INTERNATIONAL ISSUE

ENJAMIN ILLEPIED
MAKING THINGS AT PARIS ÉRA BALLET

THE BOLSHOI EFFECT

by Americans in Training in Moscow

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HOW SUGAR AFFECTS YOUR DANCING

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Bolshoi-trained Jeraldine Mendoza of Joffrey Ballet

MAY 2015
Go Global
Three study-abroad options for dancers

Studying abroad can be one of the greatest adventures of a dancer’s college career. Learning about the history and dances of other cultures—and simply experiencing life in another country—can help you expand your notion of the art form and build skills as a performer and choreographer. “Students always come back different in the ways they think about and create their art,” says Karen Dearborn, dance director at Muhlenberg College. Though almost every college has study-abroad sites, few are dance-specific. Here are three to keep on your radar.

—Suzannah Friscla

A STATE UNIVERSITY
a, FL
FA in dance
oad site: Paris
ay: Four weeks in the

Up to 20 dance students from
other colleges

ersion: Students take classical
the Académie Américaine de
Paris, and may take classes at
llos. Past trips have included
isses in court dancing and
uncan

A elective
tory course
th-century
essionalism, and the
ses, and
ancers in

ns: Students
Paris Opéra
formance
a backstage tour of the Palais
They visit major art museums,
day at Versailles and take a
our of Montmartre.

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
Iowa City, IA
uiowa.edu

Degrees: BA or BFA in dance
Study-abroad site: Rio de Janeiro and
 São Paulo

Length of stay: Four
weeks, prior to Brazilian
Carnival

Open to: 20-25 dancers
from U of Iowa

Dance immersion:
Students study Brazilian
culture and history by
visiting the headquarters
of several samba schools
for lectures and classes,
and watching street rehearsals. They
also dance in a Carnival parade dress
rehearsal with students from a local
samba school. Other activities include a
history lecture at the Afro Brasil Museum
in São Paulo, drumming classes to learn
about the music of samba, a class in
capoeira and a lecture with a Carnival
costume designer.

Excursions: Students visit major Brazilian
landmarks, like Sugarloaf Mountain and
the Christ the Redeemer statue, and tour
historic downtown São Paulo.

MUHLENBERG COLLEGE
Allentown, PA
muhlenberg.edu

Degree: BA in dance
Study-abroad site: Tuscany, in
partnership with Accademia dell’Arte in
Arezzo

Length of stay: One semester

Open to: 16 dance students from
Muhlenberg and other schools

Dance immersion: Ballet, modern and
choreography classes are taken at the
Accademia. There are shorter courses
in the tarantella, butoh and tanztheater
(taught by a former
Pina Bausch dancer).

Dancers also study
Italian language,
philosophy of art
and performance,
Bartenieff
Fundamentals, and
Laban Choreutics and
Eukinetics.

Excursions: There is
at least one trip to a major Italian city to
see a performance and take classes. Past
destinations include Rome, Naples and
Venice.

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