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**This weekend, English National Ballet announced three promotions within the Company:**

**Shiori Kase has been promoted to Lead Principal**

**Aitor Arrieta and Emma Hawes have been promoted to Principal**

Joining the dancers at the end of their performances in *Raymonda* at the London Coliseum (Arrieta and Hawes on Friday evening, Kase on Saturday evening), English National Ballet's Artistic Director, Tamara Rojo CBE, announced the promotions in front of the audience and Company.



*English National Ballet dancers are promoted on stage at the end of their performances in Raymonda at the London Coliseum.*

*L-R: Shiori Kase is promoted to Lead Principal, Aitor Arrieta is promoted to Principal, Emma Hawes is promoted to Principal.*

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Images can be downloaded [here](#).

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**Shiori Kase** joined English National Ballet in 2009 and was promoted to Principal in 2016. She has performed in numerous lead roles including Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, Clara/Sugar Plum Fairy in *Nutcracker*, Medora in *Le Corsaire* and the title role in *Cinderella*. She received critical and audience acclaim for her opening night performance in the title role of *Raymonda* earlier this week. She received English National Ballet's Emerging Dancer Award in 2011.

Since joining English National Ballet in 2016, **Aitor Arrieta** has been promoted to First Soloist and been the joint winner of 2017's Emerging Dancer Award. He has performed in lead roles including John de Bryan in *Raymonda*, Albrecht in Akram Khan's *Giselle*, Nephew/Prince in *Nutcracker*, Prince Siegfried in *Swan Lake*, Des Grieux in *Manon* and Prince Guillaume in *Cinderella*.

**Emma Hawes** joined English National Ballet in 2018 and has danced lead roles including Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, Gulnare in *Le Corsaire*, Clara/Sugar Plum Fairy in *Nutcracker* and the title roles in *Manon*, *Cinderella* and, most recently, *Raymonda*.

-ENDS-

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 Alice Lawley, Head of Press and Communications on [alice.lawley@ballet.org.uk](mailto:alice.lawley@ballet.org.uk) or 07946541703.

### **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 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 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19)