



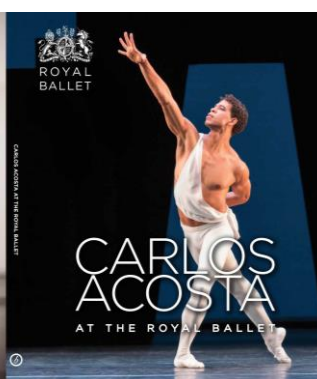
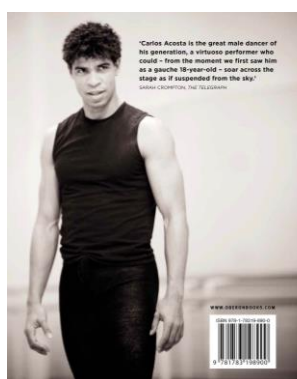
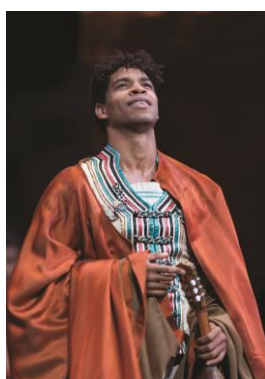
ROYAL  
BALLET

AUGUST 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Carlos Acosta at The Royal Ballet

New book to celebrate Carlos Acosta's 17 year career with  
The Royal Ballet from 1998 - 2015



**Carlos Acosta at The Royal Ballet** is a celebration of his phenomenal career with The Royal Ballet. Published by Oberon Books and released in November 2015 this beautifully produced book captures some of Carlos's greatest performances as well as intimate behind-the-scenes moments from his outstanding 17 year career with The Royal Ballet.

This beautiful book contains over 150 images of Carlos on stage and in rehearsal partnering some of the world's leading ballerinas including **Darcey Bussell, Leanne Benjamin, Alina Cojocaru, Sarah Lamb, Laura Morera, Marianela Nuñez, Natalia Osipova, Tamara Rojo, Miyako Yoshida and Zenaida Yanowsky**. Photographs cover the period 1998 – 2015 and include outstanding performances of *Don Quixote, Giselle, Swan Lake, La Fille mal gardée, The Sleeping Beauty, Romeo and Juliet, Apollo, Manon* and many more.

**Carlos Acosta at The Royal Ballet** includes a foreword by current Director of The Royal Ballet **Kevin O'Hare** and former Directors **Anthony Dowell**, **Dame Monica Mason** and Associate Director **Jeanetta Laurence** plus tributes from dancers, friends and colleagues at the Royal Opera House.

This unique retrospective is a celebration of Acosta's dazzling career with The Royal Ballet, bringing together for the first time photographs that capture the passion, range and virtuosity of one of the world's greatest dancers.

-Ends-

**Picture credits (L-R):**

Carlos Acosta as Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, ©Bill Cooper

Front and Back Cover, *Carlos Acosta at The Royal Ballet* ©Oberon Books, 2015

Tamara Rojo as Juliet and Carlos Acosta as Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, ©Bill Cooper

**Notes to Editors**

Carlos Acosta is available for interview. A selection of images are available for press use, please refer all requests to [Ashley.Woodfield@roh.org.uk](mailto:Ashley.Woodfield@roh.org.uk)  
Tel 020 7212 9165

**Carlos Acosta at The Royal Ballet**

Published by Oberon Books

Publication Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015

Price: Hardback £35 / Digital version £20

ISBN - 9781783198900

Hardback, 160 pages

**Carmen - New Production for The Royal Ballet by Carlos Acosta**

**26 October – 12 November 2015, The Royal Opera House**

For his second work for The Royal Ballet Carlos Acosta is adapting the Spanish classic *Carmen*. Set to Bizet's score, in a new arrangement by Martin Yates, the ballet centres on the story's themes of drama, revenge and tragedy. Acosta will dance the lead roles of Don José and Escamillo at certain performances. Set and costume designs are by Tim Hatley, with lighting by Peter Mumford. *Carmen* is part of a mixed programme including Liam Scarlett's *Viscera*, Jerome Robbins's *Afternoon of a Faun* and George Balanchine's *Tchaikovsky pas de deux* and will be screened live to cinemas on 12 November.

## **Carlos Acosta**

From humble beginnings in Havana, Acosta's soaring athleticism and emotional magnetism has transformed him into a global star. Since graduating from the National Ballet School of Cuba he has graced all of the world's major dance stages including The Royal Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet, American Ballet Theatre and the Bolshoi, English National Ballet, Houston Ballet and The National Ballet of Cuba. Carlos Acosta joined The Royal Ballet in 1998 and became Principal Guest Artist in 2003. He has achieved acclaim for dancing many of the danseur noble roles in the repertory, such as Siegfried (*Swan Lake*), Albrecht (*Giselle*), The Prince (*The Nutcracker*), Des Grieux (*Manon*), Prince Florimund (*The Sleeping Beauty*) and Don Quixote.

The culture and history of his home country have been important influences throughout his career, and in 2003 his show *Tocororo – A Cuban Tale*, loosely based on his childhood, broke box office records at Sadler's Wells Theatre. His 2007 autobiography *No Way Home* was a UK bestseller and 2013 saw the publication of his first novel, *Pig's Foot*.

Acosta has received many awards throughout his career, including an Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance in 2007 and a Prix Benois de la Danse in 2008, and in 2014 he was made a CBE for services to ballet. In June 2011 he performed with Tamara Rojo at the opening night of *Romeo and Juliet* at the O2 Arena, London, to an audience of 13,500.

His staging of *Don Quixote*, his first for The Royal Ballet, opened in 2013 and was revived in 2014 and received its USA premiere in June 2015 as part of The Royal Ballet's North American tour. Acosta is currently working on *Carmen*, his second production for The Royal Ballet which premieres in October 2015.

Acosta will retire from classical ballet at the end of The Royal Ballet 2015/16 Season to focus on contemporary dance and developing plans for a new ballet school in Cuba.

## **Oberon Books**

Oberon Books is the UK's most exciting independent drama publisher specialising in drama and the performing arts. With a backlist of over 1000 books including the latest modern plays and classics from some of the world's leading dramatists, as well as a wide range of handsomely produced publications covering the theatre, opera, dance, biography, performance studies, monologues, practical guides and fiction.  
[www.oberonbooks.com](http://www.oberonbooks.com)

## **PRESS OFFICE CONTACTS**

### **Ashley Woodfield**

**Head of Ballet Press**

**The Royal Ballet**

Tel: 020 7212 9165

[Ashley.Woodfield@roh.org.uk](mailto:Ashley.Woodfield@roh.org.uk)

### **Oberon Books**

**Lewis Morgan**

**Marketing Manager**

Tel: 020 7607 3645

[lewis@oberonbooks.com](mailto:lewis@oberonbooks.com)