



ROYAL
BALLET

21 APRIL 2015

CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR THE ROYAL BALLET TOUR TO THE USA 2015

Washington 9 – 14 June / Chicago 18 – 21 June / New York 23 – 28 June

The Royal Ballet returns to the USA in June 2015 celebrating the breadth of the Company's heritage and contemporary repertory, and the virtuosity and theatricality of its world class dancers.

Kevin O'Hare, Director of The Royal Ballet said "We're particularly thrilled to be returning to the USA and delighted to be presenting **Carlos Acosta's** production of *Don Quixote* created especially for the Company last Season. We're also performing works by three of today's leading choreographers who are all resident with us at Covent Garden - **Wayne McGregor, Christopher Wheeldon** and **Liam Scarlett** - as well as classics from the Company's two great 20th century choreographers **Frederick Ashton** and **Kenneth MacMillan**."

Royal Ballet Principal Guest Artist Carlos Acosta's critically acclaimed production of *Don Quixote* receives its American premiere at the Kennedy Center, Washington from 9 – 14 June. *Don Quixote* will also be performed at the Auditorium Theater, Chicago from 18 – 21 June.

Don Quixote follows the adventures of bumbling knight Don Quixote, accompanied by his ever-faithful squire Sancho Panza, as he embarks on a quest for his ideal woman. This production premiered at the Royal Opera House in 2013 and received its first revival in October 2014. Acosta's unique and vibrant production features new choreography, and designs by Tony Award-winning **Tim Hatley**, creating a dynamic, sun drenched ballet. The original score by **Ludwig Minkus** has been arranged and orchestrated by Royal Ballet Conductor **Martin Yates**.

In New York, The Royal Ballet will perform at **The David H. Koch Theater** from 24 – 28 June. A fundraising *Gala Performance* in aid of The Royal Ballet and The Joyce Theater opens the week of performances on Tuesday 23 June and will feature Frederick Ashton's classic ballet *The Dream* which was created in 1964 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth. Ashton cast two young dancers, **Anthony Dowell** and **Antoinette Sibley**, as *Oberon* and *Titania* which proved to be the start of one of the most celebrated partnerships of 20th century ballet. The tour also coincides with the 50th anniversary of the first performance of *The Dream* in the USA.

The New York residency also includes two programmes celebrating the work of British choreographers closely associated with The Royal Ballet. Programme One features Kenneth MacMillan's powerful *Song of the Earth* which was created in 1965. Set to **Gustav Mahler's** great song cycle, MacMillan explores the fragility of human life and features six episodes which are atmospheric rather than literal interpretations of the text. *Song of the Earth* will be performed with Frederick Ashton's *The Dream* from 24 – 26 June.

Programme Two is a mixed bill comprising *Infra* by **Wayne McGregor (Royal Ballet Resident Choreographer)**, *The Age of Anxiety* by **Liam Scarlett (Royal Ballet Artist in Residence)**, and highlights from The Royal Ballet's repertory including the central *pas de deux* from **Royal Ballet Artistic Associate Christopher Wheeldon's** award winning *Aeternum*.

Infra meaning 'below', premiered at the Royal Opera House in 2008. McGregor collaborated with artist **Julian Opie** who created digital images of walking figures below which McGregor's choreography unfolds through solos, *pas de deux* and group ensembles as dancers meet, pass and move on. The haunting 'electronica' score by **Max Richter** sets the tone of an impersonal cityscape. The ballet is about people, a fragmented narrative exploring partial views of humanity and emotion.

Liam Scarlett's most recent work for the Company takes its name from **Leonard Bernstein's** Symphony No. 2 '*The Age of Anxiety*' and is inspired by **WH Auden's**

1946 poem of the same name. **John Macfarlane**'s lavish set and costume designs create a backdrop of 1940s wartime New York against which four disparate characters meet in a bar and try to make sense of their shifting worlds.

The Royal Opera House would like to thank all tour supporters and Aud Jebsen for her support of the Royal Ballet touring programme.

Ends

The Kennedy Center, Washington, Tues 9 June – Sun 14 June

Don Quixote

9 June 7.30pm	Marianela Nuñez/Carlos Acosta
10 June 7.30pm	Sarah Lamb/Federico Bonelli
11 June 7.30pm	Iana Salenko/Steven McRae
12 June 7.30pm	Marianela Nuñez/Carlos Acosta
13 June 1.30pm	Iana Salenko/Steven McRae
13 June 7.30pm	Natalia Osipova/Matthew Golding
14 June 1.30pm	Roberta Marquez/Alexander Campbell

Auditorium Theater, Chicago, Thurs 18 June – Sun 21 June

Don Quixote

18 June 7.30pm	Marianela Nuñez/Carlos Acosta
19 June 7.30pm	Sarah Lamb/Federico Bonelli
20 June 2pm	Akane Takada/Vadim Muntagirov
20 June 7.30pm	Iana Salenko/Steven McRae
21 June 2pm	Natalia Osipova/Matthew Golding

The David H. Koch Theater, NY Tues 23 June – Sun 28 June

Gala Performance in aid of The Royal Ballet and The Joyce Theater

Tues 23 June 7.30pm

The Dream Sarah Lamb/Steven McRae

Programme 1

24 June 7.30pm

The Dream Sarah Lamb/Steven McRae

Song of the Earth Marianela Nuñez/Nehemiah Kish/Carlos Acosta

25 June 7.30pm

The Dream Natalia Osipova/Matthew Golding

Song of the Earth Laura Morera/Nehemiah Kish/Edward Watson

26 June 8pm

The Dream Natalia Osipova/Matthew Golding

Song of the Earth Lauren Cuthbertson/Rupert Pennefather/Edward Watson

Programme 2

27 June 2pm

The Age of Anxiety Sarah Lamb/Alexander Campbell/Johannes

Stepanek/Federico Bonelli

Divertissements

Akane Takada/Valentino Zucchetti/Marcelino

Sambé/Calvin Richardson/Vadim Muntagirov/Claire

Calvert/Ryoichi Hirano/ Lauren Cuthbertson/ Matthew Golding

Infra

Meaghan Grace Hinkis/Olivia Cowley/Yasmine

Naghdi/Sarah Lamb/Fumi Kaneko/Camille

Bracher/Matthew Ball/Tristan Dyer/Federico

Bonelli/Nicol Edmonds/Sander Blommaert/Luca Acri

27 June 8pm

The Age of Anxiety Laura Morera/Steven McRae/Bennet Gartside/Tristan Dyer

Divertissements

Yuhui Choe/Alexander Campbell/Marcelino

Sambé/Matthew Ball/Vadim Muntagirov/Marianela

Nuñez/Federico Bonelli/Sarah Lamb/Carlos Acosta

Francesca Hayward/Natalia Osipova/Marianela

Nuñez/Lauren Cuthbertson/Melissa Hamilton/ Yuhui

Choe/Edward Watson/Ryoichi Hirano/ Ricardo

Cervera/Eric Underwood/James Hay/Paul Kay

28 June 2pm

The Age of Anxiety Sarah Lamb/Alexander Campbell/Johannes

Stepanek/Federico Bonelli

Divertissements

Akana Takada/Valentino Zucchetti/Luca Acri/
Matthew Ball/James Hay/Claire Calvert/Ryoichi
Hirano/Lauren Cuthbertson/Matthew Golding
Infra Meaghan Grace Hinkis/Olivia Cowley/Yasmine
Naghdi/Sarah Lamb/Fumi Kaneko/Camille
Bracher/Matthew Ball/Tristan Dyer/Federico
Bonelli/Nicol Edmonds/Sander Blommaert/
Luca Acri

28 June 7.30pm

The Age of Anxiety

Laura Morera/Steven McRae/Bennet Gartside/Tristan
Dyer

Divertissements

Yuhui Choe/Alexander Campbell/Marcelino Sambé/
Calvin Richardson/Vadim Muntagirov/Marianela
Nuñez/Federico Bonelli/Sarah Lamb/Carlos Acosta
Infra Francesca Hayward/Natalia Osipova/Marianela
Nuñez/Lauren Cuthbertson/Melissa Hamilton/ Yuhui
Choe/Edward Watson/Ryoichi Hirano/ Ricardo
Cervera/Eric Underwood/James Hay/
Paul Kay

NB: The Royal Opera House reserves the right to change the cast and programme due to events beyond its control

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