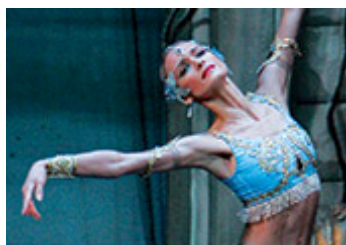


JUNE 2009

REVIEW

ballet.*magazine**St Petersburg Ballet Theatre**'La Bayadere'**May 2009**London, Coliseum*© *Jeffery Taylor**Former dancer, Dance Critic and an Arts feature writer for the Sunday Express. Pub 24 05 2009*

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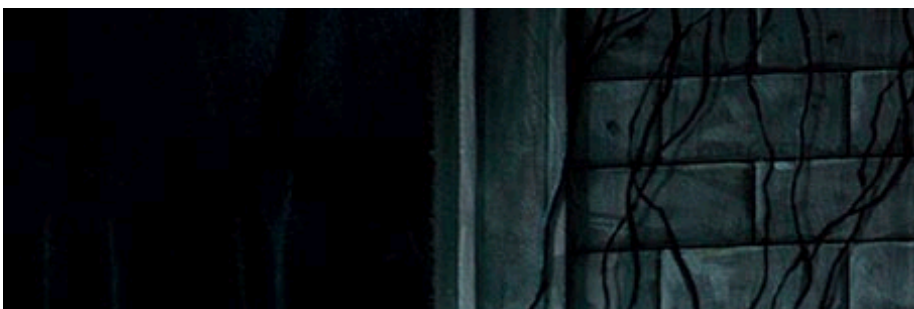
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Kolesnikova brings him up to date with the simple rudiments of partnering they will make a sensational pairing.

Irina Kolesnikova was so on top of her technique in SPBT's one off West End appearance last week, it hurt. Her towering authority and unearthly line swept the artistic board, nevertheless the company sat very well on the Coliseum stage, no longer a brave little troupe deserving a pat on the back, but an established company with both a future and a history of its own. A remarkable achievement for what started out a dozen years ago as a cabaret troupe.

Even more heartening, director Tachkin appears at last to have found a useful partner for his star ballerina. Young Yuri Kovalev's debut in the role was a little ragged around the edges, but his heart is in the right place. Exuberant enthusiasm coupled with a promising technique makes him an eminently watchable dancer. When





Irina Kolesnikova as Nikiya in *La Bayadere*
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