

13/08/2025 – for immediate release

English National Ballet Announces Principal Casting for the 2025-2026 Season

Principal Casting for English National Ballet's 2025-2026 autumn and winter productions is announced today.

The season opens at Sadler's Wells Theatre with **R:Evolution** (1-11 October), bringing together works from George Balanchine, Martha Graham, William Forsythe and David Dawson. Balanchine's **Theme and Variations** features guest performances from Alice Mariani, Prima Ballerina with Teatro alla Scala, and Ricardo Castellanos, Principal with Norwegian National Ballet. First Soloist Haruhi Otani and Soloists Miguel Angel Maidana and Paulo Rodrigues will also make their debuts.

Martha Graham's visceral duet **Errand into the Maze** sees performances by First Soloists Emily Suzuki, Erik Woolhouse and Rentaro Nakaaki, Soloists Alice Bellini, Minju Kang and Henry Dowden, First Artist Jose María Lorca Menchón and Artist of the Company Anna Ciriano.

Later in the autumn, Sir Kenneth MacMillan's **The Sleeping Beauty** tours to Liverpool Empire (23-25 October), Manchester's Palace Theatre (19-22 November), and Southampton's Mayflower Theatre (26-29 November). Debuts in the leading roles include Lead Principals Emma Hawes and Sangeun Lee, and First Soloists Ivana Bueno, Julia Conway and Anna Nevzorova in the role of Aurora; Lead Principal Gareth Haw, First Soloist Lorenzo Trossello, and Soloists Paulo Rodrigues and Elvis Nudo performing Prince Désiré.

Festive family favourite, **Nutcracker**, choreographed by Aaron S. Watkin and Arielle Smith, returns to the London Coliseum from 11 December – 11 January. First Artists Ashley Coupal and Chloe Keneally make their debuts as Clara whilst the role of Nutcracker Prince will be danced for the first time by Soloists Paulo Rodrigues and Rodrigo Pinto, and Artist of the Company Martinho Santos.

To close the Company's winter residency at the London Coliseum, Akram Khan's **Giselle** celebrates its 10-year anniversary.

Principal casting for spring productions will be announced in due course.

Full Principal Casting:

R:EVOLUTION, Sadler's Wells Theatre:

Theme & Variations, George Balanchine

Principal Woman / Principal Man

Alice Mariani / Ricardo Castellanos****

1 October 7.30pm

Emma Hawes / Aitor Arrieta

2 October 7.30pm, 4 October 7.30pm, 9 October 7.30pm

Sangeun Lee / Gareth Haw

3 October 7.30pm, 10 October 7.30pm

Katja Khaniukova / Miguel Angel Maidana*

4 October 2.30pm, 7 October 7.30pm

Julia Conway / Daniel McCormick

8 October 7.30pm, 11 October 2.30pm

Haruhi Otani* / Paulo Rodrigues*

9 October 2.30pm, 11 October 7.30pm

Errand Into the Maze, Martha Graham

(Ariadne / Minotaur)

Emily Suzuki* / Erik Woolhouse*

1 October 7.30pm, 3 October 7.30pm, 9 October 7.30pm, 11 October 7.30pm

Minju Kang* / Rentaro Nakaaki*

2 October 7.30pm, 4 October 7.30pm, 7 October 7.30pm

Anna Ciriano* / Jose María Lorca Menchón*

4 October 2.30pm, 8 October 7.30pm, 10 October 7.30pm

Alice Bellini* / Henry Dowden*

9 October 2.30pm, 11 October 2.30pm

Herman Schmerman (Quintet), William Forsythe

Alice Bellini / Aitor Arrieta / Ivana Bueno / Rhys Antoni Yeomans / Swanice Luong

1 October 7.30pm, 3 October 7.30pm, 10 October 7.30pm

Anna Nevzorova / Anri Sugiura / Daniel McCormick / Julia Conway / Noam Durand

2 October 7.30pm, 4 October 7.30pm, 9 October 7.30pm

Eireen Evrard* / Georgia Bould / Haruhi Otani / Nathaniel Ritter-Magot / Thiago Silva

4 October 2.30pm, 7 October 7.30pm

Anna Ciriano* / Carolyne Galvao / Minju Kang / Rodrigo Pinto* / Shunhei Fuchiyama

9 October 2.30pm, 11 October 7.30pm

Ashley Coupal / Eric Snyder / Martinho Santos* / Precious Adams / Shiori Kase

8 October 7.30pm, 11 October 2.30pm

Casting for David Dawson's *Four Last Songs* will be announced soon.

The Sleeping Beauty, Sir Kenneth MacMillan

(Aurora / Prince Désiré / Lilac Fairy / Carabosse)

Liverpool Empire:

Emma Hawes* / Aitor Arrieta / Anna Nevzorova* / James Streeter

23 October 7pm, 25 October 7pm

Sangeun Lee* / Gareth Haw* / Anri Sugiura* / Fabian Reimair

24 October 7pm

Julia Conway* / Lorenzo Trossello* / Angela Wood* / Eireen Evrard*

25 October 1.30pm

Palace Theatre, Manchester:

Emma Hawes / Aitor Arrieta / Angela Wood / James Streeter

19 November 7.30pm, 21 November 7.30pm

Ivana Bueno* / Paulo Rodrigues* / Emily Suzuki* / Junor Souza*

20 November 1.30pm, 22 November 1.30pm

Sangeun Lee / Gareth Haw / Anri Sugiura / Fabian Reimair

20 November 7.30pm, 22 November 7.30pm

Mayflower Theatre, Southampton:

Ivana Bueno / Paulo Rodrigues / Emily Suzuki / Junor Souza

26 November 7pm

Anna Nevzorova* / Elvis Nudo* / Taela Graff* / Junor Souza

27 November 1.30pm, 29 November 7pm

Julia Conway / Lorenzo Trossello / Angela Wood / Eireen Evrard

27 November 7pm, 29 November 1.30pm

Sangeun Lee / Gareth Haw / Anri Sugiura / Fabian Reimair

28 November 7pm

Nutcracker, Aaron S. Watkin and Arielle Smith

(Clara / Drosselmeyer / Nutcracker Prince / Sugar Plum Fairy / Sugar Plum Cavalier)

London Coliseum:

Ivana Bueno / Junor Souza / Paulo Rodrigues* / Sangeun Lee / Gareth Haw

11 December 7.30pm, 13 December 7.30pm, 17 December 7pm, 19 December 7.30pm,
22 December 7.30pm

Katja Khaniukova / Ken Saruhashi / Miguel Angel Maidana / Emma Hawes / Aitor Arrieta

12 December 7.30pm, 14 December 2.30pm, 18 December 7.30pm, 20 December 7.30pm,
23 December 7.30pm

Francesca Velicu / James Streeter* / Noam Durand / Shiori Kase / Erik Woolhouse*

13 December 2.30pm, 16 December 7pm, 19 December 2.30pm, 24 December 1.30pm,
27 December 2.30pm

Haruhi Otani / Fabian Reimair / Rentaro Nakaaki / Julia Conway / Daniel McCormick

17 December 1pm, 20 December 2.30pm, 23 December 2.30pm, 27 December 7.30pm

Carolyne Galvao / Henry Dowden / Shunhei Fuchiyama / Fernanda Oliveira / Lorenzo Trossello

18 December 2.30pm, 22 December 2.30pm, 26 December 4pm, 28 December 2.30pm

Chloe Keneally* / James Streeter / Martinho Santos* / Emily Suzuki* / Eric Snyder*

29 December 2.30pm

Georgia Bould / Jose María Lorca Menchón* / Rhys Antoni Yeomans / Katja Khaniukova / Ken Saruhashi

29 December 7.30pm, 2 January 7.30pm, 7 January 7pm, 10 January 2.30pm

Ashley Coupal* / Fabian Reimair / Rodrigo Pinto* / Precious Adams / Gareth Haw

30 December 2.30pm, 6 January 7.30pm, 9 January 7.30pm

Swanice Luong / Junor Souza / Thiago Silva / Ivana Bueno / Paulo Rodrigues*

30 December 7.30pm, 3 January 7.30pm, 8 January 7pm, 10 January 7.30pm

Carolyne Galvao / Henry Dowden / Shunhei Fuchiyama / Emily Suzuki / Eric Snyder

31 December 1.30pm

Chloe Keneally / James Streeter / Martinho Santos / Anna Nevzorova* / Elvis Nudo*

3 January 2.30pm, 8 January 1pm, 11 January 1.30pm

Ashley Coupal / Fabian Reimair / Rodrigo Pinto / Emily Suzuki / Eric Snyder

4 January 2.30pm

Akram Khan's Giselle

(Giselle / Albrecht / Hilarion / Myrtha)

London Coliseum:

Emily Suzuki / James Streeter / Ken Saruhashi / Emma Hawes

15 January 7.30pm, 17 January 7.30pm

Francesca Velicu / Henry Dowden / Daniel McCormick / Angela Wood

16 January 2pm, 17 January 2.30pm

Fernanda Oliveira / Aitor Arrieta / Erik Woolhouse / Sangeun Lee

16 January 7.30pm, 18 January 1.30pm

*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 Ines Carvalho, Press and Communications Manager, on ines.carvalho@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.

English National Ballet is an Associate Company of Sadler's Wells.

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.