



The
Australian
Ballet

22 February 2017

Ms Louise Herron AM
CEO
Sydney Opera House
Bennelong Point
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Louise,

Thank you for this email and clarification of the issue and for your phone-call yesterday. I can confirm that following discussions with The Australian Ballet's Artistic Director and Artistic Team, our strong preference is for the original proposal for a secondary rehearsal room located adjacent to the central passage as an alternative to the existing secondary ballet room (69). This is by far the best option as the proposed central passage BRR will have the correct proportions for a ballet rehearsal studio and is large enough to enable full rehearsals of our repertoire, including principal roles, pas de deux and sections from the ballets. It can also accommodate small to medium class. We are currently unable to achieve this in the existing secondary rehearsal (room 69) and would be limited even further by the proposed conversion of the "megastore" (room 67) into a rehearsal studio because of its dimensions and curvature.

From The Australian Ballet's perspective, a suitable secondary rehearsal room – as proposed adjacent to the central passage - would greatly improve our ability to rehearse upcoming repertoire while in residence at the Sydney Opera House. The company uses four or five rehearsal rooms in Melbourne and we are currently reduced to one main studio – with the limited use second studio – at the Sydney Opera House. In fact, the main rehearsal room itself is somewhat limited by the fact that the dancers cannot jump while a performance is in progress in the Drama Theatre.

We appreciate your support for the central passage BRR solution. I hope this advice enables you to resolve the current issues. Let me know if we can do more to assist.

Kind regards,

Libby Christie
Executive Director