

# NEWS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET

For immediate release: Tuesday 30 May 2017



The Australian Ballet's Benedicte Bemet. Photo by Justin Ridler.

## The Australian Ballet celebrates three new Honorary Life Members

The Australian Ballet today announced three new Honorary Life Members at the company's Annual General Meeting in Sydney. **Mrs Barbara Duhig**, **Ms Marilyn Jones OBE** and **Mr Christopher Knoblanche AM** will join the esteemed ranks of The Australian Ballet's Honorary Life Members. The Australian Ballet's Honorary Life Memberships are awarded from time to time to people who have made an outstanding contribution to the long-term success of the company and to ballet in Australia.

Honoured for her generous and extensive philanthropic support for The Australian Ballet over many years, **Mrs Barbara Duhig** has made a significant contribution to the wellbeing and careers of the dancers at The Australian Ballet. Mrs Duhig currently supports the Principal Artist position held by Amber Scott.

Honoured for her extraordinary and invaluable artistic contribution as the company's first Ballerina and founding Principal Artist, **Ms Marilyn Jones OBE** continued her career with The Australian Ballet as The Australian Ballet's Artistic Director and as a guest artist after a highly successful career as a dancer.

Honoured for invaluable service to governance of The Australian Ballet, **Mr Christopher Knoblanche AM** led the company as Director and then Chair during a period which included the challenge of the Global Financial Crisis and the development of the company's Altona based production centre.

Executive Director Libby Christie said "The Australian Ballet's Honorary Life Membership acknowledges and celebrates the passion, contribution and legacy of outstanding individuals who have helped make this company one of the leading national ballet companies in the world. The Australian Ballet is delighted to be honouring these three important, inspiring members of our

ballet family."

Since appointing its first Honorary Life Member, Peggy van Praagh DBE 37 years ago in 1980, The Australian Ballet has recognised and honoured the exceptional contributions to artistic, administrative, governance, management, fundraising, philanthropy and voluntary services of 39 outstanding supporters, including the most recent announcements.

### Current Honorary Life Members

Lady June Porter  
Mr John Calvert-Jones AM  
Mr Colin Peasley OAM  
Lady Primrose Potter AC  
Dame Margaret Scott AC DBE  
Lady Marigold Southey AC  
Ms Josephine Woodgate OAM  
Elizabeth Albert  
Mr Robert O Albert AO RFD RD  
Mr Timothy KF Cox AO  
Ms Maina Gielgud AO  
Mrs Lynnette Harvey  
Dr Valmai Pidgeon AO  
Mr Kenneth R Reed AM  
Mrs Roslyn Packer AC  
Mr Graeme Murphy AO  
Ms Janet Vernon AM  
Mrs Diana Ramsay AO  
Mr Ian McRae AO  
Ms Marilyn Rowe OBE  
Mr Peter Clemenger AO  
Mrs Joan Clemenger AO  
Mr Peter Smedley  
Ms Julie da Costa OAM  
Mr David Crawford AO  
Professor John Rose AO  
Mrs Barbara Duhig

NEWS FROM  
**THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET**

Ms Marilyn Jones OBE  
Mr Christopher Knoblanche AM

For more information visit: [australianballet.com.au](http://australianballet.com.au)

**For all media enquiries**, including interviews and images,  
please contact: Kate Muir, Public Relations Manager,  
**P:** 03 9669 2778 **M:** 0405 141 958  
**E:** [katem@australianballet.com.au](mailto:katem@australianballet.com.au)



The  
Australian  
Ballet

Principal  
Partner

