

Christmas gift ideas from English National Ballet

Whether it be a ballet class subscription, tickets to a brand-new version of a rarely performed ballet or something they can wear on Christmas morning - English National Ballet has gift ideas for the ballet lovers in your life this winter.

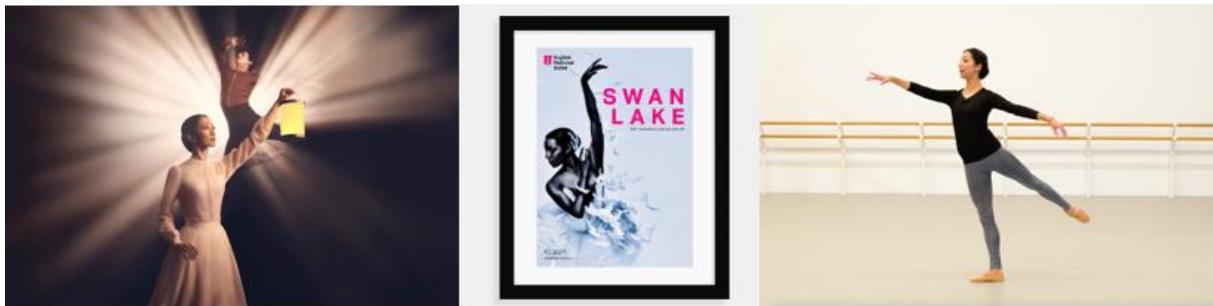


Photo caption: (Left to right) English National Ballet's Raymonda which premieres at the London Coliseum in January 2022, a Swan Lake poster and English National Ballet dancer Sarah Kundi teaching a beginners ballet class on the BalletActive platform.

Why not treat that special someone to a ballet class subscription from one of the world's leading ballet companies this Christmas? English National Ballet's on-demand video platform **BalletActive** hosts a wide variety of ballet-based classes for all levels and abilities, run by English National Ballet dancers, staff and professional teachers. Whether trying ballet for the first time or rediscovering a passion for dance, BalletActive has something for everyone. Available as a gift subscription for as little as £9.99 for a one-month subscription to £99.99 for an annual package. Visit active.ballet.org.uk for more information and to purchase a gift subscription.

Tickets to see **Raymonda at the London Coliseum in January 2022**. An epic journey of love and courage, the new version of the classic story ballet Raymonda, reworked by English National Ballet's Artistic Director Tamara Rojo, takes inspiration from the ground-breaking spirit of Florence Nightingale and the women who supported the war effort in Crimea. Starring a huge cast of dancers with lavish sets and costumes and a glorious and sensuous score by Alexander Glazunov performed live by the English National Ballet Philharmonic Orchestra, this beautiful production is guaranteed to thrill, move and inspire and is the must have ticket this winter. Visit www.ballet.org.uk/raymonda for more information and to book tickets.

How about giving the gift of a **Friends membership to English National Ballet** for a present that will last all year. Friends benefits include exclusive ticket offers and discounts, access to special events including masterclasses, talks and company class, priority booking and advance notifications of casting, the opportunity to attend working stage rehearsals and to receive regular mailings to keep up-to-date with all things English National Ballet. Memberships begin at just £60 a year, visit www.ballet.org.uk/join-give/gift-membership/.

English National Ballet merchandise includes beautiful posters and DVDs of the Company's productions, including Akram Khan's Giselle and Le Corsaire, t-shirts, children's clothes, notebooks, teddy bears and much more. All available from www.ballet.org.uk/shop

English National Ballet will be returning to the London Coliseum this winter (16 December – 8 January) with the festive family favourite *Nutcracker*. Tickets are available to book now. For more information visit www.ballet.org.uk/nutcracker

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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.

For further information and images, please contact Laura Nixon, Senior Press Officer, on laura.nixon@ballet.org.uk or 07741659109

Notes to Editors

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

NatWest is Principal Partner of English National Ballet.

Ballymore is Principal Building Partner of English National Ballet.

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 live performances across the UK and on eminent international stages including The Bolshoi Theatre and Palais Garnier; its digital platforms Ballet on Demand and BalletActive; 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 groundbreaking 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 when it moved into a purpose-built state-of-the-art home in east London, Mulryan Centre for Dance, bringing a renewed commitment to, and freedom for, creativity, ambition, and connection to more people, near and far, than ever before. www.ballet.org.uk

About Arts Council England

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in Let's Create that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. www.artscouncil.org.uk

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million Emergency Response Package with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of several bodies administering the Government's Culture Recovery Fund and unprecedented support package of £1.57 billion for the culture and heritage sector. Find out more at www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19