



**Alex Wong** was born in Canada. In 2000 Alex won two IDO Junior World Titles in Tap and Showdance. Alex won the Audience Choice Award and was a Bronze Medallist in the 2003 Genee International Ballet Competition.

In 2004, he became the first Canadian to win the Prix de Lausanne competition in Switzerland. He danced with American Ballet Theatre and was a Principal Soloist with the Miami City Ballet.

Alex was a finalist on Season 7 of the FOX hit series "So You Think You Can Dance" competing for the title of America's favorite dancer but was sidelined by an injury halfway through the season.

Later that year, both pieces Alex danced on So You Think You Can Dance choreographed by Mia Michaels and Tabatha & Napoleon both won Emmy Awards. Alex has appeared on Glee, Smash, The Voice, Dancing with the Stars, SYTYCD Vietnam and China, The Oscars, and several national commercials.

He was also a Semi Finalist on American Idol. (Yes, he is a singer also!) Alex released his first dance single "Crave" on iTunes and Amazon, filmed his music video, starred in a short film and had his Broadway debut, playing the role of "Sniper" in the Original Broadway Cast of the Disney musical "Newsies" which won two Tony Awards and received six other Tony nominations.

Alex also won the ACCA Award for Outstanding Original Chorus for the Broadway 2011-2012 season and the album was nominated for a Grammy Award. Alex's notable TV credits include the Starz TV series drama "Flesh & Bone" playing the role of "Kim", NBC's Peter Pan, Ted 2, The King & I on Broadway, CW's "Crazy Ex Girlfriend", "Best Time Ever" with Neil Patrick Harris, Comedy Bang Bang, Drunk History, Children's Hospital, Hit the Floor, SNL, The Daily Show, James Corden, the Billboard Awards with Paula Abdul and was featured on the cover of Dance Magazine.

Alex also workshopped the new Radio City Spectacular Rockette's summer show with Mia Michaels and several of his recent pieces of SYTYCD have been nominated for Emmy's as well on Crazy Ex Girlfriend.

Alex was a part of the hit movie musical **"The Greatest Showman"** starring Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron, Zendaya and Michelle Williams playing the role of **"Oriental Oddity"**.

He was also a part of Rebel Wilson's new movie "Isn't it Romantic" and he just finished filming a new Fosse TV series on FX featuring Michelle Williams and Sam Rockwell.

He is also part of the new comedy featuring Awkwafina on Comedy Central set to premiere late 2019 and the film adaptation movie musical "In the Heights" set to premiere in 2020.

Alex continues to create content on his social media pages and is also traveling around the world headlining dance conventions.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING ALEX TO OUR FACULTY OF THE "AMERICAS WORLD DANCE CHALLENGE" WORKSHOP CLASSES.**

**Alex Wong – From Ballet to HipHop One of the most versatile and talented dancers of all time!**

<https://ca.video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=yfp-t&p=alex+wong+dancer#id=8&vid=9ce9e0807daea3ca8e60e4bb49ead329&action=view>

We are thrilled that Alex Wong would like to share his expertise and inspire the dancers from around the World at our Americas World Dance Challenge. It is always impressive when former competitive dancers who are now successful and celebrated movie and TV stars, take the time to foster and share their knowledge with dancers worldwide.

However, because of Mr. Wong's popularity, we have agreed that if he is offered a Movie Contract or Broadway show during our event, that we would release him from his commitment.

**We will update our webpage if any change should occur.**



## NEW ZEALAND – Assyria Brady (HIP HOP)



Assyria has trained and competed internationally with the famous **The Palace Hip Hop school in New Zealand**, under Parris Goebel.

She taught at The Palace and has over 10 years experience with street dance/hip hop and have also trained under Stephen Grey (Head Judge for Hip Hop International)

She is a former HHI world champion and have recently competed at the MONSTERS dance convention held in Los Angeles and placed 1st. Also placing 1st In battle of the Bay, Shakedown and other National dance competitions

She is the founder of a successful hip -hop establishment in Hamilton New Zealand. Her dance crews are currently the regional Adult/Varsity champions and she travels to several locations and Internationally sharing her passion for dance.

## MEXICO Jesús Velasco



Jesús Velasco Mondragón is a native mexican dancer, choreographer, designer and artistic director in continuous learning. He was nominated for the 2014 and 2015 Capezio A.C.E. (Award for Choreographic Excellence) in the U.S.A., and he is the 2018 PECDA's recipient from Secretaría de Cultura in México.

In 2014, Jesús started his own tour as an instructor and choreographer with the vision of sharing his belief of creating, sharing, inspiring and connecting among dancers around the world. His Artistic development took place in countries like Australia, Spain, Austria, Italy and India. He is the producer of "DOMO"; renowned dance festival in Morelos, and the director of "[move.vessel]", a dance company based in Mexico City.

## AUSTRALIA KELLY SLOAN – All Genres



Australian Dance Teacher Kelly Sloan Egan has vast experience of dance spreading over 3 decades. Training in all styles including Tap, Jazz, Ballet, Hip Hop, Modern Lyrical, Modern Contemporary, Hip Hop, and Musical Theatre.

Kelly is a qualified international judge for the International Dance Organisation in both Tap and Show Dance. In 2018 she was a judge for the World Tap Dance Championships in Germany.

Teaching is her passion of her career and she has taught many elite dancers across Australia. Kelly has been a Coach for the Australian International Dance Team for the past 4 years and her students have won many international Gold, Silver and Bronze medals for Australia in countries such as Korea, Germany and South Africa.

Kelly has a deep love for tap dance and is well known for her unique choreography in this genre, which has lead to her success internationally. Her choreography in Jazz and Lyrical has also had international success.

At home in Newcastle NSW, Kelly has owned and operated a successful dance school for the past 16 years creating many champion dancers. Some of which have starred in the short film 'Good Luck Girls' (directed by Michele Aboud), featured in 'Australian Dance Magazine' and others have moved on to have professional careers in Musical Theatre

## GUAM - Marko Germar — ALL GENRES



Originally from the small island of Guam, he moved to Los Angeles to pursue a professional career in dance. His first job was performing for an indie ballet dance musical, "The Question" and since then has performed on many other stage live performances throughout Los Angeles. He was also a chorus dancer for the opera show "Carmen" in Houston, Texas and was a performer for Disneyland's "Aladdin" the musical spectacular. He also has television credits such as "Shake It Up", "Austin & Ally", "Liv & Maddie", Jerry Lewis' show, a guest performer on the Regis and Kelly show, The Voice, dance appearances on the Ellen show, Bunheads, Glee, X-Factor, The American Music Awards, The Grammy Awards, People's Choice Awards. Commercial credits include Microsoft, McDonald's, Virgin Airlines' safety video.

Marko was the top male and 3rd finalist on FOX's hit show "SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE" USA and later became an All-Star for consecutive seasons. He has also danced for films such as "No Strings Attached", "Behind the Candelabra", "Teen Beach Movie", "Step Up 5", and "Teen Beach Movie 2". He has worked for artists such as The Muze, Vicci Martinez, Cee Lo Green, Jennifer Lopez, Selena Gomez and Taylor Swift. He has assisted for many known choreographers in the industry, such as Nappytabs, Sonya Tayeh, Tyce Diorio, Liz Imperio, Marguerite Derricks, Stacey Tookey, Jamal Sims, etc, and was the associate choreographer to Christopher Scott for the closing ceremony of the European Games Baku 2015. He recently was a lead dancer for FOX's "Grease Live" that aired in January 2016. He loves and enjoys sharing his passion for the arts through different forms of expression and his personal goal is to inspire people all throughout the world and be inspired as well in the process.



## South Africa - Rachelle Davis



Rachelle Davis started her dance training at the age of 3 in Gauteng, South Africa, training in many versatile styles, including Ballet RAD, Contemporary, Horton, Jazz, Hip Hop and Sport Aerobics. Rachelle grew up in a competitive dance studio where she was awarded the Overall Winner Nationally for IDO Showdance in South Africa for 3 consecutive years and finished top 20 in the IDO World Championships in Riesa, Germany.

Rachelle kicked off her professional dance career by finishing in the top 6 for South Africa's own version of "So You Think You Can Dance" (Kyknet's Dans dans dans) and secured bookings with top commercial choreographers. She was seen in Debbie Rakusin's choreography at the hugely acclaimed Bidvest annual corporate event. She also worked as dancer, choreographer, and creative director for Fashion Television South Africa, Rugby Sevens, Castrol Auto Show, Castle Lager, and many more. Rachelle has been booked as a "celebrity judge" to judge IDO World Qualifiers for Hip Hop, Jazz, Showdance, Ballet, and Contemporary in Johannesburg, South Africa on many occasions. In 2008, Rachelle moved to Dubai, UAE, where she performed for 6 years as a professional dancer. Work included Opening of The Atlantis Dubai with Kylie Minogue, Atelier Music Festival alongside 50 Cent, Craig David, Nikki Minaj, New Year's Eve performance with Snoop Dogg, Dubai World Cup alongside Jennifer Lopez, for dignitaries such as Bill Clinton and the Sheik's of Dubai and Abu Dhabi at the World Education Summit, and the acclaimed "The Act" Dubai. Rachelle was also the personal dance coach and instructor for the children of the Royal Family of Dubai. Even though she has taught and choreographed for over 20 years in 4 countries, her desire remains the same; to create beautiful stories on beautiful dancers.



## Australia - Shane Preston (former Tap Dog 1996-2005)

SHANE PRESTON has never been able to keep his feet still so dance was a natural progression for him to express himself with his love of tap.

Shane was commissioned to revise and create the ATOD (Australian Teachers Of Dance) Tap, and Street Beat Tap syllabus, with Paul Davis. Performing with "Three feet of Beat" and teaching at numerous studios around Melbourne.

As a foundation to this, Shane began studying tap in Newcastle with the late Les Griffith, and won his first tap championship at age seven. Tap is his forte (over 35 years experience), however, Shane trained in Jazz, modern, classical and acrobatics as a child. Shane has been teaching and choreographing for 20 years in Sydney, Newcastle and now Melbourne. Shane was an integral part of the tap department at Brent Street Studios in Sydney for 4 of those years '02-'05, each year his fulltime routines won or placed at the "City of Sydney" eisteddfod. Shane has taught numerous workshops in Australia and Europe. A resident teacher at the Annual Australian Tap Dance Festival. Mentoring students with their routines for IDO WORLD TAP DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017 and mentor / coach of Australian IDO Tap Team 2019.



Performing and co-choreographing in several tap groups performing gigs

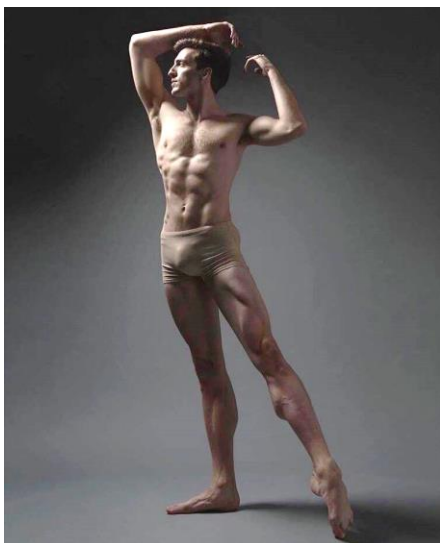
- "Rhythm on Tap"
- "The Next Step"
- "One Big Blur"
- "Three Feet of Beat"
- TDC Productions (Tap Dance Creative)

Stage performances include:

- 2012 to 2018 Australian Tap Festival Tap Shows.
- 2008 – 2009 Collaboration Project shows "Inhale" and "Beat N Move Euphoric" as performer and choreographer
- 1999 – 2005 **European company of 'Tap Dogs'** touring England, Germany, France, Poland, Portugal, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Austria, Venezuela and South Africa.
- 1998 Australian company of 'Steel City' touring Australia and performing at Radio City Music Hall, New York
- 1996 – 1997 **Australian company of 'Tap Dogs'** touring Australia, New Zealand, India, South Korea, Peoples' Republic of China, Hong Kong and Japan.
- 1988 World Expo dancers in Sydney

Shane's passion is to share and pass on all of his passion, knowledge and experiences that he has learned throughout his years of dance.

## RICHARD HOUSE – (SOLOIST)– SARASOTA, FLORIDA - BALLET



Richard was born in Sunbury, Victoria. He began his dance studies at the Classique School of Dance in Sunbury, learning jazz and tap. He initially took up ballet to help with his posture and placement in other dance styles.

At twelve he was accepted to train at the Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne, studying ballet, jazz, tap, acrobatics and contemporary.

In 2006 he was awarded a VCA scholarship to train at the Scottish School of Dance in Glasgow. He was accepted into The Australian Ballet School in 2008. While there he discovered a passion for choreography and was awarded the Graeme Murphy Award for Excellence in Contemporary Dance. He toured with The Dancers Company in 2010 and joined The Australian Ballet in 2011. His last year with the company was 2018.

Richard House joined the Sarasota Ballet in 2018. His featured roles with The Australian Ballet include Ashton's *Monotones II*; Balanchine's *The Four Temperaments*; Bintley's *Faster*; Gielgud's *Giselle*; Kylián's *Forgotten Land*, *Petite Mort*; McAllister's *The Sleeping Beauty*; Murphy's *Nutcracker - The Story of Clara*; Stewart's *Monument*; Tharp's *In the Upper Room*.

## AUSTRALIA Michelle Saunders



Michelle started training in dance from the age of 6 years. Her parents were professional dancers and had their own dance school, which is where Michelle trained for most of her influential years. At the age of 16, Michelle studies in New York under some of the most renowned dance teachers and choreographers to this day (Frank Hatchett, Michelle Assaf, Alan Onnical) Ms. Saunders has danced in shows and performances professionally from the age of 14. She also had the opportunity to train in all styles while in New York (Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Lyrical, Theatre Dance, Hip Hop, and Contemporary) Michelle also had a love for teaching and choreography. She received her Diploma of Dance, she then went on to achieve her Diploma in Teaching Dance, along with many other dance and dance teacher qualifications.

After returning home from New York, apart from performing and Choreographing for Theatre restaurants, TV, commercials, professional shows, corporate events etc....Michelle taught freelance to dance schools around Melbourne (from beginner classes to full time advanced/professional students.) Much of her time was also taken up with examining and adjudicating.

She spent 11 years teaching the "Jazz Dance" subject for the Dance Teachers Diploma Course at Box Hill institute and 5 years as Melbourne Dance Director and choreographer for the Victorian State School Spectacular Productions.

In 2019, Michelle has returned to teach full time and is enjoying her role of nurturing and guiding the young enthusiastic students to develop, progress and transition into the professional world.

## VIP COUPLE DANCE

### Simone Sanfilippo Tabò & Serena Maso (Italy)



They started dancing together in 2007, and three months after they started training they went to their first competition. They won in all four dances. After only one month, they also won the 2007 Italian Championship. In 2008, they won the European Championships IDO, in 2009 won the World Cup of Salsa in Lyon and World Championship of Merengue. In 2009 - 2010 - 2011 in Liberec (Czech Republic) win the title of WORLD CHAMPIONS (IDO International Dance Organization) SALSA, BACHATA, MERENGUE AND SALSA SHINE.

They are guests of the most prestigious Salsa WORLD CONGRESS: Los

Angeles, San Francisco,

Seattle, New York, Cartagena, Berlin, Amsterdam, Benidorm, London, Madrid, Zurich,

Marseille, Munich, Milan, Singapore, Miami, Australia and New Zeland.

The IDO World Dance Challenge are extremely honoured to have such a world renown couple as the VIP guest Instructors for Couple Dance!

Other accolades;

In 2011, they' re finalists at WORLD SALSA OPEN OF PUERTO RICO .

In 2012 ,they' re World Champions of Salsa, Bachata and Latin Show ( IDO International dance organization)Simone and Serena represent Italy in Puerto Rico Salsa Open 2012 and at Miami World Latin Dance cup 2012

-In July 2013 at the World Salsa Open in Puerto Rico, they were classified in 5 th place in Salsa Couple Division and at 3 rd place in solo Male and in Solo Female division.

-At the World Latin Dance cup 2013 in Miami they won a Silver Medal in salsa Couple Division and They' re ranked at 3rd place in Bachata Couple Division.

-Simone and Serena Won the World Bachata Championship 2014 in Hong Kong.3 °Place World Salsa Championship 2014 Hong Kong 1° Place Ladies Salsa Championship 2014 Hong Kong 2° Place Male Salsa Championship 2014 Hong Kong

-At the World Salsa Open in Puerto Rico in 2014 won the Silver Medal

-They are World Salsa Champions 2014 (IDO) and European champions at the European

## Bachata Masters

-At the World Salsa Open in Puerto Rico in 2015 won the Silver Medal  
-They are World Champions World Latin Dance Cup Miami category Salsa on 2,  
-World Salsa and Bachata Champions 2015 (IDO) and champions of World Bachata Open

-At the World Salsa Open in Puerto Rico in 2016 won the Bronze Medal  
-They are World Champions at World Salsa Summit Miami category Salsa on 2,  
-World Salsa and Bachata Champions 2016 (IDO), champions of World Bachata Open and won the World salsa Championship 2016 in Atlanta.

-They are Salsa and Bachata World Champions IDO 2017.

-They are Salsa and Merengue European Champions IDO 2018.

-They are Salsa, Merengue and Bachata Vice World Champions IDO 2019

-They are World Salsa Champions on1 Professional Division at World Salsa Summit 2019 and 3rd. Place in Salsa cabaret Division in World Latin Dance Cup 2018.

Simone & Serena have become one of the most titled couples in the world in the Caribbean dances of history.

They are the choreographers of Deja Vu Dance Company and the organizer of To Dance Latin Festival.

They are teachers and art directors at one of the most established dance schools in Italy "VIVA LA ROSA DEI VENTI

## SEMINARS

Open to Dance Teachers, Studio/Club Owners



### Prof. Dr. Velibor Srdic

Dr. Srdic is from Bosnia and holds a position on the Executive Presidium for the International Dance Organization. (IDO)

Dr. Srdic will be hosting a seminar introducing IDO to the many new countries attending this event. Such topics as; 1) All about IDO 2) How to become member 3) How to participate in future events 4) Why should I be part of IDO?



**Dr. Edgar Albo** Sport Psychologist / Director at Professional Associates of Sports and Health, SC.

Dr. Albo will be speaking on the psychology of competition



## DANCE CHATTER

Regardless of what country or continent you are from, dance teachers and studio/club owners encounter the same issues. We invite dance teachers, studio and club owners from around the World to attend an informal "chat" session where dance professionals can network together to share their wealth of knowledge with each other.



