

British Dance Council

Limited by Guarantee Registered in England No. 502695 - Established 1929
Registered Office: Terpsichore House 240 Merton Road South Wimbledon, LONDON SW 19 1 EQ
Tel: 020 8545 0085 International dialling Fax: + 44 20 8545 0225
President: Marcus Hilton MBE - Vice President: Nicholas Miles
Honorary President: Len Armstrong
e- mail: secretary@britishdancecouncil.info
Member of: The World Dance Council - The Sport and Recreation Alliance

At our recent Board Of Directors meeting held on the 29th January, our President, Mr. Marcus Hilton MBE opened the meeting by reading a few word's about the "Dance Legend", Mrs. Doreen Freeman, who passed away peacefully in her sleep, in the early hours of Tuesday 26th January, with words and kind permission of Mr. Jack Reavely.

DOREEN FREEMAN

By kind permission of Mr. Jack Reavely

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my privilege, although a most sad one, to say a few words in connection with the passing of our dear friend and great dance exponent Doreen Freeman.

Doreen was a ferocious protector of the absolute best principles of both dance motion and also dance emotion, and her fierce protection of the basic principles, which she was mainly taught by the famous Josephine Bradley. They filled her entire life with fervour and the desire to ensure that her own expertise in dance would be passed on to others, so that they too would continue her own battle, to ensure that dance would be produced to be aesthetic and beautiful, without over ostentation.

Doreen was able, because of her undoubted beauty and artistic tendencies, to insist that others followed her own pathways and, for a time she was featured with the famous Victor Silvester, as his partner, showing how dance could be taken up by the millions who watched the tv programme, which ran for many years. She won the World Professional Ballroom Championship in Paris with Victor Barrett and, when dancing later, with Bob Burgess, she exemplified the beauty of dance, both in Ballroom and in Latin American.

May I ask you all to please rise for a minute's silence, as a tribute from the British Dance Council to this great Lady of Dance who passed in her sleep without pain, within a care home, where she had been for some years. Whenever we see a Lady dancer who has magnificent use of her feet, coupled to aesthetics and beauty, we will think of Doreen Freeman who herself freed so many dancers from their purgatory of inefficient principles of dance.