

Margaret Claire Torrini-Pélissier

Choreographer and Teacher

Principal Dancer and later Étoile with Ballet du Nord

Position

Choreographic Composition and Improvisation

Switzerland • French and Swiss citizen

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Choreographic Creation

Choreography and teaching developed alongside her career as a dancer, beginning during her training in Lausanne.

Ballet du Nord and dance schools in the Roubaix area

Works created for the company, including Dream Connection, and for dance schools in the region.

Personal Repertoire

Approximately 130 works, mainly with ISDanse: classical, contemporary, Oriental dance, pole dance and medieval-inspired creations.

Identités Plurielles

Solo created and performed by Margaret, inspired by the work of Paul Gêrôme and conceived in tribute to him. Several choreographic languages brought together within a single work.

Teaching and Training

Since 2000 • ISDanse in Lausanne

Founder, artistic director, choreographer and teacher. Training in composition and pedagogy for students, professionals and adults transitioning to new careers.

Designed a ten-level classical dance curriculum and created manuals, syllabi and assessment tools covering composition, musicality, movement analysis and transmission.

Annual presentations of students' creations and teaching projects.

Training and Qualifications

1967-1976 • Simone Suter School, Lausanne. Trained by Simone Suter and Turhan Betin; teaching and first choreographic works with Ballet de la Jeunesse Romande.

1976 • Two private professional diplomas: virtuosity; pedagogy and choreography. Varna International Ballet Competition.

Swiss Federal Diploma and French State Diploma.



International Teaching and Professional Engagements

2025 • Côte d'Ivoire

Guest teacher at the 13th Festival of Dance and Choreography,
in Abidjan and Lauzoua.

2024 • Conservatoire à rayonnement communal Élie-Dupont, City of Pontarlier

Substitute classical ballet teacher: teaching and pedagogical support for students.

Jerusalem Dance Theater

Ballet Mistress, coach and teacher: dancer preparation and rehearsal direction.

Lecture-demonstrations and professional exchanges

Lecture-demonstrations in Switzerland, Perm and Volgograd (Russia), and Greece within the framework of the International Dance Council (CID).

Performance Career and Repertoire Transmission

Ballet du Nord, Roubaix • Nine seasons

Principal Dancer and later Étoile under the direction of Alfonso Catà. Classical, neoclassical and contemporary repertoire, including Balanchine.

Euroballet Luxembourg

Guest Étoile and Ballet Mistress: classes, rehearsals, coaching, choreography and programming. In 1991, helped organise the first Luxembourg International Dance Competition, taught candidate classes and served on the classical dance jury.

Early International Engagements

Ochi Minoru Ballet, Nagoya (Japan); Den Norske Ballet, Oslo (Norway); Ballet Royal de Wallonie, Charleroi (Belgium).

Choreographers and artists: Alfonso Catà, August Bournonville, Frederick Ashton, Michel Fokine, Birgit Cullberg, Glen Tetley, Violette Verdy, John Taras, John Cranko, Serge Lifar, John Clifford, Jean-Pierre Bonnefous, Jean-Christophe Maillot, Vicente Nebrada, Jean-Paul Comelin and Thierry Malandain.

Languages and References

French: native language • English: professional working proficiency

Japanese: professional and teaching communication

References: Les Cahiers de la danse, notably held by the Swiss Archive of the Performing Arts (SAPA), Lausanne.

