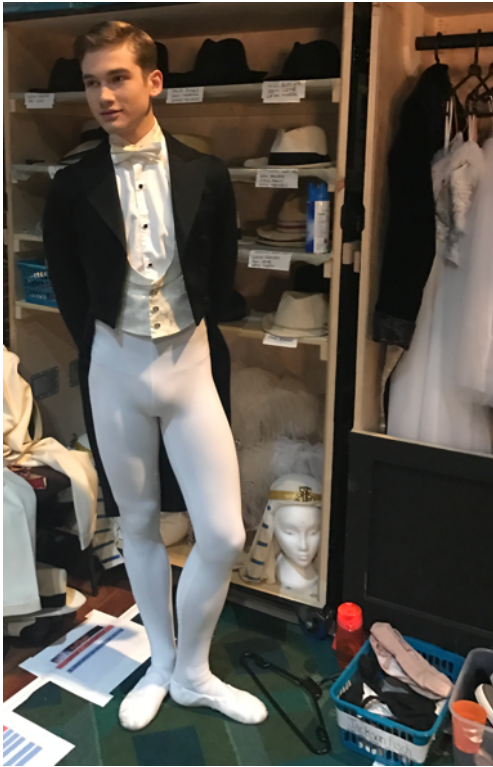


# NEW/ADVENTURES RE;BOURNE



## **SPOTLIGHT – Jackson Fisch, Serge in The Red Shoes Tues 4 April 2017**

***Tell us a bit about your role in Matthew Bourne's production of The Red Shoes:***

In *The Red Shoes* I dance the character of Serge, who is a dancer in the Ballet Lermontov. Serge is based on the dancer from the 1920's, Serge Lifar.

***What is your favourite moment in The Red Shoes for your character?***

My favourite moment for Serge is in the rehearsal or class scene. In these two sections of the show, I am able to portray Serge's character and explore his dynamic with the other characters on stage. Moments such as blowing the smoke from his cigarette into people's face when he isn't happy or improvising his own movements during a rehearsal, as he believes what he creates is superior. Serge is incredibly egotistical, so to play that out with other people is a lot of fun, as it often frustrates other characters forcing them to respond in different ways.

***What has inspired how you created and play your character?***

My relationship with the character of Serge is a fairly new one, as I came in after the creation process of the show. This meant that my influences of the character came from the research the other dancers had collected, but more importantly what I observed in how they portrayed Serge on stage. Serge is based on the dancer Serge Lifar, who was a dancer with the Ballet Russes in the 1920s. There are moments in the show which reflect works that Serge Lifar performed in his career. For example, during the "Difficult Rehearsals" scene, the character of Serge dances a series of movements based on photographs found of him in the title role in the ballet *Icare*. This is one of the many influences that developed my interpretation of Serge Lifar. Knowing he was the successor of Nijinsky and holding a principle position within the Ballet Russes, the character has developed into a self-righteous, confident character that knows his talent and isn't afraid to show it.

***As this is your first New Adventures show were you taken aback at all by how the company creates a new production? What has been a highlight with the company so far?***

It was unfortunate that I only joined the company after the creation process, but in many ways it has informed me and shown me how the company holds its character research and authenticity at such a high standard. The first time I saw the show it was clear to me that each character was thought through, clear, and understood by the dancers. It showed that the time had been put into developing each character and into creating moments within the show to let each character be themselves and expressed. A definite highlight working with this company would have to be being a part of exploring characters, and how the time, place and people in a scene influences the movement and the creation of the show.

***How do you reflect on your performance after the show other than receiving notes from other company members/resident director etc.***

In a sense, I act as my own director and create notes for myself. Whether it be during the show or directly after, I write a list of the things that worked well and the things that need to be improved on before the next show. I find it important to remember all these moments and to write them down immediately, as it is sometimes easy to forget what happens on stage in the moment. I find this is a great way to reflect and to clear my head after a show.

**You can follow Jackson on Instagram: @jacksonfisch for a further insight into his world.**