

English National Ballet

Akram Khan's *Giselle*

Sadler's Wells, London

Wednesday 18 – Saturday 28th September 2019

www.ballet.org.uk/akram-khan-giselle/

Akram Khan's *Giselle* returns to the UK for the first time since 2017, following acclaimed international performances in Moscow, Luxembourg and Chicago so far this year.



Now the production is returning to Sadler's Wells, London, for 13 performances from Wednesday 18th – Saturday 28th September.

Since its world premiere in 2016, Khan's reimagined *Giselle* has been seen live by over 86,000 people through tours to eleven cities, in the UK and internationally. *Giselle* has also been broadcast in cinemas and on television, reaching an audience of over 160,000 through broadcasts internationally.

For the first time, there will be an audio described performance of *Giselle* on Thursday 19 September, making the production accessible to visually impaired people. Based on the original audio description created by Audio Described Aotearoa as part of the Auckland Arts Festival, a description of the action as it appears on stage will be given as well as an on-stage 'touch tour' ahead of the performance, in which participants are given the opportunity to familiarise themselves with costumes and props through touch.

2020 will see Akram Khan return to create a second full-length production for the company, following the success of *Giselle*. Taking inspiration from Mary Shelley's literary classic, *Frankenstein*, this new ballet titled *Creature*, is influenced by essential questions on ambition, human endeavour and morality.

-ENDS-

English National Ballet is a National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England.

For further information and images, please contact Laura Nixon, Senior Press Officer on laura.nixon@ballet.org.uk or call 020 7590 2933.

Notes to Editors

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.

www.ballet.org.uk

About Arts Council England

Arts Council England is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to visual art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2018 and 2022, we will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country.

www.artscouncil.org.uk