

Wilfried Jacobs

Wilfried received his ballet education at the Royal Ballet School of Antwerp, Belgium. In March 1995 his first professional engagement was in Karlsruhe, Germany, where he danced with The Ballet am Badishes Staatstheater under the direction of Germinal Cassado.

From August 1998 until September 2007, he worked as a freelance dancer, choreographer and teacher in Japan.

While dancing at the IBC 2006 of Jackson, USA, former director Dinna Bjørn invited him to come to Helsinki and join the Finnish National Ballet, which he did in September 2007. From August 2013 until September 2020, he combines his duties of Principal Dancer with those of coordinating the Ballet School of the Finnish National Opera and Ballet. He also taught the daily boys classes and created several ballets, ouvertures and other works for the ballet school's performances.

In December 2016 he received the decoration; **Knight of the Order of the Lion of Finland**.

Wilfried graduated from HAMK (Häme University of Applied Science) as an International Professional Teacher in spring 2017.

Since 2019 he organizes and coordinates the International Summer Intensive for the Finnish National Opera and Ballet.

In September 2020 he retires from FNB and relocates to Belgium where he works as an artistic advisor and consultant. He joins the faculty of [Dansstudio Arabesque](#).

As a guest teacher he taught for the Royal Ballet School Antwerp, Junior Ballet Antwerp, Ballet Flanders and for several private ballet schools and workshops.

In 2021 he worked as a Guest Professor Classical Ballet for the Bachelor students at the Royal Conservatoire of Antwerp/AP Artesis University.

In August 2022 Wilfried joins the newly founded [MOSA Ballet School](#) in Liège – Belgium, as Head of Faculty.



Above: Onegin (John Cranko) with Edita Raušerová
Left: Scheherazade (Kenneth Greve) with Julie Gardette
Below: Manon (Sir Kenneth MacMillan)

