

English National Ballet

Emerging Dancer

Sadler's Wells, London

Tuesday 7 May 2019

Performance at 7.30pm

Tickets: £12- £30

Box office: 020 7845 9300 and ballet.org.uk/emerging

Celebrating its tenth year, **English National Ballet's Emerging Dancer** competition will be held at **Sadler's Wells** on Tuesday 7 May 2019.

Through this '*highly anticipated annual event*' [Pointe Magazine], English National Ballet recognises the excellence of its artists. Selected by their peers, six of the company's most promising dancers perform in front of an eminent panel of expert judges, before one receives the 2019 Emerging Dancer Award.

The recipients of the People's Choice Award, selected by members of the public, and the Corps de Ballet Award, acknowledging the work on and off-stage of a member of the Corps de Ballet, will also be revealed.

Emerging Dancer is a key part of English National Ballet's commitment to developing and nurturing talent within the Company and is generously supported by Graeme and Sue Sloan. Last year's Emerging Dancer Award winner, **Daniel McCormick** has since performed the role of Nutcracker in the Christmas favourite, the Pas de Trois and Spanish dance in *Swan Lake* and Lescaut in *Manon*.

The 2019 finalists are:

Alice Bellini

Bellini trained at La Scala Ballet School and Royal Ballet Upper School before joining English National Ballet as an Artist of the Company in 2017. One of her career highlights to date was dancing the pas de deux in Aszure Barton's *Fantastic Beings*. Bellini was voted the 2018 People's Choice Award winner at last year's Emerging Dancer competition.

Emilia Cadorin

Cadorin has been an Artist of the Company since 2015. She trained at Il Balletto, Castelfranco Veneto and Boston Ballet Trainee. One of her favourite roles was in MacMillan's *Elite Syncopations* and a career highlight has been performing *Swan Lake* in-the-round at the Royal Albert Hall. Highlights of this season have included dancing Lead Snowflake in Wayne Eagling's *Nutcracker* and cygnet in Derek Deane's *Swan Lake*.

Julia Conway

London born Conway originally trained with Olga Semenova and Young Dancers Academy before further training with Magaly Suárez, Ayako Yamada, Isabelle Guérin and Royal Ballet Upper School, ahead of joining English National Ballet as an Artist of the Company in 2017. She came first place at the World Ballet Competition in 2014 and first place in Classical and Contemporary at the Youth American Grand Prix in 2015. Highlights from this season

include dancing in the Pas de Trois in Derek Deane's *Swan Lake* and Lead Snowflake in Wayne Eagling's *Nutcracker*.

Rentaro Nakaaki

Nakaaki graduated from English National Ballet School in 2018 and joined as an Artist of the Company. Prior to his training in England, he attended Sadamatsu Hamada Ballet School in Japan. Nakaaki was awarded first place at English National Ballet School's 2018 Choreographic competition and second place at the Youth America Grand Prix 2015 in Japan.

Shale Wagman

Canadian Wagman won 1st prize and the Rudolf Nureyev Foundation Prize for excellent artistry at the 2018 Prix de Lausanne, before joining English National Ballet as an Artist of the Company. This season his roles have included the Beggar Chief in Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon* and the Pas de Trois and Neapolitan in Derek Deane's *Swan Lake*. Wagman trained in Toronto, Canada at Vlad's Dance Company and Stepanova Ballet Company, followed by Princess Grace Academy in Monte Carlo.

Rhys Antoni Yeomans

Yeomans joined as an Artist of the Company in 2017, after training with Centre Pointe, Manchester and English National Ballet School. At 12 years old he played Billy in *Billy Elliot the Musical* in the West End and in 2017 he was named the winner of the BBC Young Dancer Competition (Classical Ballet section). This season his roles have included the Neapolitan dance in Derek Deane's *Swan Lake*.

For further information, interview requests and images please contact Laura Nixon, Senior Press Officer at laura.nixon@ballet.org.uk or call 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.

About English National Ballet

English National Ballet has a long and distinguished history. Founded in 1950 as London Festival Ballet by the great English Dancers Alicia Markova and Anton Dolin, it has played a major role in the growth and history of ballet in the UK. Today, English National Ballet is renowned for taking world-class ballet to the widest possible audience through its national and international tour programme, offsite performances at festivals including Glastonbury and Latitude, its distinguished orchestra English National Ballet Philharmonic, and being a UK leader in creative learning and engagement practice and delivery, building innovative partnerships to deliver flagship programmes such as English National Ballet's Dance for Parkinson's. Under the artistic directorship of Tamara Rojo, English National Ballet has gained new acclaim as it introduces innovative new works to the Company's repertoire while continuing to honour and reinvigorate traditional ballet.