

Fiona Johnson - Professional Profile

1. Dance Education:

Fiona Johnson, hailing from Slovenia, embarked on her dance journey under the tutelage of renowned choreographer Mojca Horvat at the esteemed dance school "Kazina". Proficient in Broadway Jazz, Fiona honed her skills in Jazz, Tap, and Contemporary techniques, complemented by training at the Ballet School and Ballet Conservatorium in Ljubljana.

2. Competitive Achievements:

From the age of 10 to 18, Fiona garnered acclaim in various dance competitions both in Slovenia and internationally. Notable achievements include multiple state championships in Show Dance and Tap, retaining the European champion title for several years across solo, duo, and formation categories. Her illustrious competitive career culminated in a remarkable five-year tenure as the World Champion.

3. Performance and Media Presence:

Fiona's talent transcended competition floors as she graced Slovenian TV shows (Periskop, Studio je vaš, Tvariete, Kolo sreče, Sunday afternoon with Mita Trefalt, Teater Paradižnik, Stojana Auer show, Show will go on ...), starred in original musicals (Bučka na Broadwayu, Sneguljčica), and left an indelible mark with her role as Speedy Gonzales in the dance movie "Poletje v školjki 2". Her participation in the Dance project alongside choreographer Fred Lassere, coupled with performances in diverse international settings, significantly enriched her dance and choreographic expertise. This contemporary dance group, established in 1996, garnered widespread acclaim across Slovenia (Koper, Kostanjevica, Novo mesto, Maribor, Bled, Velenje...) and abroad (France, Italy, French West Indies...). Over their collaborative six-year journey, they achieved the esteemed international title of Finalist Prix de Volinine in 1998, marking a milestone for both choreographers and dancers in contemporary dance. Throughout these years, Fiona Johnson honed her skills in various dance techniques such as Horton, Relax, Jazz, and trained under distinguished choreographers like Saša Stupar, Miha Lampič, and Jadran Živkovič, further enhancing her artistic repertoire.

4. Teaching and Choreography:

Transitioning into the role of a dance teacher and mentor, Fiona Johnson has made a significant impact in various dance schools. Her students consistently achieve top positions in dance competitions, notably dominating national championships for several years. From 2000 to 2005, they attained remarkable success on the world stage, securing multiple titles of World Champions in Adult solo, small group, and formation across Street Dance Show and Hip-Hop dance disciplines.

As a choreographer, Fiona has been actively engaged in numerous smaller projects and competitions in Slovenia and abroad since 1999. Her foray into national projects began in 1999 with the creation of a dance performance for children titled "Pika goes to a circus", a production that toured across Slovenia until 2001.

In 2004, she established another captivating dance show for children, "Pika goes around the world", which mirrored the success of its predecessor. Demonstrating her ongoing creativity, Fiona introduced a third children's play, "Palčica", in 2005. This production not only entertained the youngest audiences but also showcased her commitment to philanthropy by bringing joy to children at the Izola Hospital during the Christmas and New Year's holidays through a charity event.

As a choreographer, she contributed to projects, competitions, and collaborated with renowned artists, notably choreographing for the SIDDHARTA group's concert at the Bežigrad stadium.

Expanding her artistic footprint globally, Fiona Johnson embarked on her first international tour with her choreography at the International Dance Ballet Festival in Trieste. In 2002 and 2003, she showcased her choreographic prowess on national television programs like Poper and Viktorij, collaborating with prominent artists such as Alya and Željko Joksimović.

Fiona's involvement in television extended to the New Year's show "Again at home" in 2004, where she crafted choreographies for the media character "Ana Liza". Her collaboration with actress Nataša Tič Ralijan and author Gašper Tič continued for two seasons. In September 2005, dancers from her dance group, Fionas Dance Company, and Ano Lizo recorded a television commercial for Mercator.

The years 2004-2009 witnessed the inception of a recurring performance titled "Back to the roots", showcased at the Hotel & Casino Congo in Grosuplje. Following its success, another performance titled "Welcome to the future" was presented in 2005-2010. Additionally, "Welcome to the Casino" and "Dance Mix", were featured at Casino HIT (Kranjska gora, Kobarid, Perla) from 2004-2011.

Even after transitioning her career in year 2009 and dedicating her professional path to sports politics, Fiona Johnson continues to be invited as a guest choreographer for various prestigious platforms. Her enduring influence extends to theater performances, television shows, and governmental festivities. This dual role highlights her versatility and the enduring impact of her artistic prowess in shaping cultural and celebratory events, even within the realm of sports politics. Fiona's ability to seamlessly navigate both worlds underscores her significant contributions to both the arts and sports arenas.

5. Entrepreneurial Ventures:

In 2005, Fiona founded Fionas Dance Company, a professional dance group that achieved acclaim as European and World Champions. Simultaneously, she initiated the "Just Dance" international dance festival and established her dance school "Fiona" in Koper and Sežana that transitioned to "Plesni center Fiona".

6. Professional Recognition and Roles:

Fiona's contributions extend to judging and organizing various national and international dance events. Noteworthy roles include being an IDO Vice-President (2010-2022), Senior Vice-President for Sport & Sport for All since 2022, Education Director (2012-2023), and founder of the IDO Gala World event "Best of the best."

She is mainly responsible for: granting supervisors' licenses, updating of their licenses; closely working with the appointed supervisors and organizers; presiding over meetings (rules and procedures for organizers and competitions, protocol at competitions, analysis of competition forms, organisation and preparation of IDO congress, workshops, master class and different sport related seminars, preparing

of anti doping rules); planning seminars together with the Adjudication Director; governing over rules and regulations regarding to the organizing aspect of the competitions; negotiations of all competitions from the beginning to the end (bidding-contract draft-original contract) according to the bidding procedures; scouting new organizers, events and possibilities of co-operations; and overseeing of the over 30 international official dance Championship titles every year.

As the Education Director (2012-2023) - Head of the Education committee she was responsible to: develop the the Education Committee; responsible for Master Classes, the IDO congress etc. in cooperation with the Adjudication Director and the Executive Secretary; and also responsible fo all sport measurements.

Fiona Johnson established the IDO Gala World event "Best of the Best," a distinguished initiative that presents special awards and scholarships to recognize the extraordinary talent of Adult World Champions. This event serves as a platform to honor and support the most outstanding performers in the global dance community.

In response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Fiona also launched the "Continent vs Continent online competitions. These innovative online competitions, held during the pandemic, aimed to provide valuable scholarships for dancers worldwide. By adapting to the circumstances and leveraging virtual platforms, Fiona demonstrated her commitment to sustaining and uplifting the dance community during challenging times.

7. Current Engagements:

Currently, Fiona is a member of the Executive Board of the National Olympic Committee of Slovenia, representing Olympic Sports, and serves on the board of directors of TAFISA, a global organization for Sport for All.

8. Awards and Accolades:

Fiona has been recognized as Choreographer of the Year in Koper and received special sports achievements awards from 2006 to 2017. She also holds licenses as an IDO International Adjudicator, Chairpersson, and Supervisor.

9. Professional Associations:

Fiona is an active member of Plesna Zveza Slovenije, ZPVUTS, ZPSS, and served on the governmental body "Fundacija za šport Republike Slovenije" from 2017 to 2022.

Fiona Johnson stands as a luminary in the world of dance, seamlessly blending performance art, mentorship, and organizational leadership with an unwavering commitment to excellence.