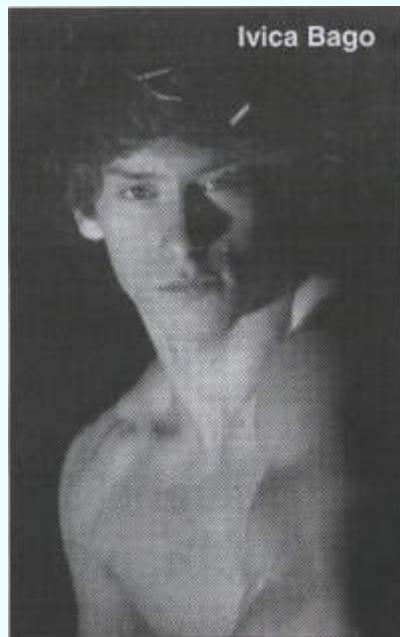


# A kinaesthetic journey

DANCECYPRUS, in collaboration with the Rosamunde Trio, will be presenting their latest production this week, including a sneak preview of an upcoming full-length piece. Dancecyprus was founded with a goal to provide dancers with permanent employment as well as provide Cypriot audiences with the type of dance that was missing from the scene. Cyprus has a relatively short performing dance history, which has been rapidly developing in the past 15 years with young dancers and choreographers turning to contemporary dance. Dance schools are many and produce dancers of various levels and techniques indicating the popularity of the art form. The first company that brought neoclassical dance to Cyprus was Diastasis, however, they were always closely connected to the group's musical development and seem to be in the musical limelight. Dancecyprus is committed to produce performances which feature dance as its own entity. Music plays an important part, whether it is live or re-

corded, however dance is its selling point. After a number of people, Dancecyprus has finally settled on a permanent Artistic Director. Carolina Constantinou, a talented dancer, who has assumed the role with a conviction to bring exciting dance to the audiences and provide work for local dancers. Her aesthetic permeates the company, and this performance will be a great testament to her work,



CYPRUS MAIL

Σάββατο, 29 Οκτωβρίου 2011, π. 17





showing three of her original choreographies. The first one, *Othello*, is set to Schubert's Piano Trio in E Flat; the second is an excerpt from an upcoming full-length work *The World of Cyprus* set to Manos Hadjidakis, and lastly they will be showing *Borderline*, created to Smetana's Trio in G minor. The pieces are a result of collaboration with the Rosamunde Trio, founded by Martino Tirimos (piano), Ben Sayevich (violin) and Daniel Veis (cello). For, what appears to be the first time most of the cast is comprised of local dancers, with the exception of the male imports – Julien Ficely from France, Jean Claude Nelson from Germany and Ivica Bago from Croatia. The stage will be graced by the stunning

Carolina Constantinou, Marina Kyriakidou, Arianna Markoulides, Natalie Peslika and Nataly Savvidou, who are all experienced, mature dancers and performers well known to Cypriot audiences. All of the dancers are equally versed in the



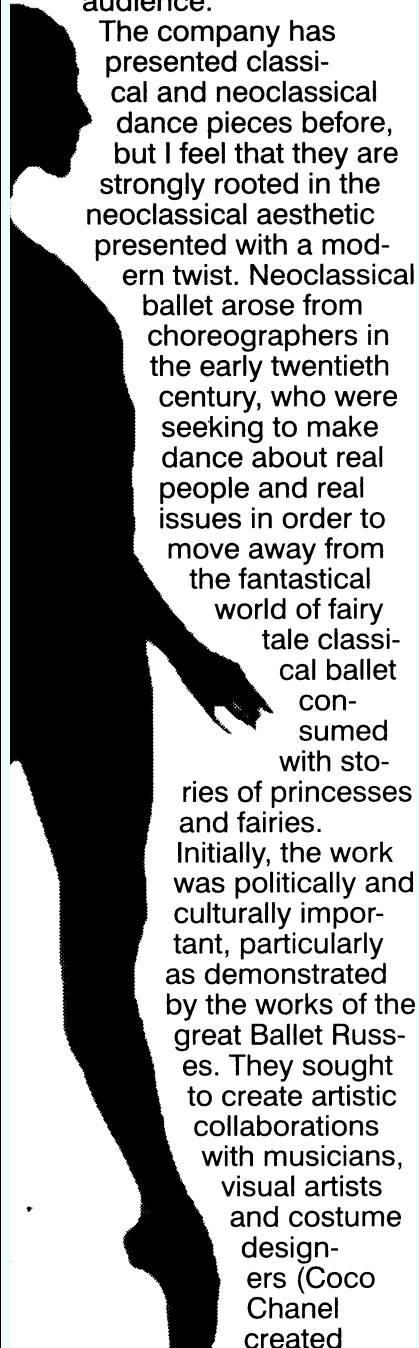
**CYPRUS MAIL**

Σαββατο, 29 Οκτωβριος 2011, p. 17





ballet aesthetic as well as contemporary, which may imply that the work will be more varied and inviting to a broader audience.



The company has presented classical and neoclassical dance pieces before, but I feel that they are strongly rooted in the neoclassical aesthetic presented with a modern twist. Neoclassical ballet arose from choreographers in the early twentieth century, who were seeking to make dance about real people and real issues in order to move away from the fantastical world of fairy tale classical ballet consumed with stories of princesses and fairies. Initially, the work was politically and culturally important, particularly as demonstrated by the works of the great Ballet Russes. They sought to create artistic collaborations with musicians, visual artists and costume designers (Coco Chanel created

costumes for George Balanchine's *Apollo* in 1929). The choreographers did not rely on fancy costumes and scenery to create the ballet, rather they wanted to investigate movement and its power so that the spectacle was contained in the body of the dancers. Somewhere along the line, many neoclassical choreographers lost this critical connection and began to make dance that is simply interesting in its visual design rather than content. Too often the dance relies on the technical virtuosity of the dancers. Good ballet tells a story, regardless of the narrative and style, takes its viewers on a dance travelogue, a kinaesthetic journey. Dancecyprus in the past has shown good works and not-so-good works. With Constantinou as artistic director, their vision has become more streamlined and I am hoping that we will keep seeing a more critical approach to dance, which will continue to impress its enthusiastic followers but also draw new audiences.

**Dancecyprus & Rosamunde Trio**

An exciting programme of classical and contemporary dance, choreographed by Artistic Director Carolina Constantinou. 8.30pm. €25/20. [www.cyprus-tickets.com](http://www.cyprus-tickets.com) [www.dancecyprus.org](http://www.dancecyprus.org)  
 November 4: Rialto Theatre, Limassol. Tel: 77-777745/99-920264  
 November 5: Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia. Tel: 70-009303/99-920264

*By Dara Milovanovic-Michael*

CYPRUS MAIL

Σάββατο, 29 Οκτωβρίου 2011, p. 17





**CYPRUS MAIL**

Σάββατο, 29 Οκτώβριος 2011, π. 17