

Did you know....

-Cecchetti entered the world prematurely following one of his mother's performances in Italy June 21, 1850... he was born in the dressing room!!

-A dancer was not considered "finished" until he or she passed through Cecchetti's hands.

-Cecchetti had a total of 7 sons

-His first wife *possibly* died during childbirth and their son was raised by Cecchetti's parents

-He married again and their first son only lived one day

-Then came the other 5 sons: which included Luigi and Mario (hmmmm....)

-His parents wanted him to have a career in business or law.

-A few of Cecchetti's teachers included Giovanni Lepri, Cesare Coppini, Cesare Cecchetti (his father), Caterina Baretta and Carlo Blasis.

-The Pope did not want male dancers to wear flesh colored tights and decided they should wear white. Cecchetti thought white tights were not flattering so he is credited with introducing tights to match the color of the men's costumes.

-Cecchetti was so popular with high ranking clergy in the Catholic Church that he was granted special permission from the Pope to be a female pupils godfather (when girls where only allowed to have female sponsors or godmothers).

-Cecchetti debuted at La Scala in Italy by ending his performance with thirty-two *pirouettes à la seconde* traveling diagonally across the stage.

-His performances took him to Demark, Norway, Holland, Germany, Austria, England and Russia... he was considered "the first dancer of the world".

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