

A TRAGEDY OF FASHION

FREDERICK ASHTON (1926)

A BALLET ABOUT THE SUICIDE OF CHIEF FRANÇOIS VATEL.

SETS AND COSTUMES BY SOPHIE FEDOROVITCH

MUSIC BY EUGENE GOOSSENS



DIANA GOULD
DANCER

FREDERICK ASHTON
I'D LIKE POULENC OR AURIC
TO BE MY COMPOSERS

MARIE RAMBERT
WE CAN'T AFFORD THEM.
WE'LL GO FOR GOOSSENS.

FREDERICK ASHTON
OK, BUT FOR COSTUMES
CAN WE HAVE CHANEL?

MARIE RAMBERT
AGAIN, WE CAN'T AFFORD IT.
HOW ABOUT FEDOROVITCH?

FREDERICK ASHTON
I'LL TAKE THAT INTO
CONSIDERATION 😊



"NEVER ACCEPT
THE FIRST SOLUTION.
TRY FOR THE ONE
WHICH CANNOT BE
CORRECTED"

MARIE RAMBERT



TIMELINE

1920

SCHOOL OF DANCING
MARIE RAMBERT OPENS SCHOOL IN NOTTING HILL

1926

A TRAGEDY OF FASHION
PREMIERE OF THE FIRST BRITISH BALLET, PERFORMED BY
RAMBERT'S STUDENTS

1928

PERMANENT HOME
NOTTING HILL'S CHURCH HALL ADAPTED INTO A SCHOOL
AND SMALL THEATRE (THE MERCURY THEATRE)

1929

MARS AND VENUS
ASHTON'S BALLET PRESENTED IN LONDON AND ON TOUR

THE 1920s

BY THE NUMBERS

FIRST BRITISH BALLET
A TRAGEDY OF FASHION



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6 DANCERS IN THE COMPANY

8 WORKS IN THE REPERTORY

9 PERFORMANCE LOCATIONS IN THE UK

IN THE COMPANY

DANCERS

FREDERICK ASHTON
DIANA GOULD
FRANCES JAMES

PRUDENCE HYMAN
HAROLD TURNER
ELIZABETH VINCENT

DESIGNER
SOPHIE FEDOROVITCH

CHOREOGRAPHER
FREDERICK ASHTON

ABOUT MARIE RAMBERT



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- BORN IN WARSAW, 1888
- ASSISTED NIJINSKY AT THE BALLETS RUSSES
- MOVED TO LONDON DURING WW1

INFLUENCED BY

ISADORA DUNCAN
VASLAV NIJINSKY

ÉMILE JAQUES-DALCROZE
ENRICO CECCHETTI