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English National Ballet launches international search for new Artistic Director

English National Ballet has today launched an international search for a new Artistic Director to succeed Tamara Rojo CBE who, as previously announced, steps down towards the end of this year.

Sir Roger Carr, Chair of English National Ballet said: *“This is an exciting moment for English National Ballet as we embark on a global search for our next Artistic Director. We are seeking someone who can bring a clear artistic vision for English National Ballet, to build on Tamara Rojo’s inspiring legacy and keep us at the forefront of leading ballet companies into the future.”*

Under their leadership, the new Artistic Director will ensure that English National Ballet continues to celebrate the classics, to create new, innovative work and to reach wide-ranging audiences around the UK, at international venues and through the Company’s digital platforms. They will also play an important role in supporting English National Ballet’s extensive education, participation, community and Dance Health programmes and the Company’s support for Arts Council England’s Let’s Create strategy.

A sub-committee of English National Ballet’s Board of Trustees has been established to undertake the search process, led by Sue Butcher, Vice Chair, alongside Caroline Thomson, Sue Sloan and Kamara Gray.

The Search Committee will be supported in identifying and evaluating potential candidates by an Artistic Advisory Panel, who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience of the international dance sector and the wider arts environment in the UK. The panel comprises, in alphabetical order:

Baroness Deborah Bull - Vice President, Communities & National Engagement and Senior Advisory Fellow for Culture at King’s College London

Cate Canniffe - Director of Dance at Arts Council England

Sir Nicholas Hytner - Artistic Director of the Bridge Theatre

Sir Alistair Spalding - Artistic Director & Chief Executive of Sadler’s Wells

International recruitment consultants, Odgers Berndtson, have been appointed to assist with the search.

For more information, please visit www.odgers.com/85718. If you are interested in an informal conversation about the role, please contact Samantha Colt:

Samantha.Colt@odgersberndtson.com or Emilia Billett Emilia.Billett@odgersberndtson.com

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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 Alice Lawley, Head of Press and Communications, on alice.lawley@ballet.org.uk or 07946541703.

Notes to Editors

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

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; 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

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