



Marina Saladino was raised in Riga, Latvia and now resides in South Florida, USA. From age 6 Marina trained as a Rhythmic Gymnast and competed Nationally for 11 years all over the former USSR and Europe. She became a member of the Latvian National Rhythmic Gymnastics Team, during that time at age 16 she started coaching young gymnasts. This inspired her to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Pedagogy in Physical Education and Biology, from the University of Riga.

Marina obtained her ballet training with the teachers of the Latvian National Opera Ballet School in Riga. Her teachers were Ilze Skuinya, Svetlana Anikevich, and Honored Artist of Latvian National Opera Ballet Theatre, Ballet Master Aleksander Rumyantsev. In 2019 Marina attended the Vaganova Methodology Teachers Training course in St. Petersburg, Russia and now she is a certified teacher of Levels 1-7.

Marina's career as a professional dancer took her all over the world. She performed with Cirque Pacifica and Cirque Nouveau (Jean Ann Ryan's productions), with internationally known Latvian magicians Gennady and Elena Palchevsky, also at the Andrew Lloyd Weber's productions Magic of The Night and Song and Dance, and in musicals Kismet, Brigadoon, Milk and Honey at the World Performing Arts Center in Boca Raton, FL to name just a few.

For 7 years Marina owned and directed Saladino Dance School where her students got intensive training in ballet, jazz, creative dance, hip hop, and contemporary dance. Currently, Marina teaches ballet technique, pointe, repertoire, and acrobatics at Lents Dance Company in Boca Raton, FL. Her gymnastics background helps her enhance ballet training with intense stretching and strengthening. Marina's motto is *"It takes an athlete to dance, but an artist to be a dancer."*

In January 2019 Marina's student, Madison Brown won a Junior Grand Prix Award at YAGP Tampa, FL, and later at YAGP NY finals, she received Third Place in Junior Category. Also, Madison won the First Place at the Universal Ballet Competition 2019 in Miramar, FL, and received a Gold medal at the World Ballet Competition 2019 in Orlando, FL. Due to Madison's performance and the quality of her training, Marina's work was recognized, she was named an Outstanding Teacher by the Jury at YAGP Tampa, FL in 2019. In January 2020 Madison won First place in both the Classical and Contemporary Category at YAGP Tampa, FL. She joins ABT Studio Company in 2021.

In the summer of 2021, Marina participated as a Guest Master Teacher at Revolve Dance Festival in Romania, which concluded with a Gala Performance at the Romanian National Opera Ballet Theater in Bucharest. Ballet students from Romania, Bulgaria, Spain, and the UK coached by Marina, performed on the same stage with the stars of Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet Artem Ovcharenko and Maria Tikhomirova.