

Biography



John Carney began his dance career in 1965, at the Dorothy Stevens School of Dance, Yorkshire. He was a Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) York scholar, achieving Highly Commended Advanced RAD certification. He was then honoured to be selected by the prestigious Royal Ballet School in London to continue his dance training full time.

In 1977, while at the Royal Ballet School, he was invited to join the English National Ballet (then London Festival Ballet) where he became a soloist. Under the stage name Christopher Carney, he toured South America, the U.S., Europe, Australia, and China, where the company was the first to perform since the Cultural Revolution.

Mr. Carney danced with Rudolph Nureyev in his production of *Sleeping Beauty*, as well as in the original cast of Nureyev's *Romeo and Juliet*, touring with him to Paris, Australia, the U.S. and London. He was selected by Peter Schaufus from the corps de ballet for a soloist role of his BBC televised production of *La Sylphide*, as well as being one of twelve dancers to perform in Schaufus' *Dancers from Napoli*. Ben Stevenson selected him from the 65-strong company to be in his eight-cast *Four Last Songs*. Mr. Carney has danced many times in all the classics, including *Swan Lake*, *Giselle* and *Nutcracker*. In 1980, he danced in the Paramount Pictures film production of *Nijinski* with Alan Bates and Leslie Brown, as well as the BBC film production of *Graduation Ball*.

In 1984, Mr. Carney joined Rambert Dance Company as a principal dancer, first under the artistic direction of Robert North, and later Richard Alston with Christopher Bruce as associate choreographer. He performed in the BBC televised productions of *Pulcinella* (dancing the title role) and *Death and the Maiden*.

Training under leading American choreographer Merce Cunningham, he danced in his *Septet*, in addition to the lead role in Michael Clark's *Swamp*. Between 1984 and 1990, he toured world-wide with the 16-member company to countries including Canada, the U.S., Egypt, Jordan, Poland, East Germany and Western Europe.

Upon leaving Rambert, Mr. Carney gained valuable experience working with fringe dance companies where he began his interest in choreography by choreographing for *West Side Story* with David Masingham Dance Company. While at Second Stride Dance Theatre, he danced in Channel 4's 'Dance on 4'. He then toured with the English National Opera to perform at the Bolshoi and Kirov theatres in the former Soviet Union, and danced a lead role in *Les Troyens* with Scottish Opera. He later danced with Ricochet and Small Axe Dance Company, in pieces choreographed by former Rambert colleagues.

In the early 1990's, Mr. Carney developed a dance class that combined classical ballet and a form of Cunningham-based contemporary dance. Having had to adjust in his professional career from classical technique to contemporary movement, Mr. Carney had identified a need for a new type of dance class. This new format initially assisted classically-trained ballet students to prepare for working with modern choreographers who are not confined to the structures of classical ballet. As the format developed into the *Carney Technique*, it offered both classical and contemporary dancers a new, technically-challenging, classically-based contemporary dance class – an essential bridge between two important genres. The *Carney Technique* contemporary dance class has been taught for many years at such prestigious schools as the Royal Ballet School and the Northern School of Contemporary Dance and others throughout Europe, the US and Canada.

John Carney's teaching career began at the Rambert Academy in 1992, one year before his dance career ended due to injury. He taught *Carney Technique* contemporary dance for several years at the Royal Ballet School, for whom he has also choreographed pieces, including *Relativity* for the Upper School's annual performance. Over the years, Mr. Carney taught classical ballet and Carney Technique contemporary dance at many other schools in Europe, including the Northern Ballet School (England), the Gibson-Madden School of Dance (Ireland), the Dorothy Stevens School of Dance (England), the Fernanda Canossa Ballet School (Portugal), and the Northern School of Contemporary Dance (England). All of these schools have also performed his choreography, receiving critical acclaim.

In 1996, John Carney established Manc Dance Company to provide an extended platform for his choreography, and to offer senior students additional performance opportunities. Manc Dance Company premiered with a triple bill of his works of *Masked Emotions*, *Relativity* and *Subliminal Message...A tribute to Eric*. The company later added a new triple bill of *Masked Emotions*, *Relativity* and a newer piece, *The Miner's Wife*.

Following the debut, *Masked Emotions* was performed by the Dorothy Stevens School of Dance, Manchester City Ballet, New Haven Ballet, and at the Hebden Bridge Festival. *Relativity* has been performed by Ballet Theatre Ireland, Manchester City Ballet, Royal Ballet School, Grupo Experimental de Bailado, and New Haven Ballet, and at the Guilford Arts Festival and the New Haven Arts & Ideas Festival.

In 1998, Mr. Carney established the Carney Dance Academy in an old mill building in his home town of Halifax, England. CDA studios would be a base for furthering his choreography and for providing specialized coaching in classical ballet and *Carney Technique*. Students would travel from towns several hours away in order to attend his class.

Mr. Carney's next piece, *Sorrowful Songs*, was critically acclaimed following performances at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in April and July 2001. In September, 2001, *Relativity* was enthusiastically received by the Portuguese audience at the Rivoli Theatre in Porto.

In 2004, Mr. Carney became Artistic Director of New Haven Ballet, a school with over 450 students. He was ballet master for students ages 9-18, teaching classical ballet and *Carney Technique* contemporary dance. In spring 2005, he presented his new choreography of *Peter & the Wolf*, *Etudes* and *Relativity* for the school's 20th Anniversary Performance, to enthusiastic response and ovations. He also organized and directed Discover Dance 2005, a community dance production showcasing hundreds of student and professional dancers of tap, african, jazz, irish, salsa, modern, scottish, ballet, and hip-hop, with live musical accompaniment. In December 2005, New Haven Ballet delighted audiences with Mr. Carney's all-new choreography of *The Nutcracker* at the Shubert Theater in New Haven. In spring 2006, he presented his new choreography of *Rhapsody in Blue*, as well as re-staging his choreography of *Masked Emotions* and *Relativity*, and again directing the Discover Dance 2006 community showcase.

In 2007, he obtained permanent residency in Canada and established JCDC, the John Carney Dance Company, while teaching and choreographing in Montreal.

In 2008, Mr. Carney purchased the Fraser Valley Academy of Dance where, with his wife Carlyne as School Administrator, he is creating a centre of excellence in dance specializing in classical ballet and contemporary dance.

Teaching Experience

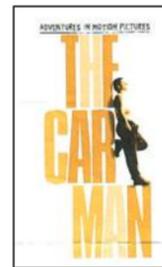
Schools & Open Classes

1992-1994	Rambert Academy	London, England	Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1993-1996	Royal Ballet School	London, England	Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1993-1997	Northern Ballet School	Manchester, England	Classical Ballet; Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1993-1996	Gibson-Madden School of Dance	Cork, Ireland	Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1993-1998	Dorothy Stevens School of Dance	Halifax, England	Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1993-1999	Louise Brown Yorkshire Seminars	Horsforth, England	Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1994-2003	The Hammond School	Cheshire, England	Classical Ballet; Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1998-2000	Carney Dance Academy	Halifax, England	Classical Ballet; Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1998-2003	Northern School of Contemporary Dance	Leeds, England	Classical Ballet; Carney Technique (Contemporary)
1998-2003	Fernanda Canossa Ballet School	Porto, Portugal	Classical Ballet; Carney Technique (Contemporary)
2004-2006	New Haven Ballet	New Haven, USA	Classical Ballet; Carney Technique (Contemporary)
2007-2008	Ballet Divertimento	Montreal, Canada	Classical Ballet
2008-present	Fraser Valley Academy of Dance	Mission, Canada	Classical Ballet; Carney Technique (Contemporary)

Specialized Classes: Pas De Deux, Boys Virtuosity, Repertoire, Choreographic Workshops

Company Class

Cas Public	Canada
Connecticut Ballet	USA
Adventures in Motion Pictures (AMP)	England
DV8 Physical Theatre	England
Phoenix Dance Company	England
Ballet Theater Ireland	Ireland
MC-4	Portugal
Second Stride Dance Theatre	England
David Massingham Dance Company	England
Ricochet	England
Small Axe Dance Company	England



Mr. Carney's open classes have been attended by current and former professional dancers from many renowned international companies including New York City Ballet, White Oak Project, Miami City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada, Milwaukee Ballet, Cirque du Soleil, Les Grands Ballet Canadiens, Royal Winnipeg Ballet and Les Ballet Jazz de Montreal (BJM).

Outreach Programs

David Massingham Dance Co	UK High School Students
Ricochet Dance	UK High School Students
Small Axe	UK High School Students, Hard of Hearing Students
London Festival Ballet	UK High School Students
Rambert Dance Company	UK High School Students
New Haven Ballet	Vincent E Mauro Magnet Elementary School, East Rock Magnet Elementary School

Choreography



Photos by David Ottenstein

Year	Choreographic Work	Performed By	Performed At	Performance Location
1992	West Side Story	David Massingham Dance Company		England
1993	West Side Story	Berwick-Upon-Tweed Amateur Dramatics		Berwick-Upon-Tweed, England
1994	Ernest	Northern Ballet School	Dancehouse Theatre	Manchester, England
1995	Subliminal Message	Northern Ballet School	Dancehouse Theatre	Manchester, England
1995	Relativity	Ballet Theatre Ireland	Cork Opera House	Cork, Ireland
1996	Relativity	Ballet Theatre Ireland		Dublin, Ireland
1996	Relativity	Royal Ballet School	Annual Performance at Holland Park	London, England
1996	Relativity	Northern Ballet School	Dancehouse Theatre	Manchester, England
1996	Masked Emotions	Manc Dance Company	Dancehouse Theatre	Manchester, England
1996	Relativity	Manc Dance Company	Dancehouse Theatre	Manchester, England
1996	Subliminal Message	Manc Dance Company	Dancehouse Theatre	Manchester, England
1996	Masked Emotions	Manc Dance Company	Alhambra Studios	Bradford, England
1996	Relativity	Manc Dance Company	Alhambra Studios	Bradford, England
1996	Subliminal Message	Manc Dance Company	Alhambra Studios	Bradford, England
1996	Masked Emotions	Dorothy Stevens School	Alhambra Theatre	Bradford, England
1997	Masked Emotions	Manchester City Ballet	Dancehouse Theatre	Manchester, England
1997	Masked Emotions	Manc Dance Company	Victoria Theatre	Halifax, England
1997	Masked Emotions	Manc Dance Company	Hebden Bridge Theatre Festival	Hebden Bridge, England
1997	Relativity	Manc Dance Company	Victoria Theatre	Halifax, England
1997	The Miner's Wife	Manc Dance Company	Victoria Theatre	Halifax, England
2001	Sorrowful Songs	Northern School of Contemporary Dance		Leeds, England
2001	Relativity	Grupo Experimental de Bailado	Teatro Rivoli	Porto, Portugal
2005	Relativity	New Haven Ballet	Shubert Theater	New Haven CT, USA
2005	Peter & the Wolf	New Haven Ballet	Shubert Theater	New Haven CT, USA
2005	Etudes	New Haven Ballet	Shubert Theater	New Haven CT, USA
2005	Nutcracker	New Haven Ballet	Shubert Theater	New Haven CT, USA
2006	Rhapsody in Blue	New Haven Ballet	Shubert Theater	New Haven CT, USA
2006	Masked Emotions	New Haven Ballet	Shubert Theater	New Haven CT, USA
2006	Relativity	New Haven Ballet	Shubert Theater	New Haven CT, USA
2006	Excerpts from Relativity and Rhapsody in Blue	New Haven Ballet	Arts & Ideas Festival	New Haven CT, USA
2006	Relativity	New Haven Ballet	Arts & Ideas Festival	New Haven CT, USA
2006	Relativity	New Haven Ballet	Guilford Arts Festival	Guilford CT, USA
2007	Loss	JCDC	Work in Progress	Montreal QC, Canada
2007	The Race	JCDC	Work in Progress	Montreal QC, Canada
2007	Rhapsody (restaged)	JCDC	Work in Progress	Montreal QC, Canada
2007	Relativity (restaged)	JCDC	Work in Progress	Montreal QC, Canada
2008-10	Nutcracker	Fraser Valley Academy	Clarke Theatre	Mission, BC, Canada
2009-10	Etudes	Fraser Valley Academy	Clarke Theatre	Mission, BC, Canada
2009	Peter & the Wolf	Fraser Valley Academy	Clarke Theatre	Mission, BC, Canada
2009	Rhapsody in Blue	Fraser Valley Academy	Clarke Theatre	Mission, BC, Canada
2010	Relativity	Fraser Valley Academy	Clarke Theatre	Mission, BC, Canada

Teachers

The following teachers have trained, influenced and inspired Mr. Carney throughout his career:

Classical Ballet Teachers

Teacher	Taught at	Genre
Dorothy Stevens, MBE	Dorothy Stevens School of Dance	Ballet
Alan Hooper	York Scholars	Ballet
Louise Brown, OBE	Yorkshire Seminars	Ballet
Johaar Mosaval, Royal Ballet Principal	Private Coaching	Ballet
Brenda Last, Royal Ballet Principal	Yorkshire Ballet Seminars	Ballet
Walter Trevor	Royal Ballet School	Ballet, Character, Pas de deux
Piers Beaumont	Royal Ballet School	Ballet, Pas de deux
Anna Ricard	Royal Ballet School	Spanish
Lynn Wallace	Royal Ballet School	Repertoire
Vassilie Trunoff, ENB Principal	English National Ballet	Ballet
Dame Alicia Markova, founder ENB	English National Ballet	Ballet
Sir Anton Dolin, founder ENB	Nijinski Paramount Film Production	Ballet
William Griffiths	Nijinski Paramount Film Production	Ballet
John Taras	English National Ballet	Ballet
David Long	English National Ballet	Ballet
Elizabeth Anderton	English National Ballet	Ballet
John Field, Director ENB	English National Ballet	Ballet
Christopher Gable, Royal Ballet Principal	English National Ballet	Ballet
Gary Sherwood, Royal Ballet Principal	Rambert Dance Company	Ballet
Nancy Kilgour	Rambert Dance Company	Ballet
Hans Bremen	Rambert Dance Company	Ballet
Anna du Boisson	Rambert Dance Company	Ballet
Lynn Seymour, Royal Ballet Principal	Rambert Dance Company	Ballet
Paul Mellis	Rambert Dance Company	Ballet
Yacov Slivkin	Rambert Dance Company	Ballet
Laurence Rhodes	Rambert Dance Company	Ballet

Contemporary Dance Teachers

Teacher	Taught at	Genre
Merce Cunningham	Rambert Dance Company	Cunningham Technique
Merce Cunningham Dance Company Dancers	Rambert Dance Company	Cunningham Technique
Richard Alston	Rambert Dance Company	Cunningham Technique
Dan Wagnor	Rambert Dance Company	Cunningham Technique
David Gordon	Rambert Dance Company	Cunningham Technique
Caroline Wright	Rambert Dance Company	Cunningham Technique
Germit Hukam	David Massingham Dance	Graham Technique
Ross McKim	Royal Ballet School	Graham Technique
Robert North	Rambert Dance Company	Graham Technique

Choreographers

The following lists notable choreographers with whom Mr. Carney has had the honour of working in person, and their works in which he performed:

Classical Ballet Choreographers

Rudolf Nureyev	Sleeping Beauty, Romeo & Juliet
John Field	Swan Lake
Dame Beryl Grey	Swan Lake
Ben Stevenson	Four Last Songs, Cinderella
Ashley Page	Soldier's Tale
David Bintley	Cake Walk
Peter Schaufus	La Sylphide, Dancers from Napoli
Jack Carter	Coppelia
Ronald Hynde	Rosalinda, Nutcracker, Four Seasons
Mary Evelyn	Dipping Wings
Trevor Wood	Switch Pitch

Contemporary Dance Choreographers

Robert North	Death and the Maiden, Light & Shade
Christopher Bruce	Night of the Waning Moon, Ceremonies, Dancing Day
Richard Alston	Hymnos, Zanza, Rhapsody in Blue, Strong Language, Cinema, Java, Pulcinella, Dangerous Liaisons, Rainbow Ripples, Voices and Light Footsteps, Mythologies, Wildlife
Dan Wagner	Some Revolutionary Gestures
Michael Clarke	Swamp
Ian Spink	Mercure, Heaven Ablaze in his Breast, Les Troyens, Clarissa, Macbeth
David Massingham	Stranger Than Fiction, Rugby, Red, Blue, The Immortals, Six Bassey Songs, To Power
Lynn Seymour	Wolfe
Antony Tudor	Dark Elegies
Merce Cunningham	Septet

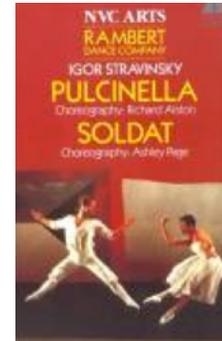
Dance Experience

1965-1975	Dorothy Stevens School of Dance
1970-1975	Royal Academy of Dance - York Scholar
1975-1977	Royal Ballet School
1977-1984	English National Ballet, Soloist (previously London Festival Ballet)
1984-1990	Rambert Dance Company, Principal
1991-1992	David Massingham Dance Company
1992-1993	Second Stride Dance Theatre
1993-1994	Ricochet
1993-1994	Small Axe Dance Company



Film Productions

1980	Graduation Ball, London Festival Ballet, BBC
1980	La Sylphide, London Festival Ballet, BBC
1980	Nijinsky, London Festival Ballet, Paramount Studios
1985	Death and the Maiden, Rambert, BBC
1989	Pulcinella (Principal role), Rambert, BBC
1992	Heaven Ablaze in his Breast, Second Stride, Channel 4



Dance Roles

Royal Ballet School (1975-1977)

Title	Choreographer / Production
Macbeth	Royal Opera production
Coppelia	Royal Ballet School Performance
Cake Walk	David Bintley for Royal Ballet School Choreographic Evening

English National Ballet* (1977-1984) * Previously named London Festival Ballet

Single Act Ballets	Choreographer	Role
The Three Cornered Hat	Léonide Massine	Corps
Gaite Parisienne	Léonide Massine	Corps
Schéhérazade	Michel Fokine	Corps
Prince Igor	Michel Fokine	Corps
Switch Pitch	Trevor Wood	Corps
Etudes	Harald Lander	Corps
Four Last Songs	Ben Stevenson	Soloist (8 dancers)
Graduation Ball	David Lichine	Junior Cadet (2)
Dances from Napoli	Peter Schaufus	Soloist (12 dancers)
Four Seasons	Ronald Hynde	Spring (10 dancers)
Petrouchka	Michel Fokine	Russian, Dancer, Drunken Peasant
Full Length Ballets	Choreographer	Role
Sleeping Beauty	Rudolf Nureyev	Carabos Attendant, Garland Dance, Polaka, Pussy Cats, Huntsman, Pas de Deux
Romeo & Juliet	Rudolf Nureyev	Juliet's Friends, Mercutio's Friends, Acrobat, Flag Dance, Musician, Paris Court, Capulet Court
Swan Lake	Beryl Grey and John Field	Peasant, Soloist (Pas de Six), Spanish, Neapolitan, Czardas
Onegin	John Cranko	Corps
Cinderella	Ben Stevenson	Dragon Fly, Corps
Giselle	Mary Skeaping after Marius Petipa	Vine Gatherer, Page
La Sylphide	Peter Schaufus	Soloist (Pas de Huit), Witch
Coppelia	Jack Carter	Czardas, Mazurka, Work Hours
Nutcracker	Ronald Hynde	Rat, Fritz, Hans, Russian
Rosalinda	Ronald Hynde	Hussar

Rambert Dance Company (1984-1990)

Title	Choreographer	Role
Soldier's Tale	Ashley Page	Soloist (7 dancers)
Dipping Wings	Mary Evelyn	Soloist (10 dancers)
Zanza	Richard Alston	Soloist (14 dancers)
Strong Language	Richard Alston	Soloist (16 dancers)
Cinema	Richard Alston	Soloist
Java	Richard Alston	Soloist
Rainbow Ripples	Richard Alston	Soloist (8 dancers)
Voices and Light Footsteps	Richard Alston	Soloist
Mythologies	Richard Alston	Soloist
Hymnos	Richard Alston	Soloist
Wildlife	Richard Alston	Soloist
Dangerous Liaisons	Richard Alston	Soloist (2 male dancers)
Rhapsody in Blue	Richard Alston	Soloist (9 dancers)
Pulcinella	Richard Alston	Pulcinella (Principal)
Death and the Maiden	Robert North	Soloist
Light & Shade	Robert North	Soloist
Night of the Waning Moon	Christopher Bruce	Pierott (Principal)
Ceremonies	Christopher Bruce	Soloist
Dancing Day	Christopher Bruce	Soloist
Dark Elegies	Antony Tudor	Soloist
Same Revolutionary Songs	Dan Wagner	Soloist
Swamp	Michael Clarke	Principal
Mercure	Ian Spink	Principal
Wolfi	Lynn Seymour	Soloist
Septet	Merce Cunningham	Soloist

David Massingham Dance (1991-1992)

Title	Choreographer	Role
Stranger than Fiction	David Massingham	Soloist
Rugby	David Massingham	Soloist
Blue	David Massingham	Soloist
Red	David Massingham	Soloist
The Immortals	David Massingham	Soloist
To Power	David Massingham	Soloist
Six Bassey Songs	David Massingham	Soloist

Second Stride Dance Company(1992-1993)

Title	Choreographer	Role
Heaven Ablaze in his Breast	Ian Spink	Soloist
Clarissa	Ian Spink for English National Opera	Soloist
Macbeth	Ian Spink for English National Opera	Soloist
Les Troyens	Ian Spink for Scottish Opera	Lead Role

Small Axe (1993-1994)

Title	Choreographer	Role
From Upminster to New Malden	Ben Craft/Gary Lambert	Soloist



Isabella Dyer, who initially worked for Rambert as British Movement Nicator before performing as a dancer in Rhapsody in