

## Biography Sylvia Stocker

Sylvia Stocker (born 1970), Creative Director and Choreographer of Arabesque Production, founds the company in 1999. Arabesque Production specialises in choreography, show concepts and stage direction and creates commercial and cultural productions for events, fashion, film, TV and the theatre. Its illustrious list of references includes clients such as the Cirque du Soleil, Christian Dior and Bank Vontobel.

Sylvia starts her training as a professional stage dancer at the *Zürich Tanz-Theater-Schule*. She soon moves to *New York*, where she lived for three years between 1991 and 1994. She is awarded a grant to continue her dance training at the renowned *Alvin Ailey American Dance Center* ([www.alvinailey.org](http://www.alvinailey.org)). She also attends *Company Workshops* such as 'The Parsons Dance Company', the 'Elisa Monte Dance Company' and the 'Stephen Petronio Company'. *Engagements in Europe, the USA and Asia* soon follow. The highlights of her career in dance include appearances with 'The American Dance Company New York', various music videos (including with Charlotte Kelly), TV programmes (in Switzerland, the UK and Germany), TV commercials (for Squash Juice, Southern Comfort etc.), musicals ('Best of Broadway') and many shows in legendary venues such as the Royal Albert Hall in London and the Chicago Theatre. Sylvia also occasionally works in the world of fashion as a model (Versace, G-Star, Triumph etc.). During her dance career, she lives in Zurich, Paris, London and New York.

Nowadays Sylvia's *passion* is focused on *choreography*. She discovers her *fascination* for this aspect of dance while training in New York, during which time she takes advantage of the opportunity provided by the Broadway Open Sessions to present items she had choreographed. Since then, her creations have entranced tens of thousands of people around the world. Sylvia is inspired by dance styles such as modern dance, jazz and ballet and seeks out the challenge of combining her creativity with the latest musical developments. "The fascination lies in playing with the familiar at the same time as experimenting with the extraordinary," she says.

Sylvia Stocker has also built up a wealth of experience in stage direction. Her first commissions come in 1999, the year in which Arabesque Production was founded, for the two British companies HP-ICM and Mainstream Production Company.

All her creations have their roots in the *concept*, for which Sylvia Stocker draws on every department. In the process she benefits from her wide knowledge of the stage, the theatre, choreography, stage direction and artists. The concepts are also based on her sound background in business, which saw her undertake a banking apprenticeship, her Swiss school-leaving diploma in Economics and then a *Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree at the Graduate School of Business Administration in Zurich (GSBA)*.