

2616

To the <sup>audience</sup> ~~people~~ leaving the Royal Opera House , Covent Garden it was just the end of another performance by Britain's brilliant Royal Ballet.....

But for the company and a big team of film technicians it was the beginning of a challenge. For the theatre was being transformed into a film studio, to make in three sessions, a ~~feature~~ film that would normally take three months to produce.....

11 cameras had to be swung into place to capture from 44 angles the beauty of the ballet.....

Special lighting had to be rushed in and tested so that everything was ready for Dr. Paul Czinner, the producer whose genius has already <sup>captured</sup> ~~preserved forever~~, on film, <sup>the challenge of</sup> Russias ~~supreme~~ Bolshoi Ballet.....

200 seats were removed to make way for the camera track down to the stage..... Every detail had to be checked. ....With such a tight schedule there was no room for mistakes.....

Finally it was time for the dancers, Britain's foremost Ballerina, Dame Margot Fonteyn and her partner of 20 years Michael Somes, to start. They danced the story of Frederick Ashton's "Ondine"

Not for a live audience, but for the cameras that will bring their magic to ~~the~~ millions who ~~might never have seen them but for Dr. Czinner and his blitzkrieg on ballet.~~ .....