



September 24, 2010

Our second week in London started off on a more relaxing tide than our first week. Initially when the company arrived here last week, we hit the ground running. We had tons of rehearsals to help put the finishing touches on the ballets being performed here at Sadler's Wells. We premiered two wonderful programs with choreography by Alvin Ailey, George Faison, Robert Battle, Judith Jamison, Ronald K. Brown, and Christopher L. Huggins. The audiences were extremely energetic and very receptive to the programs, as they continuously shared their joy with us night after night with thunderous applause.

Now that our second week is in full swing, I feel a bit more at ease (partly because our schedule is less hectic too). I have had the chance to perform the repertory that we rehearsed this summer, and finally feel like I can start to invest even MORE of myself into the ballets. That constant "work in progress" mentality is what keeps me motivated and pushing myself to go beyond my comfort zone.... because, trust me, it's very easy to become complacent. And that's no fun at all. Especially for the audience :-)

Other than that, London has been treating us very well. As this is my second time here in this city, I must say, I am enjoying it a lot more this go round. It's nice not to feel like such a stranger and to know how to navigate my way around. The weather has been incredible—not many clouds, lots of sun, and decent temperatures have kept me very happy. I haven't had much time to really explore, but next week I have three days off and am looking forward to lots of sightseeing. The London Eye, Buckingham Palace, and London Bridge are just a few places that are at the top of my list. I would also love to visit some delicious restaurants while I'm here. (That's right, dancers DO EAT)!

In the meantime, enjoy some of the pictures from our first and second weeks on tour... I hope to post some more photos from my adventures in the future. Enjoy and stay tuned ;-)



AAADT's Guillermo Asca, Daniel Harder and Megan Jakel at Sadler's Wells opening night. Photo courtesy of Daniel Harder.



Picadilly Circus in London. Photo by Daniel Harder.



AAADT's Jermaine Terry and Daniel Harder in London. Photo by Ghrai DeVore.



Makeda Crayton and Daniel Harder in London. Photo by Christopher L. Huggins.