

## English National Ballet release Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon* on Ballet on Demand

English National Ballet presents Kenneth MacMillan's romantic tragedy *Manon* to online audiences via the Company's **Ballet on Demand** streaming service. A full-length recording of the ballet is available to rent for £7.99.

Known for its expressive choreography and dramatic storyline, *Manon* features some of the most demanding roles in ballet.



The story follows the young and naïve Manon who is torn between two lives: privilege and opulence with the wealthy Monsieur GM, or innocent love with the penniless student Des Grieux. Aristocrats and beggars, courtesans and harlots fill the stage as the audience are taken from a gambling den in 18th-century Paris to a desolate Louisiana swamp in one of British ballets most dramatic stories.

Recorded at the Manchester Opera House in 2018 for the Company's archive, this performance sees Alina Cojocaru in the title role alongside Joseph Caley as Des Grieux and features Jules Massenet's haunting music performed by English National Ballet Philharmonic.

*Manon* is the latest full-length production English National Ballet has made available to online audiences worldwide through Ballet on Demand. Other titles available to rent now include Derek Deane's *Swan Lake*, Akram Khan's award-winning *Giselle*, the epic pirate adventure *Le Corsaire* and the Company's first ever digital season, a series of five original dance films.

Ballet on Demand is part of ENB at Home, English National Ballet's dedicated video-on-demand platform which gives audiences access to a wide range of ballet content from the stage and beyond, from the comfort of their homes. Launched in November 2020, the platform also features BalletActive, a library of online ballet-based classes from the professionals at English National Ballet, available by subscription.

Photos are available to download [here](#) using the login details below:

Login: press

Password: ENBPress2021

Watch the trailer for *Manon* [here](#)

-ENDS-

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

English National Ballet is grateful for the generous grant it has been awarded through the Government's Culture Recovery Fund, which allows it to continue to create, perform and serve its audiences.

NatWest is Principal Partner of English National Ballet.

Listings:

***Manon***

**Ballet on Demand**

£7.99 for 72hr rental, no subscription required

Stream to your favourite devices

<https://ondemand.ballet.org.uk>

For further information and images, please contact Laura Nixon, Senior Press Officer, on [laura.nixon@ballet.org.uk](mailto:laura.nixon@ballet.org.uk) or 07741659109

**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 been at the forefront of ballet's growth and evolution ever since.

English National Ballet brings world class ballet to the widest possible audience through performances across the UK and on eminent international stages including The Bolshoi Theatre and Palais Garnier; its distinguished orchestra, English National Ballet Philharmonic; and being a UK leader in creative learning and engagement practice, building innovative partnerships to deliver flagship programmes such as English National Ballet's Dance for Parkinson's.

Under the artistic directorship of Tamara Rojo CBE, English National Ballet has introduced ground-breaking new works to the Company's repertoire whilst continuing to honour the tradition of great classical ballet, gaining acclaim for artistic excellence and creativity. 2019 saw English National Ballet enter a new chapter in its history with a move into a purpose-built state-of-the-art home in East London which brings a renewed commitment to, and freedom for, creativity, ambition, and connection to more people, near and far, than ever before.

[www.ballet.org.uk](http://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](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)