

# English National Ballet Announces Winners of the Corps de Ballet and People's Choice Award

English National Ballet is pleased to announce the winner of the **Corps de Ballet** and **People's Choice Award**.

Following the opening night performance of *Cinderella in-the-round* at the Royal Albert Hall, Artistic Director Designate **Aaron S. Watkin** joined the Company on stage to announce this year's recipients.

Acknowledging the exceptional work of an Artist of the Company, **Breanna Foad** was named as the winner of this year's **Corps de Ballet Award**, while **Paige Bestington** was awarded the **People's Choice Award**, as voted for by members of the public throughout the season.



**Aaron S. Watkin, Artistic Director Designate, commented:** *"It is a privilege to recognise the hard work and dedication of the dancers at English National Ballet, following their wonderful performance of Cinderella in-the-round at the Royal Albert Hall. I would like to congratulate Breanna for all she has done throughout the year, both on and off stage, and Paige who has been recognised by audiences across the UK this season. I am greatly looking forward to continuing to develop and nurture talent within the Company once I officially start in post next season."*

These Awards are a key part of English National Ballet's commitment talent development within the Company, alongside the Emerging Dance competition, which returns to the stage in May 2024.

The Corps de Ballet Award is supported by Sue and Graeme Sloane. The People's Choice Award is supported by Alexis and Frances Prenn.

-ENDS-

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