

17/08/2023 – for immediate release

English National Ballet Announces Principal Casting for the 2023-2024 Season

English National Ballet has today announced Principal Casting for returning productions in its 2023-2024 Season, the first to be programmed by new Artistic Director, Aaron S. Watkin.

This autumn, English National Ballet tours **Akram Khan's *Giselle*** to Manchester's Palace Theatre (19-21 October) and the Bristol Hippodrome (26-28 October). Principal casting for these performances sees debuts from Junior Soloists Emily Suzuki as Giselle, Henry Dowden as Albrecht and Victor Prigent as Hilarion. Lead Principal Emma Hawes and First Artist Angela Wood debut in the role of Myrtha.

Festive family favourite, ***Nutcracker***, choreographed by Wayne Eagling, returns with performances at The Mayflower Theatre, Southampton (29 November – 02 December), and the London Coliseum (14 December – 7 January). New Lead Principal, Sangeun Lee, and Soloist, Precious Adams, make their debuts as Clara whilst the role of Nephew will be danced for the first time by First Soloist Gareth Haw, Soloist Skyler Martin, Junior Soloist Vsevolod Maievskiy and First Artist Edvinas Jakonis. Junior Soloists Victor Prigent and Noam Durand, and First Artists Miguel Angel Maidana and Eric Snyder, all perform the role of Nutcracker for the first time.

Mary Skeaping's *Giselle* returns to the London Coliseum in January 2024. Lead Principals, Sangeun Lee, Emma Hawes and Shiori Kase will make their debut in the title role. Lead Principals Aitor Arrieta and Francesco Gabriele Frola, First Soloist Gareth Haw, Soloist Fernando Carratalá Coloma and Junior Soloist Vsevolod Maievskiy, debut as Albrecht. First Soloist Junor Souza, Soloist Erik Woolhouse, Junior Soloist Henry Dowden, and First Artist Giorgio Garrett perform the role of Hilarion for the first time. Soloist Precious Adams, Junior Soloists Anna Nevzorova and Emily Suzuki and First Artist Angela Wood, debut in the role of Myrtha.

Derek Deane's spectacular ***Swan Lake in-the-round*** will be performed at the Royal Albert Hall from 12-23 June 2024. Lead Principals Sangeun Lee and Emma Hawes make their debut in the dual role of Odette/Odile whilst Lead Principals Aitor Arrieta and Francesca Gabriele Frola, First Soloist Gareth Haw and Soloist Lorenzo Trossello debut as Prince Siegfried.

Lauretta Summerscales, former Principal with English National Ballet and current Principal with Bavarian State Ballet, returns as a Guest Artist for the 2023-2024 Season performing as Clara in *Nutcracker* and as Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake in-the-round*.

Principal casting for new productions, *Our Voices* (21-30 September 2023) and Johan Inger's *Carmen* (27 March – 6 April 2024) will be announced in due course.

Full Principal Casting:

Akram Khan's *Giselle*
(Giselle / Albrecht / Hilarion / Myrtha)

Palace Theatre, Manchester:

Erina Takahashi / James Streeter / Ken Saruhashi / Emma Hawes*

19th October 19:30, 21st October 14:30

Emily Suzuki*/ Henry Dowden*/ Erik Woolhouse / Angela Wood*

20th October 14:30

Fernanda Oliveira / Aitor Arrieta / Victor Prigent* / Isabelle Brouwers

20th October 19:30, 21st October 19:30

Bristol Hippodrome:

Fernanda Oliveira / Aitor Arrieta / Victor Prigent / Isabelle Brouwers

26th October 19:30, 28th October 14:30

Emily Suzuki / Henry Dowden / Erik Woolhouse / Angela Wood

27th October 14:30

Erina Takahashi / James Streeter / Ken Saruhashi / Emma Hawes

27th October 19:30, 28th October 19:30

Nutcracker *

(Clara / Nephew / Nutcracker / Drosselmeyer)

*updated as of 23 November 2023. There have been several updates to Principal casting, due to injury.

Mayflower Theatre, Southampton:

Fernanda Oliveira / Aitor Arrieta / Henry Dowden / James Streeter

29th November 19:30, 1st December 19:30

Precious Adams* / Skyler Martin* / Rentaro Nakaaki/ James Streeter

30th November 14:00, 2nd December 14:00

Sangeun Lee* / Gareth Haw* / Junor Souza / Fabian Reimair

30th November 19:30, 2nd December 19:30

London Coliseum:

Sangeun Lee / Gareth Haw / Junor Souza / Fabian Reimair

14th December 19:30, 21st December 19:30, 27th December 19:30

Fernanda Oliveira / Aitor Arrieta / Henry Dowden / James Streeter

15th December 19:30, 20th December 14:30

Katja Khaniukova / Ken Saruhashi / Miguel Angel Maidana* / Giorgio Garrett

16th December 14:30, 19th December 14:30, 21st December 14:30

Erina Takahashi / Daniel McCormick / Matthew Astley / James Streeter

16th December 19:30, 19th December 19:30, 23rd December 14:30, 28th December 14:30

Ivana Bueno / Erik Woolhouse / Rentaro Nakaaki / Fabian Reimair

17th December 14:30, 22nd December 14:30, 23rd December 19:30

Lauretta Summerscales / Lorenzo Trossello / Junor Souza / Fabian Reimair**

20th December 19:30, 22nd December 19:30, 24th December 13:30

Precious Adams / Skyler Martin / Rentaro Nakaaki / Fabian Reimair

26th December 17:00, 29th December 19:30

Emma Hawes / Vsevolod Maievskiy* / Skyler Martin / James Streeter

27th December 14:30, 28th December 19:30, 30th December 14:30, 2nd January 19:30

Shiori Kase / Erik Woolhouse / Victor Prigent* / Henry Dowden

29th December 14:30, 30th December 19:30, 4th January 19:30, 6th January 14:30

Francesca Velicu / Edvinas Jakonis* / Noam Durand* / Giorgio Garrett

3rd January 14:30, 5th January 19:30, 7th January 14:30

Julia Conway / Daniel McCormick / Eric Snyder* / Henry Dowden

3rd January 19:30, 5th January 14:30, 6th January 19:30

Giselle

(Giselle / Albrecht / Hilarion / Myrtha / Peasant Pas de Deux)

London Coliseum:

Katja Khaniukova / Aitor Arrieta* / Fabian Reimair / Alison McWhinney / Ivana Bueno* / Daniel McCormick*

11th January 19:30, 16th January 19:30, 21st January 14:30

Fernanda Oliveira / Francesco Gabriele Frola* / Henry Dowden* / Jung ah Choi / Adriana Lizardi* / Miguel Angel Maidana*

12th January 19:30, 14th January 14:30

Sangeun Lee* / Gareth Haw* / Junor Souza* / Anna Nevzorova* / Julia Conway* / Victor Prigent*

13th January 14:30, 19th January 19:30

Erina Takahashi / Fernando Carratala Coloma* / Erik Woolhouse* / Emily Suzuki* / Francesca Velicu* / Shunhei Fuchiyama*

13th January 19:30, 17th January 19:30

Emma Hawes* / Vsevolod Maievskiy* / James Streeter / Precious Adams* / Chloe Keneally* / Noam Durand*

18th January 14:30, 20th January 19:30

Shiori Kase* / Ken Saruhashi / Giorgio Garrett* / Angela Wood* / Ivana Bueno / Daniel McCormick

18th January 19:30, 20th January 14:30

Swan Lake in-the-round

(Odette-Odile / Prince Siegfried / Rothbart)

Royal Albert Hall:

Sangeun Lee* / Gareth Haw* / James Streeter

12th June 19:30, 15th June 19:30, 18th June 19:30

Fernanda Oliveira / Francesco Gabriele Frola* / Fabian Reimair

13th June 19:30, 15th June 14:30, 20th June 19:30

Emma Hawes* / Aitor Arrieta* / Junor Souza

14th June 19:30, 16th June 14:30, 22nd June 19:30

Lauretta Summerscales / Lorenzo Trossello* / James Streeter**

19th June 19:30, 21st June 19:30, 23rd June 14:30

To be announced

20th June 14:30, 22nd June 14:30

*Debut

**Guest Artist

Please note, casting is subject to change. Please see www.ballet.org.uk for up to date casting.

-ENDS-

For further information, interview requests, and images, please contact Alice Lawley, Head of Press and Communications, on alice.lawley@ballet.org.uk

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 performances across the UK and on eminent international stages; its distinguished orchestra, English National Ballet Philharmonic; its digital platforms Ballet on Demand and BalletActive; being a UK leader in creative learning and engagement practice, building innovative partnerships to deliver flagship programmes such as Dance for Parkinson's; and through talent development initiatives including Ballet Futures which looks to create a more diverse and inclusive future for the artform.

English National Ballet continues to add ground-breaking new works to its repertoire whilst celebrating the tradition of great classical ballet, gaining acclaim for artistic excellence and creativity. 2019 saw the Company enter a new chapter in its history with a move to a purpose-built state-of-the-art home in east London, allowing a renewed commitment to creativity, ambition, and connection to more people, near and far, than ever before.