



# Nerida Cortese

Height: 5' 4" / 163 cm



**KAREN KAY**  
MANAGEMENT

## Summary

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Originally from Australia, Nerida is a vibrant, energetic, and bubbly personality who has been dancing for most of her life. Nerida has represented New Zealand and Australia internationally in Dancesport Competitions in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Australia, United Kingdom, Germany and Latvia for the World Latin and Ten Dance events. She has been training, performing and choreographing for the last 17 years, first appearing on New Zealand Television in 1999 on Battle of the Ballroom – a New Zealand national ballroom dancing competition series held in Wellington. In 2005, Nerida danced her way into the hearts of New Zealand with TVNZ’s Dancing With The Stars. Working to strictly tight deadlines on the show, Nerida was involved in choreographing and teaching visually exciting routines suitable for inexperienced dance partner, Shane Cortese, to compete against other contestants. Shane and Nerida were voted runners up. Later that year, Nerida choreographed the Rocky Horror Show. This was a magnificent feat, involving teaching non-dancers to move in sync as a group, keeping in character, and singing whilst wearing corsets and four-inch heels. During 2006, Nerida taught the public to Cha Cha in the park at a charity event for the National Heart Foundation, promoting a healthy heart. Later in the year, she choreographed the 2006 QANTAS Media Awards evening, using three Dancing With The Stars couples and six So You Think You Can Dance winners and finalists. This involved a sequence of seven different dance styles. She was also invited to choreograph and dance in the final of TV3’s highest rating TV show of 2006, So You Think You Can Dance. Nerida has been teaching professionally for over five years, including competition and social classes catering to all levels of experience and is in high demand for corporate and team building events, teaching staff to dance in very short time-frames, with companies such as Vodafone. She is also available for celebrity guest appearances. For more information on Nerida, please visit her website [www.firstdance.co.nz](http://www.firstdance.co.nz).

## Television

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2008	Dancing with the Stars	Celebrity Dance Partner - Runner Up	
2006	Qantas Media Awards	Choreographer	TV3
2005	Dancing with the Stars	Dancer	
1999	Battle of the Ballroom	Dancer	Television New Zealand (TVNZ)

## Musical Theatre

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2005	The Rocky Horror Picture Show	Choreographer	Hamilton Operatic Society <b>Dir:</b> David Sidwell
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## Live Performance

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2009	Coca-Cola Christmas in the Park	Performer	Best Events
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2008	SkyCity Starlight Symphony	Choreographer	Best Events
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2007	Coca-Cola Christmas in the Park	Choreographer	Best Events
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## Production

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2014	Live Performance	First Dance	Director	First Dance <b>Dir:</b> Nerida Cortese
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## Skills

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Dance      Ballroom Dancing | Jazz | Latin American | Tap