

New York Ballet plays tonight in Rudder

By JULIE POLSTON
Feature Writer of THE BATTALION

The New York City Ballet will perform a tribute to George Balanchine in "Hommage a Balanchine" tonight in Rudder Auditorium.

Under the direction of former principal dancer Peter Martins, the 17 dancers will perform several pieces from a variety of works by Balanchine set to the music of Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky, Gershwin and Sousa.

The New York City Ballet is the largest dance company in the United States. The organization has about 100 dancers and an active repertory of about 100 works, principally choreographed by Balanchine and Jerome Robbins.

Balanchine, whose training lies in the tradition of great Russian ballet, came to the United States from Europe in late 1933 at the request of Lincoln Kirstein.

Kirstein, who had the idea for what is

now known as the New York City Ballet, wanted to create an American school of ballet to rival the European schools, as well as to establish an American ballet company.

Balanchine is one of ballet's most celebrated contemporary choreographers, and he has created 435 dances in his lifetime.

In 1978, Balanchine was one of five recipients of the first Kennedy Center Honors presented by President Carter at the White House. He has also been acknowledged by Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and the National Society of Arts and Letters. He received the Austrian Cross of Honor for Science and Letters.

Shortly before his death in 1983, Balanchine received the Presidential Medal of Freedom—the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a civilian in the United States.

"Hommage a Balanchine" will be performed Oct. 13 and 14 at 8 p.m., and is sponsored by the MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society. Tickets will be half-price for all students on Oct. 14.



Helen Alexopoulos of the New York City Ballet will perform tonight in Rudder Auditorium.

Russian pianist plays Wednesday afternoon

By ANAS BEN-MUSA
Staff Writer for THE BATTALION

Russian-born pianist Sophia Gilmsen will perform Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in room 402 Academic.

The concert will feature selections from Sergei Prokofiev's "Music for Children," Opus 65 and Prokofiev's "Sonata No. 7" in B-flat Major, Opus 83. The show is presented by the OPAS Stark Series and Department of Philosophy and Humanities Music Program. "Prokofiev is a prominent Russian composer and I enjoy playing his compositions," Gilmsen said.



The 100th anniversary of Prokofiev's birthday was in 1987. Gilmsen studied at the Leningrad Conservatory and graduated cum laude.

Gilmsen has performed in recital at Carnegie Hall and concert broadcasts by Radio Leningrad, Radio Vatican, WQXR and WNYC in New York City.

Gilmsen is the Artists Teacher and head of the Piano Department at the College of the Maritime. She also owns a private studio in Houston.

For her exceptional teaching and numerous workshops, Gilmsen received the Houston Music Teachers Association's Teacher of the Year award.

"Both performing and teaching have a common root," Gilmsen said. Gilmsen's performance tomorrow will last approximately 45 to 45 minutes.

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