

CURRICULUM VITAE

Hanna Maria Karttunen

Born in Oulu, Finland 11.11. 1973

Doctor of Arts (h. c.)

Dancer, performer, dance teacher/master, choreographer and adjudicator

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WORKING EXPERIENCE / CAREER

Hanna Karttunen is a world famous dancer and performer as well as a choreographer, dance adjudicator, teacher and lecturer working globally in the highest echelons of the Dance world.

She is a three-time world number one ranked Latin Dancer and a three-time World Champion in Exhibition Dance/Theater Arts.

PERFORMANCES

Hanna Karttunen has performed in 46 countries in International Dance Festivals and Events, Theatres, Arenas, TV and Conferences in Europe, Russia, Australia, Asia, South Africa, South-America and USA.

Some of the highlights of the special guest performances include:

- Honorary performance for Prince Mikasa of Japan in 2002
- Honorary performance for HRH Prince Albert II of Monaco, Monaco
- Special Guest Performance for Dr. Jacques Rogge, the President of the International Olympic Committee, along with the world's top television and media executives "World Media Awards" at the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco
- 'Night of the 100 Stars' London
- Special Guest Performance in Royal Albert Hall London
- Special Guest Performance in Kremlin Palace in Moscow every year since 2004 until 2015
- World Champions Extravaganza Jakarta
- The World Super Stars in Japan
- Special demonstration 'Dance Legend' in the World Super Stars Japan in 2014
- Dance Legends, New York

HALL OF FAME

- 'Dance Legend' in The World Super Stars, Japan in 2014
- 'Dance Legend' in Dance Legends, New York in 2015
- Universal Hall of Fame 2020

TELEVISION CREDITS

- Professional instructor, winning second place, on the first ever 'Strictly Come Dancing' broadcasted on BBC England 2004.
- Special Guest Performance on 'Strictly Come Dancing' England in 2004, 2005 and 2007
- Special Guest Performance on 'Dancing With The Stars' Italy in 2006 and 2008
- Special Guest Professional Instructor Appearance on 'Dancing With Stars' Italy in 2006
- Special Guest Performance on 'Dancing With the Stars' South Africa in 2006 and 2007
- Special Guest Performance on 'Dancing With the Stars' Russia in 2007
- Special Guest Performance in 'Dancing With the Stars' Finland in 2010 and 2018
- Special Guest Performance on 'So You Think You Can Dance' Ukraine in 2012
- Special Guest Performance on 'So You Think You Can Dance' Finland in 2012
- Special Guest Performance and adjudicator on 'Super Dancer Born Tonight' screened in MGM Arena Las Vegas and broadcasted in China in 2013
- Professional instructor and dancer on the 'Ballando Con Le Stelle', Italian version on 'Dancing With The Stars' broadcasted on RAI 1 Italy 2018.
- Choreographer for professional shows on the 'Ballando Con Le Stelle', Italian version of 'Dancing With The Stars' broadcasted on RAI 1 Italy 2018.

THEATRES AND PRODUCTIONS

- Established performer on theatres and productions worldwide since 2004, including Vodafone Arena in Melbourne Australia, National Ballet of Finland, Kremlin Palace in Moscow, Royal Albert Hall in London, Budokan Hall in Japan
- Principle Dancer on Operetta 'Der Kuhhandel', directed by Craig Revel Horwood. Bregenz Opera Festival, Austria in 2004
- Lead role and Principle Dancer on 'Dreams Waking Visions', theatre production for Vodacom South Africa in 2007.
- Principle Dance couple and choreographer, Vail International Dance Festival, at The Gerald R. Ford Amphitheatre, Vail Colorado in 2006-2009
- Director for the 'Ballroom's Best' evening in Vail International Dance Festival, at The Gerald R. Ford Amphitheatre, Vail Colorado in 2006-2009

DANCE TEACHER / MASTER

- Dance teacher and coach in Europe, Asia, Australia and USA, since 1994
- Head coach for the Finnish Youth and Junior National Team, 2009-2011
- Lecturer in World Dance Council and British Dance Council International conferences regularly, since 2000

CHOREOGRAPHER

- Choreographer for several award winning Professional Latin, Exhibition and Showdance couples worldwide, since 2000
- Prelude and Finale on 'Ballroom's Best' in Vail International Dance Festival, at The Gerald R. Ford Amphitheatre, Vail Colorado in 2006-2009
- For NIC International College in Japan Opening Ceremony in 2016
- For TV-program 'Ballando Con Le Stelle' 2018 for celebrity partner Don Diamont
- 'Dancing With The Stars' Italy 2018 for show numbers for the professional teachers on the show
- Worked with Celine Dion 2018 on her dance for her upcoming show tour

ADJUDICATOR

- Representative of Finland in the World Dance Organisation
- WDO and USTA International Adjudicator Licence
- World Class Adjudicator in National and International Championships worldwide
- European Championships Professional Showdance in 2010
- British Open Invitational Exhibition Championships in 2013
- World Championships Professional Showdance in 2016
- World Championships Professional Latin in 2017
- European Championships Professional Latin in 2019
- World Championships Amateur Ballroom 2021
- World Championships Amateur Latin 2021
- World Championships Professional Latin 2021
- European Championships Amateur Latin 2022

OTHER CREDITS

- Contribution to 'Nosta Nainen Päivässä' book 2019 (readme.fi)
- Guest speaker at NIC International College in Japan Opening Ceremony in 2015-2016 and 2019
- Kremlin Cup 20 years, special edition book, published on 2015
- Face for BOYKO advertisement campaign 2015
- Ambassador for Chrisanne 2000-2007
- Ambassador for International Dance Shoes 1994-2017
- Critic for Trade Journal Dance Beat
- Critic for Trade Journal Dance News
- Instructor on Dance DVDs sold worldwide on global websites and dance stores.
- 'Secrets of Latin' for Himawari Studios in Japan
- 'Coaching Latin Choreography' for DSI London
- 'Essential Latin vol.1' for DSI London
- 'Essential Latin vol.2' for DSI London
- Performer on Dance DVDs sold worldwide on global websites and dance stores.
- 'The World Super Stars' 2000-2003 and 2014
- 'Dance Legends' 2012 and 2015
- 'World Cup in Kremlin' 2004-2015

CONTRIBUTION FOR CHARITY

- Lusito - Portuguese Association for the Mentally Handicapped, South Africa
- Anthony Nolan Trust - For saving the lives of people with blood cancer, England.
- Rainbow Valley - For saving the lives of people with blood cancer, Scotland.
- Tesla Charity Gala - Funds for Hospital for Children, Finland
- Casa Estrella - For rescues abandoned children, USA.

OFFICIAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS OF EXCELLENCE AWARDED BY INTERNATIONAL DANCE AND ART ADMINISTRATIONS

- **Dance Legend Jurmala Latvia 2022**
- **The Universal Hall of Fame 2020**
- **Doctor of Arts Honoris Causa** International American University 2019
- **"Vuoden Tanssinopettaja"** Suomen Tanssinopettajain Liitto STOL ry in 2018 **"The Dance Teacher of the Year 2018"**
- **"The 2017 Presidential Award"** NIC International College in Japan 2017
- **"For 10 years of Beautiful Shows in Kremlin Palace"** Kremlin Cup Special Award Trophy in 2015
- **"Outstanding Contribution to the Development of Dance Art"** The Russian Dance Sport Union in 2014
- **"Excellence in Kremlin Cup since 1998"** Honorary Award in 2014
- **"For Distinctive Accomplishments in the Field of Dance"** Distinguished Artist Citation, the Phillippine StarBall in 2011
- **"Excellence in Sport and Art"** Talent award by Ministry of Culture in Portugal in 2007
- **"Professional Excellence"** World Dance Professional Latin Award by The World Dance and Dance Sport Council in 2002
- **"Outstanding Performance in Professional Latin"** The Ballroom Dancers' Federation in 2002
- **"World Series Dance Champion"** in 2002

ACHIEVEMENTS IN COMPETITIONS

Exhibition Dance Theatre Arts (2005-2007)

- 3 times World Champion
- 3 times British Open Professional Invitational Exhibition Champion
- The Florida Superstars Cabaret Champion
- The Florida Super Stars Champion of Champions Champion

Ballroom Dance

REPRESENTING UNITED KINGDOM (1999-2004) Professional Latin

- British Professional Latin Champion 1999-2004
- World Masters Champion, 3 times
- Duch Open Champion, 3 times
- World Series Champion, 2 times
- Asian Open Champion, 2 times
- Japan Open Champion, 2 times
- Japan Open in Kyushu Champion
- Perfectual Governor Award Champion
- Japan Open in Nagoya Champion
- Japan Open in Osaka Champion
- Japan Open Inter Cup Champion
- US Open Champion
- 50th Elsa Wells International Dance Championships Champion
- United Kingdom Championships Champion
- 4 times British Open Team Match Champion
- British Open Rumba Champion
- British Open Paso Doble Champion
- Professional World Cup Champion
- Mediterranean Open Champion
- Universal Champion
- All England Champion
- Imperial Champion

REPRESENTING ITALY (1996-1998)

- Italian Professional Latin Champion (1996-1998)
- World finalist Professional Latin British Open Dance Championships, World Masters, World Cup, European and World Championships

REPRESENTING NORWAY (1995)

- Norwegian Professional Latin Champion
- World Finalist in Professional Latin World Masters and European Championships

REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (1994)

- 7th Place British Open Dance Festival Professional Latin

REPRESENTING FINLAND (- 1993)

- Finnish Youth Ten Dance Champion
- Finnish Youth Latin Champion
- Finnish Amateur Latin Champion
- 3rd Place in under 21 Youth Latin International Dance Championships and British Open Dance Championships
- 4th Place in Youth Latin European Championships