Ballet, BalletMet in Columbus Ohio USA and the Göteborg Ballet in Sweden, the Basel Ballet, the Bern Ballet and the Luzern Theater in Switzerland, the Tel Aviv Israel Israeli Opera Ballet, the Croatian National Opera house in Zagreb and more.

Müller's first choreography for a musical 'Notre Dame de Paris,' directed by Gilles Maheu, was nominated for a Canadian Theatre prize in 2000. In that show, which is still touring the world, he synthesized modern dance with acrobatics for the first time.

In 2007 Canada's famous Cirque de Soleil invited Martino to choreograph for a new permanent show in Macau, (China). This 250 million Dollar production entitled '[Zaia](#)' opened in a specially built Theatre at world's biggest Casino the Venetian Macau Resort Hotel on 31. October 2008.

Müller won the 2012 BWW Italy Awards, for best musical choreographer 2012 for 'I Promessi Sposi' an "Opera Moderna". For this Italian production he reworked the staging the entire choreography for the premiere in Rome in 2011.

One of his important choreographic work creation is the arena spectacle of '[Peter Pan](#)'. The premiere was held in Forest National Bruxelles on the 22. December 2012, and toured in the UK, Netherlands, Dubai, Doha,
In 2014 the Belgium production Music Hall asked him to form a new directing team with

the Belgium dramaturge Lulu Aertgeerts. Together they transformed the Peter Pan arena version in to a dazyling new theater show that premiered in December 2014 in Singapore. Both versions of this show will tour around the world.

A new production that Martino was working on as a choreographer and director was Cinderella that went in to premiere on 10. of December 2015 in the Sentosa resort in Singapore.

Martino's newest upcoming creations will be a Dutch production of a tribute show to Michael Jackson, a new exiting show of Jungle Book in Belgium and a new ballet creation of a Nutcracker in 2022.

Biography long version

Martino Müller

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Martino Müller is a Swiss choreographer who is based in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. He was born in 1963 in the city Aarau in Switzerland.

It was in 1982 that his dance talent was recognized internationally, when he won the Prix Suisse during the Prix de Lausanne. After finishing his education, he became engaged in the Karlsruhe Ballet in Germany. A year later, he joined the Stuttgarter Ballet directed by Marcia Hydé.

His original interest in classical ballet changed when he came in contact with the contemporary work of Jiri Kylián. This meeting enticed Müller to leave Germany and move to the Netherlands, so that he could accept the position offered to him by the Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT 1).

Müller developed his skills as a choreographer in 1992, when he was asked to work for NDT II, the junior group of the dance company. His first choreography "[Who's Watching Who](#)" proved to be a striking debut and immediately received a prize: the Encouragement for Choreographer Prize, Amsterdam Foundation of the Arts.

In that same year Martino Müller was also invited to work for the Festival der Künste in Bad Gleichenberg, Austria. This led to the production entitled '[A Woman Can Take You To Another Universe– Sometimes She Just Leaves You There](#)'. This project was so successful that NDT I included it in its repertoire and asked Müller to create a new piece.

The premiere of this new creation, entitled '[Heidi](#)', took place in 1994. Due in part to Heidi Müller received another award, the 'Jacob Burchardt Prize' given by the Johan Wolfgang von Goethe Foundation in Basel. Müller quit his dancing career in 1995 in order to devote himself completely to choreography.

Since then he has choreographed for various prestigious dance companies, including the Lyon Opera Ballet, the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Komische Oper Berlin, the Gulbenkian Ballet in Portugal, the Stuttgart Ballet, the Ballet Met in Columbus Ohio USA, the Swedish Göteborg Ballet, The Basel Ballet in Switzerland.

Müller's first choreography for a musical '[Notre Dame de Paris](#)', was nominated for the prestigious Canadian Theater prize Masque de la Contribution Speciale in February 2000. In Notre Dame de Paris Müller's powerful dance language became visible, by using academic ballet technique. He managed to synthesize modern dance with elements from acrobatics to form a wonderful apotheosis.

This large-scale musical had its premiere in the Parisian Palais des Congres September 1998, and has already had 8 different productions visiting many cities all over the world: France "Paris", Canada "Montreal", USA "Las Vegas", England "London", Spain "Barcelona", Italy "Rome" in May 2002 in Russia "Moscow", and the latest in 2008 Korea Seoul. Notre Dame de Paris is a favorite for visitors in these metropolises and has now attracted over 10 million spectators.

Müller first full-length evening work was a ballet on the classic Shakespeare '[Romeo and Juliet](#)', made for the Göteborg Ballet. It was performed with live orchestra music by Sergei Prokofiev. It was also his first close collaboration with the Dutch visual artist Eduard Hermans who designed the set and costumes. The ballet premiered successfully on the 13. October 2001 in Göteborg, Sweden.

The musical entitled '[Cindy](#)' is a production written by the Canadian Luc Plamondon, with music composed by Italian Romano Musumarra and co- directed by Lewis Furey and Gilles Maheu. The premiere was on 25. September 2002 and Müller was responsible for the choreography.

Beauty is a series of 4 ballets with the theme 'Beauty.....'. 'Beauty 1.1' is a 10 minute solo for Gioconda Barbuto (NDT 3) with music from Dutch composer Willem Jeths. '[Beauty 1.2](#)' is a solo work for Marguerite Donlon and was performed together with '[Beauty 3.0](#)' for Donlon's dance company in Saarbrücken (Germany). Beauty 3.0 is a ballet for 8 dancers and is 45 minutes long and had its premiere on April 23. 2004. The music is a collage from various Japanese composers.

The work for the Basel Ballet, Müller has given the name '[Beauty 2.0](#)' and includes 20 dancers.

The music is a Quartet from Gavin Brayars and was performed live by the Swiss AMAR Quartet. On April 2. 2004 the premiere was performed in the Schauspielhaus in Basel Switzerland.

2005 saw the creation of 'Beauty 1.3' (a Korzo Production, in Den Haag, Netherlands), 'Beauty 1.4' (for

Frankfurt, Germany), ['Eau de la Haye'](#) (in Den Haag, Netherlands), and 'Intermissions' (in Grenada, Spain).

In 2006 Müller created a ballet for the Tel Aviv Israeli Opera entitled ['Real'](#).

In 2007 Canada's famous Cirque de Soleil invited Martino to choreograph for a new permanent show in Macau, (China). This 50 million Dollar production entitled ['Zaia'](#) opened in a specially built Theatre at world's biggest Casino the Venetian Macau Resort Hotel on 31 October 2008.

In November 2008 he was asked to work on a Chinese Musical ['Butterflies'](#) in Beijing. The Songlei Culture & Media organization commissioned him to redirect and choreograph this entire spectacle and after 3 month of intense collaboration with Dutch designer Eduard Hermans and the Songlei organization, the musical premiered in Seoul (Korea) at the Sejong Center on March 27, 2009.

2009 also saw 2 new dance works, a solo for Gioconda Barbuto entitled "SEED" which was premiered in Den Haag, October 29, 2009 at the Holland Dance Festival's tribute to Nederlands Dans Theater's 50th Anniversary, and a new creation for Ballet Augsburg (Germany) entitled ['i-rumour'](#), that premiered on October 31. 2009.

In 2010 the Dutch version of the musical Notre Dame de Paris was premiered in Antwerp on 4. April.

In 2011 Martino was creating his new ballet production called ['AIR'](#) for the Music Biennale Zagreb and the Croatian National Theater Ballet. The Ballet has a new music composition from Krešimir Seletcović for chamber orchestra and is in total one hour length. The premiere has been in Zagreb 17th April.

On the 5th of October the new production of ['LOVE'](#) went in to premiere with the Tanz Luzerner Theater. This latest production involves 13 dancers and a special main role of a professional theatric clown performer, Davide Romeo. Also this captivating ballet has a length of one hour.

In Summer 2011 Müller was ask to rework the choreography and staging of the Opera Moderna ['I Promessi Sposi'](#) that was performed in its old version the first time about one year before. The show includes 22 dancers and 17 Singers. This new version went in to premiere on the 10th of November in Rome and toured 6 month in theaters all over Italy. Müller won the 2012 BWW Italy Awards, for best musical choreographer 2012 for ['I Promessi Sposi'](#)

One of his important choreographic work creations is the arena spectacle of ['Peter Pan'](#). The premiere was held in Forest National in Brussels on the 22. December 2012, and toured in the UK, Netherlands, Dubai, Doha,

In 2014 the Belgium production Music Hall asked him to form a new directing team with the Belgium dramaturge Lulu Aertgeerts. Together they transformed the Peter Pan arena version in to a dazzling new theater show that premiered in December 2014 in Singapore. Both versions of this show are going to have upcoming exiting touring schedules for 2016/17.

The newest choreography Martino had been working on is the new musical production of Cinderella! The premiere was on 10. December 2015 in the Sentosa resort in Singapore.

In 2016 Notre Dame de Paris opened a new season with the Italian cast version in Rome at March 2016 and is touring various cities till the end of 2017.

Also in the same year 2016 a new Korean version is opening again since the 16. June 2016 and a new polish version opened in Gdynia on the 9. of September and will perform there over the next 3 years.

On the 24. November 2016 Notre Dame de Paris opened again at the Palais des Congress in Paris in its original French version went on a tour trough out France till the end of 2017 and is touring in 2018/2019 to Istanbul, Moscow, St Petersburg, Taipei and London.

At the end of year 2018 on the 18. of December in Astana, Notre Dame had its all new Kazakh production in premiere in Astana.

NDP is simultaneously has been playing in the Korean version that opened in July 2018, and of course the the polish version for new seasons 2018/2019. Notre Dame is currently touring in China till 2020 and continuing to Canada after.

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Education/Training

Marianne Fuchs Private Ballet School, St. Gallen, Switzerland 1980-1983
8 years of training and competing in artistic single ice figure skating
1970-1978

Employment Dance

Netherlands Dance Theater (NDT I) Artistic Director Jiří Kylián 1986-1995
Stuttgarter Ballet Germany Artistic Director Marcia Hydé 1985
Karlsruhe Ballet, Germany Germinal Casado 1984

Choreography

Singapore "Sentosa" Cinderella 2015

Bruxelles Belgium – "Peter Pan" 2012

Rome Italy – "I Promessi Sposi" 2011
Luzern Switzerland – "Love" 2011
Zagreb Croatia – "Air" 2011

Antwerp Belgium "Notre Dame de Paris" Dutch version 2010

Augsburg Germany Augsburg Ballet – "I-rumour" 2009
Den Haag Netherlands Korzo Productions – "Seed" 2009
Beijing China musical – "Butterflies" 2009

Macau China Cirque du Soleil – "Zaia" 2008

Tel Aviv Israel Israeli Opera Ballet – "Real" 2006

Granada Spain – "Intermissions" 2005
Den Haag The Netherlands – "Eau de la Haye" 2005
Frankfurt Germany – "Beauty 1.4" 2005
Den Haag The Netherlands Korzo Production – "Beauty 1.3" 2005

Basel Switzerland Basel Ballet – "Beauty 2.0" 2004
Saarbrücken Germany Donlon Dance Company – "Beauty 1.2" 2004
Saarbrücken Germany Donlon Dance Company – "Beauty 3.0" 2004

Paris France – Musical "Cindy" 2002

Göteborg Sweden Göteborg Ballet – "Romeo and Juliet" Prokofiev's three-act ballet, 2001
Moscou Russia, Free program for Russian World Champion in

Ice dancing Anjelika Krylova & Oleg Ovsyannikov	2000
Göteborg Sweden Göteborg Ballet – “R.A.M.”	1999
Columbus, Ohio USA BalletMet – “Heidi”	1999
Berlin Germany Komische Oper – “Der Bürger als Edelmann”	1998
Portugal Gulbenkian Ballet – “Loving Stone”	1998
Palais de Congres, Paris, France) – “Notre Dame de Paris” World Premier Reproductions in Canada, USA, England, Spain, Italy, Russia, Korea, Belgium, Poland.	1998
Deutsche Oper Berlin Germany – “Outside looking in”	1997
Stuttgart Ballet, Germany – “R.A.M.”	1997
Lyon France Lyon Opera Ballet – “Le Jour Même”	1996
Den Haag Netherlands Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT I) – “Heidi”	1994
Den Haag Netherlands Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT I) – “A Woman Can Take You To Another Universe Sometimes She Just Leaves You There”	1993
Den Haag Netherlands Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT II) – “Who’s Watching Who”	1992
Bad Gleichenberg Austria Festival der Künste – “A Woman Can Take You To Another Universe Sometimes She Just Leaves You There”	1992

Awards/Recognitions

2012 BWW Italy Awards, best musical choreographer 2012 for I Promessi Sposi	2012
Masque de la Contribution Speciale, Canadian Theater Prize	2002
Jacob Burchardt Prize, Johan Wolfgang von Goethe Foundation	1994
Encouragement for Choreographer Prize, Amsterdam Foundation of the Arts	1992
Prix de Lausanne, Prix Suisse	1982