



BALLET IRELAND
ANNUAL SUMMER SCHOOL
10TH ANNIVERSARY



The Emperor
of China
and the
Nightingale

The Emperor of China and the Nightingale

The Ballet Ireland Annual Summer School celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. Since 2001 almost three thousand boys and girls have taken part in the summer school, a week filled to the brim with creativity and self-expression, workshops centred in dance and a performance held onstage, fully lit and dressed and open to friends and family. Participants work and perform alongside professional dancers from Ballet Ireland, and in collaboration with them, decide how each week's show develops. With emphasis on all the component arts that combine to make a ballet; drama, music, painting and dance, the Ballet Ireland summer school week is filled with laughter, joy and inspiration.

This year we will explore the beautiful story of a small brown bird that saves an emperor's life and reveals the snobberies and artificialities of court life. The Emperor of China owns every possible luxury that money can buy and is surrounded by a group of pompous and self-promoting courtiers. None of them, however, can discover the whereabouts of a nightingale, whose magical song is heard at nightfall. A small kitchen maid shows the bird to the emperor who is immediately charmed, and within days the entire court goes mad for all things 'nightingale'. Yet over time, the emperor grows ill, and though he owns everything, the fawning court can find no cure. The song of the nightingale could save him, but the bird has flown the nest...

To discover what happens next and how we can translate the story into a ballet, come join in with our week of theatrical fun. We will develop and utilise all your performing skills and you may discover many you never thought you had. Self-confidence and motivation are available by the dollop and the only limitation is your imagination. The summer school is open to all, boys and girls, young adults, dancers and non-dancers alike. Start age is six years. This is a hugely popular programme, many participants return year after year, and early booking is advisable.

Ballet Ireland Annual Summer School 2010

July	5 - 9	Dunamaise Arts Centre	Portlaoise	057 866 3355
July	12 - 16	Glor Irish Music Centre	Ennis	065 684 3103
July	19 - 23	Civic Theatre	Tallaght	01 462 7477
July	26 - 30	An Grianan Theatre	Letterkenny	074 912 0777
August	2 - 6	Burnavon Arts Centre	Cookstown	028 867 69949
August	16 - 20	Moat Theatre	Naas	045 883030