

11 July 2019

English National Ballet performs at the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, for the first time

Tonight (Thursday 11 July 2019), for the first time in its history, English National Ballet performs at the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow.

The company will perform **Akram Khan's *Giselle*** on the New Stage of the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, as part of the Chekov International Festival. Performances run until Sunday 14 July.

English National Ballet's Artistic Director, Tamara Rojo CBE, said: *"We are so excited to be bringing Akram Khan's Giselle to the Bolshoi Theatre. These will be the Company's first performances at this most prestigious venue, marking an important moment in our history. It's thrilling to think of the footsteps we are following in, so many brilliant artists have been part of the history of this monumental theatre over the years and it is a great honour to have been invited."*

Giselle was Akram Khan's first full length collaboration with English National Ballet. Co-produced with Manchester International Festival and Sadler's Wells, the critically acclaimed reimaging of the iconic ballet received its world premiere in 2016 and has since been seen live by over 86,000 people through tours to eleven cities, both in the UK and internationally. *Giselle* has also been broadcast in cinemas, televised internationally and was recently released on DVD and Blu-ray. It has reached an audience of over 160,000 through broadcasts internationally.

Akram Khan's *Giselle* will be performed at Sadler's Wells, London, in September.

-ENDS-

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

For further information and images, please contact Alice Gibson, PR Manager on alice.gibson@ballet.org.uk or call 020 7590 2932.

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