

English National Ballet welcomes new Lead Principal Aaron Robison

English National Ballet today announces Aaron Robison is to join English National Ballet as Lead Principal.

Currently Principal with San Francisco Ballet, Aaron Robison joins the Company this spring ahead of its performances of *Romeo & Juliet* at South Bank Centre's Royal Festival Hall in August.

Of joining English National Ballet, Robison said: *"After dancing abroad for the last seven years, I am very excited to be coming home and joining English National Ballet. What the Company has achieved under the artistic directorship of Tamara Rojo is extremely exciting and something that I wanted to be part of. I am really looking forward to dancing next seasons amazing repertoire with the Company."*

Born in Coventry, Robison started his career at Birmingham Royal Ballet before joining Corella Ballet, Houston Ballet, and San Francisco Ballet, where he is currently Principal. He received first place at the Young British Dancer of the Year, Gold Medal at Seoul's International Ballet Competition, and claimed First Prize at the Prix de Lausanne in 2004.

Of Robison, Tamara Rojo CBE, Artistic Director of English National Ballet said:

"Aaron is an incredibly talented dancer, who has experience in performing a wide variety of repertoire. Having witnessed his amazing performances over the years I am thrilled that he's now returning to UK audiences, starting this summer in Romeo & Juliet at the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall. It gives me great pleasure to welcome Aaron to English National Ballet."

Robison's first performances with English National Ballet will be as Romeo in Rudolf Nureyev's *Romeo & Juliet* at South Bank Centre's Royal Festival Hall from 1-5 August 2017. Full principal casting to be announced shortly.