

Recommendation for KARINA ELVER, dancer, choreographer and teacher.

Karina Elver was raised in the School of The Royal Danish Ballet and she became a distinguished member of company for 25 years (1978-2003).

The Royal Danish Ballet is worldfamous for August Bournonville's ballets and for his style, a way of dancing going back to the Romantic period in the 19th century.

August Bournonville (1805-1879) learnt this style at the Paris Opera, where he studied in the 1820's. The style disappeared all over the world except in Denmark, where August Bournonville was artistic director at the Royal Danish Ballet 1830-1877.

The Bournonville School and technique is therefore a speciality, only mastered by dancers educated in Copenhagen.

Karina Elver has this education, which give her a special position as a ballet teacher.

I have known Karina Elver in all her formative years and through her dancing career.

I was her teacher in Dance History at The School of The Royal Danish Ballet and later I followed her career as a dancer. I was for more than 40 years a dance critic at the great Danish newspaper Berlingske Tidende and for several magazines abroad.

Karina Elver was a precise, charming and witty dancer, and she does know her Bournonville as you only do, when you have been brought up with this tradition.

Since Karina Elver left The Royal Theatre in 2003 she has with great success taught Bournonville as well as staged his ballets as it can be proved from her CV.

Without hesitation I can give her my best recommendation to teach the August Bournonville style and technique in US.

Erik Aschengreen,

Professor, dr. phil.

**Dance critic and former head of the Dance Department
at the University of Copenhagen**

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