

English National Ballet

Akram Khan's *Giselle*

Sadler's Wells, London

Wednesday 20 - Saturday 23 September 2017

<http://giselle.ballet.org.uk>

★★★★ “*Earthbound, visceral, feral and intense, and moulded with a sculptural beauty*”
The Times

Following its critically acclaimed world premiere in 2016, **Akram Khan's** reimagining of the iconic romantic ballet, *Giselle*, returns to London this autumn with performances at Sadler's Wells (20 - 23 September) and tours to Liverpool for the first time, at the Liverpool Empire Theatre (25 - 28 October).

Hailed as “*a masterpiece of 21st century dance*” (Mail on Sunday), Khan's *Giselle* is one of a community of migrant workers cast out of their jobs in a condemned garment factory. Since its world premiere last year, Khan's reimagined *Giselle* has been seen by over 40,000 people in the UK, won the 2017 South Bank Sky Arts Award for Best Dance Production and was nominated for Best New Dance Production at the 2017 Olivier Awards.

Principal casting for the run at Sadler's Wells sees debuts from Lead Principal **Erina Takahashi** and First Soloist **Crystal Costa** in the role of Giselle. Guest Artist **Jeffrey Cirio** makes his debut with English National Ballet in the role of Hilarion, and Artist of the Company **Sarah Kundi**, winner of the 2017 Corps de Ballet Award, makes her debut in the role of Myrtha.

Further Principal casting sees Lead Principals **Fernanda Oliveira** and **Tamara Rojo** perform in the role of Giselle, while Lead principal **Isaac Hernández**, First Soloist **Fernando Bufalá**, and Soloists **Aitor Arrieta**, and **James Streeter** perform in the role of Albrecht.

Recently promoted to Principal, **Cesar Corrales** reprises his role as Hilarion, along with Guest Artist **Oscar Chacon**, and Soloist **Ken Saruhashi**. First Artist **Stina Quagebeur** reprises her role as Myrtha.

Full Principal Casting

Sadler's Wells, London

Principal casting, in the order of Giselle, Albrecht, Hilarion, and Myrtha.

Casting is subject to change. Please see www.ballet.org.uk for up to date casting.

Wednesday 20 September (Press Night)

Tamara Rojo, James Streeter, Cesar Corrales, Stina Quagebeur

Thursday 21 September (matinee)

Fernanda Oliveira, Fernando Bufala, Jeffrey Cirio*, Sarah Kundi*

Thursday 21 September (evening)

Erina Takahashi*, Isaac Hernández, Oscar Chacon, Stina Quagebeur

Friday 22 September (matinee)

Crystal Costa*, Aitor Arrieta, Ken Saruhashi, Sarah Kundi

Friday 22 September (evening)

Tamara Rojo, James Streeter, Cesar Corrales, Stina Quagebeur

Saturday 23 September (matinee)

Fernanda Oliveira, Fernando Bufalá, Jeffrey Cirio, Sarah Kundi

Saturday 23 September (evening)

Erina Takahashi, Isaac Hernández, Oscar Chacon, Stina Quagebeur

*debut in role

Following its London run, Akram Khan's *Giselle* tours to the Liverpool Empire from 25 - 28 October 2017. From 1 - 4 March it headlines the Auckland Arts Festival with performances at the ASB Theatre, Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand, and from 2 – 6 May 2018 it opens the 2018 Dublin Dance Festival at the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, Dublin.

For further information, interview requests and images please contact Robert James, PR Manager at English National Ballet on robert.james@ballet.org.uk or 020 7590 2933.

For further information about English National Ballet and to book tickets visit www.ballet.org.uk. Please note performance details are subject to change.

Notes to Editors

Co-produced by Manchester International Festival and Sadler's Wells.

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To coincide with these performances English National Ballet presents *Giselle Explored*, a series of collaborative dance workshops that offer secondary school students the opportunity to creatively engage with Khan's reimagined *Giselle*, delving deeper into the work and both the creative and production process. Teachers also receive a comprehensive resource pack to encourage further dance and creative work with their students beyond the workshop. English National Ballet has partnered with Queens Theatre, Hornchurch, to deliver workshops in the East London Borough of Havering, and will also work with schools in Tower Hamlets and Liverpool.