

XIA HAIYING, 32
DANCE

Trained in China's Beijing Dance Institute, Haiying joined Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) in 1993 and has since risen meteorically from an apprentice to a principal dancer.

Her principal roles in SDT's classical repertoire include Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Victoria Page in *The Red Shoes*, Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty* and the title roles in *Anna Karenina*, *Giselle*, *Cinderella*, *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker* and *La Sylphide*.

Partnering guest artist, Nicholas Leschke from Houston Ballet, she took on the role of Cio-Cio San in Stanton Welch's *Madame Butterfly*. Productions in which she played the lead role include George Balanchine's *Who Cares?*, Jiri Kylian's *Forgotten Land*, Nacho Duato's *Jardi Tancat*, Stanton Welch's *Maninyas*, Marie-Claude Pietragalla's *Les Noces*, Sakiko Oshima's *Whose Voice Cries Out?* and Goh Choo San's *Birds of Paradise* and *In the Glow of the Night*.

Validation of Haiying's status as a top-notch dancer also comes in the form of the many awards and nominations she has garnered. She was awarded the first prize in the "Chinese Classical Dance Youth" category of China's Tao Li Cup Dance Competition (1992) and the Grand Prix Prize at the 7th Asia Pacific International Ballet Competition (1999) held in Tokyo. She was also nominated for Benois de La Danse Prix (2003) and invited to perform the same year at the Gala at Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow.

Haiying has performed with the Queensland Ballet in 2000 and 2005, winning rave reviews from publications like *The Australian* and *The States of the Arts*. She was subsequently nominated as the Most Interesting Overseas Artist in a 2005 critics' survey in *Dance Australia* and one of the Most Outstanding Dancers in the same publication's February/March 2006 issue. She also received praise from *London Dance Magazine* and *Ballet Company* for her performances at Singapore Season in London in January 2005.

A winner of the Front Award in 2007 from MediaCorp TV's Arts Central for her achievement in dance, she has travelled to cities like Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Seoul, Houston and Mexico City for performances and dance festivals.