



Photo from a Ballet Repertoire class taught by Clare Merchant Andreou at SunDance 2018, by Francesca Chudnoff

Clare Merchant Andreou - Biography

Clare Merchant Andreou was born in the UK, and at age nine was accepted to Arts Educational School, Tring Park. At 19 she graduated from the Royal Ballet School, where she was Head Girl and awarded “Most Promising Teacher”. Following foot surgery, Clare immediately went into teaching and had several posts abroad before settling down in Cyprus, becoming the owner of Dance Works School of Ballet in Nicosia in 1991.

In 1994, Clare was invited to become an Examiner and Tutor for the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD), where she travels extensively on their behalf. In 2016, she was also appointed a Solo Seal Examiner. For over 28 years she has examined and conducted seminars on behalf of the RAD in more than 37 countries.

In 1999, Clare initiated the Lefkosia Youth Ballet and was on the Founding Committee, where she continues to dedicate her free time to their projects and on developing opportunities for talented students in Nicosia. She is also on the Founding Committee of the Lefkosia Dance House – a space that houses the Lefkosia Youth Ballet, but also supports various dance initiatives, including up and coming new artists, artists in Residence, choreographers and dancers.

Until recently, she was on the faculty of the University of Nicosia, Dance Programme.

Over the years, Clare has choreographed for the local television station CYBC, Thoc National Theatre, Theatro Ena and ACT. She is also a member of the Cyprus Professional Dance Association.