

01 July 2024

English National Ballet today announces promotions and new joiners for the 2024-2025 season

Aaron S. Watkin, Artistic Director of English National Ballet, has today announced promotions within the Company, new joiners for the 2024-2025 season and those leaving.

Promotions

The following promotions have been made within the Company, with effect from the start of the 2024-2025 season.

Gareth Haw has been promoted to Principal.

Precious Adams, **Ivana Bueno**, **Lorenzo Trossello** and **Erik Woolhouse** have been promoted to First Soloist.

Emily Suzuki, **Rentaro Nakaaki** and **Francesca Velicu** have been promoted to Soloist.

Alice Bellini, **Georgia Bould**, **Minju Kang**, **Eric Snyder**, **Angela Wood** and **Rhys Antoni Yeomans** have been promoted to Junior Soloist.

Claire Barrett, **Emilia Cadorin**, **Breanna Foad**, **Shunhei Fuchiyama** and **Chloe Keneally** have been promoted to First Artist.

Alongside her current role as Lead Principal, **Erina Takahashi** will also join the Company's Ballet Staff team as Repetiteur.

Joiners

Swanice Luong and **Madison Whiteley** join as First Artists.

Alexandra Terry joins as an 8th Year Artist of the Company whilst **Anri Sugiura** joins as a 4th Year Artist of the Company.

Joining as Foundation Rank Artists of the Company are **Thalina Chapin**, **Marta Monesi**, **Nathaniel Ritter-Magot**, **Paulo Gonzalez** and **Vincent Philp**.

Joining the Company as Prix de Lausanne Dancer is **Martinho Santos**.

Leavers

As previously announced, after 19 years with the Company, First Soloist **Alison McWhinney** leaves to take up a position with Queensland Ballet.

First Artist **Van Le Ngoc** leaves the Company after 21 years to pursue other interests.

Also leaving at the end of the season are Artists of the Company **Matei-Hadrian Holeleu**, **Hamish Longley** and **William Yamada**.

Soloist **Fernando Carratala Coloma**, First Artist **Rebecca Blenkinsop**, Junior Soloist **Victor Prigent** and Artist of the Company **Archie Sullivan** left English National Ballet mid-season.

Repetiteur, **Antonio Castilla**, also left the Company mid-season to take up a new role at San Francisco Ballet.

English National Ballet's 2024-2025 season, its 75th, starts in September with Akram Khan's *Giselle* at Sadler's Wells, London, and preparations for the world premiere of a new *Nutcracker* for Christmas 2024. Tickets are on sale now, for more information see www.ballet.org.uk

-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.