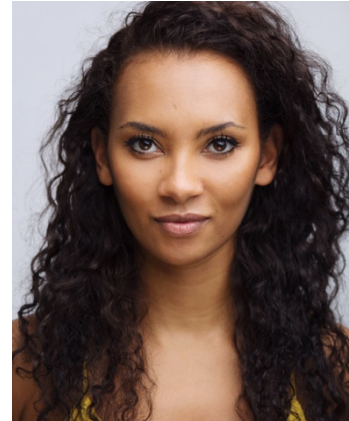


## **DANCER OF THE WEEK – Nicole Kabera** **Wed 29 March**

Matthew Bourne's *Sleeping Beauty* is having a nap this week before heading to Newcastle Theatre Royal for two weeks. This week Nick Kyprianou, our Audience Engagement Coordinator spoke to Nicole Kabera about her dream roles and favourite costumes with the Company. Next week she is due to be playing Queen Eleanor and Miss Maddox.



Nicole has performed with New Adventures since 2010, playing the Italian Princess in *Swan Lake*. As well as performing in *Sleeping Beauty* at the moment you may spot her in cinema screenings of the 2015 film recording of *The Car Man*.

### ***When did you start taking dance classes?***

I started dancing in my hometown of Bari, Italy when I was 4 years old. My mother is a physiotherapist (lucky... I know) and when I was young she spotted I had very X shaped legs (when your knees point in standing in parallel position), which is a trait we share as we have the same bone structure. She thought physiotherapy at such young age would be too boring, so she decided to take me to ballet classes instead, which helped my condition and put me on the right path for my present career. So... Thanks mum!!

### ***Where did your formal training take place?***

I started my professional training in London at Central School of Ballet.

### ***What drew you to the Company?***

*The Car Man* attracted me to the company. I loved the music, the choreography and the dancers were all round performers, they could dance and act and, at the time, I didn't think I had in me what they had so I was amazed by the talent on stage.

### ***Do you have any hobbies/interests outside of dance?***

I very much enjoy discovering London and finding new places to have nice food and good times with friends. I try to go to the theatre to see friends and former colleagues in other shows and have a catch up with them.

### ***What's it like being on tour and in a different place every week?***

Being on tour is lovely, in the UK we get to explore and discover many cities we wouldn't have visited otherwise. The ladies in the cast have this tradition where we find the best brunch place in town and on a morning off we all go for a late breakfast together and catch up on things other than work. Touring internationally is the best time of the year, we are lucky enough to have many late starts and we get to go around the biggest cities of the world and discover the different cultures. In the evenings we then get to perform for the local audiences, which love and respond to the shows in their own special way. At the same time though, touring is quite tiring and can become a bit hard when you are missing home, I always look forward to go back home and seeing my flat mate who I miss a hanging out with when I am away!

### ***Do you have a favourite venue to perform at?***

I have a few favourite venues. Sadler's Wells is my absolute favourite as it's such an amazing and prestigious theatre and I get to go home at the end of the night. I also really enjoy performing at the Millennium Centre in Cardiff and Theatre Royal in Glasgow, I love the theatres and the cities are so much fun and have a lot to offer, the audiences are there are always friendly and responsive!

# NEW/ADVENTURES RE;BOURNE

**In many of Matthew Bourne's shows the dancers have to learn more than one role, performing several tracks in one show and *Sleeping Beauty* is no exception. How do you remember more than one role?**

Learning multiple roles can be very confusing at the start in rehearsals, you can find yourself running or standing in the wrong place in the middle of a number, but as rehearsals and shows go on, each role starts to make sense and fit in the bigger picture of the show and remembering all the differences is much easier. Half way through a contract muscle memory is a great tool that allows you to remember a role even if you haven't played for a few weeks. Learning an additional role half way through a contract can be a bit simpler as you already know the story, the music and what the characters around you are doing.

**What's your favourite role that you have performed as so far, in the Company, and is there another New Adventures production that you would love to take part in?**

I have two roles that I would say are my favourite: Gina from *The Car Man* and Darlene from *Edward Scissorhands*. Gina is a great dancing character and part of one of the best shows I have ever done. Darlene is one of the cool kids of the show, she hasn't got the nicest personality and that's what made her interesting to play. My dream show to be in is *Cinderella*, I am in love with Prokofiev's score and it's my dream to dance it, so fingers crossed one day I will be able to do so.

**Do you have a favourite costume you've worn during your time with New Adventures so far?**

The best costumes I have ever worn in a New Adventures show is the Italian Princess ball dress from *Swan Lake* and Darlene's Christmas ball dress from *Edward Scissorhands*. I am a definite fan of a black fitted dress!!!

**You are able to follow Nicole on Twitter (@NicKabera) and Instagram (@NicKabera) for a further insight into her world! [Click here](#) to book tickets to see *Sleeping Beauty* now.**