



Beata Ksiazkiewicz and Fouette Ballet

DANCE IN THEIR HEARTS

Having the opportunity to see young dancers in an array of costumes, skillfully performing several charming and lively arrangements to musical scores that ran the gamut from Pachelbel's *Canon in D Major* to African drum beats, was a perfect way to celebrate International Dance Day on Saturday, April 29, 2017. The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center in Aventura, Florida presented the XII International Young Dancers Festival under the auspices of Vladimir Issaev, Artistic Director of the Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida. Each country sent a dance company -- Denmark, Germany, Indonesia (Jakarta and Surabaya), Peru, Poland, and South Africa - and members of Mr. Issaev's Dance Company represented the US.

The Festival's primary mission is to celebrate the love of dance and its universal appeal in every culture worldwide, since the beginning of time. The Festival rejoices in the elegance, beauty, passion, and symbolism of regional dances on stages all over the world. From the start, the idea has been to present entire shows in a different represented country every year, which has given hundreds of dance students the unique opportunity to perform in many of the world's most sophisticated cities during the past twelve years. It is an ideal platform for those who have dance in their hearts and plan to make it their career, to experience first-hand life as a "touring" professional dancer.

The Polish dancers shone with two lively and fun routines choreographed by esteemed ballet professor, Beata Ksiazkiewicz,

from the School of Dance and Ballet Fouette, Poznan. Both pieces told a short story without sacrificing agility and technique so important in accomplished ballet/dance. In *Capriccio*, each of the seven dancers wore a costume from seven important ballets such as *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker* and *Carmen*, and it was performed with a light and playful attitude. *On the Promenade in the XIX Century Polish Park* was a humorous take of a handsome Uhlan (Polish light cavalry man) dancing the Mazur (Polish noble dance) with six lovely ladies vying for his attention.

Two other companies showcased the talents of Polish directors. The Ballet School Pirouette in Rehlingen, Germany was founded and is led by Halina Kowlaska Kiefer who was born in Warsaw. Ms. Bogusia Gauden is the Ballet Teacher and Choreographer of Odense, Denmark's Danseakademi City Ballet. The companies presented delightful pieces that had a contemporary edge. In addition, the Surabaya, Indonesia Company danced to a Frederic Chopin piece.

The XIII International Young Dancers Festival in 2018 will be held in Poznan, Poland.

AIPC promoted the event and the Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida invited Lady Blanka Rosenstiel who attended with her guests, Mrs. Malgorzata Markowska and Mr. Jan Drozd. Ms. Lynne Schaefer and Mrs. Beata Paszyc of the Institute were also there. The School of Dance and Ballet Fouette presented beautiful glass plaques to Lady Blanka and Mrs. Paszyc.