

Nora Kaye and Hugh Laing in "Pillar of Fire"



A NEW ballerina was born when Nora Kaye, an American girl of the Ballet Theater company, responded to the cheers of a Metropolitan Opera House audience on April 8 following the world premiere of Antony Tudor's new ballet, "Pillar of Fire." The wildly acclaimed ballet, now a featured production in the current repertory of the Ballet Theater, finds Miss Kaye as a girl who, believing the man of her choice prefers her sister, in des-

peration and defiance gives herself to another man. Tudor, the choreographer, has given his featured characters movements that combine the balletic with the dramatic, and to add accent to the girl's emotional conflicts he has designed two choruses whose actions reveal the struggle between the pure and the lustful impulses which beset her. The impassioned music of Schoenberg's "Verklaerte Nacht" is woven into the dramatic fabric of

the ballet and the settings of Jo Mielziner also seem to capture in architecture the girl's shifting moods. To the right is the simple house in which she lives with her parents and to the left is a mysterious-appearing building whose walls can become like gauze, through which can be seen the passionate embraces of that chorus which Tudor calls the lovers-in-experience. Comes the man (Hugh Laing) to whom the jealous girl gives herself.