



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

SUMMER SEASON 2015/16

MAY- JULY 2016

BALLET AND DANCE

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THE WINTER'S TALE

Christopher Wheeldon

Conductor: David Briskin

12, 13, 18, 20, 21, 27, 28 April at 7.30pm / 16 April at 12.30pm / 30 April at 1.30pm & 7.00pm /
21 May at 7.00pm / 1 June at 7.30pm / 4 June at 12.30pm / 7 June 2.00pm & 7.30pm

After receiving huge critical acclaim in 2014, Royal Ballet Artistic Associate **Christopher Wheeldon's** *The Winter's Tale* receives its first revival. Regarded as one of his finest works, the ballet was nominated for an **Olivier Award** for Outstanding Achievement in Dance and won the **Critics' Circle Award** for Best Classical Choreography.

The Winter's Tale is the first full length adaptation of a Shakespeare play by The Royal Ballet since **Kenneth MacMillan's** 1965 production of *Romeo and Juliet*. It is a story of seemingly hopeless love and all-consuming jealousy that contrasts episodes of light and dark, tragedy and comedy, and culminates in a memorable climax of forgiveness and reconciliation.

In addition to the two casts from the original run, there has been a new third cast added, with **Claire Calvert** and **Thiago Soares** making their debuts as Hermione and Leontes, **Francesca Hayward** and **James Hay** as Perdita and Florizel, and **Christina Arestis** and **Ryoichi Hirano** as Paulina and Polixenes. **Itziar Mendizabal** also makes her debut as Paulina.

Choreography	Christopher Wheeldon
Music	Joby Talbot
Designer	Bob Cowley
Lighting Designer	Natasha Katz
Projection Designer	Daniel Brodie
Silk Effect Designer	Basil Twist
Orchestra of the Royal Opera House	

CASTING

Hermione, Leontes

Perdita, Florizel

Paulina, Polixenes

The Winter's Tale is a co production with The National Ballet of Canada.

12 Apr / 21 Apr / 27 Apr / 21 May /

7 Jun (eve)/ 10 Jun

Lauren Cuthbertson, Edward Watson

Sarah Lamb, Steven McRae

13 Apr / 18 Apr / 28 Apr / 30 Apr (eve) /
1 Jun

Zenaida Yanowsky, Federico Bonelli
Marianela Nuñez, Bennet Gartside
Beatriz Stix-Brunell, Vadim Muntagirov
Laura Morera, Valeri Hristov

16 Apr (mat) / 20 Apr

Claire Calvert*, Thiago Soares*
Francesca Hayward*, James Hay*
Christina Arestis*, Ryoichi Hirano*

30 Apr (mat) / 7 Jun (mat)

Claire Calvert, Thiago Soares
Francesca Hayward, James Hay
Itziar Mendizabal*, Ryoichi Hirano

*Role debut

SHAKESPEARE400

These performances are part of the **SHAKESPEARE400** celebrations, coordinated by the London Shakespeare Centre and Culture at King's College London to celebrate the 400 year legacy of William Shakespeare.

OBSIDIAN TEAR/THE INVITATION/WITHIN THE GOLDEN HOUR

NEW Wayne McGregor/Kenneth MacMillan/Christopher Wheeldon

Conductors: Esa-Pekka Salonen/Tim Murray

28 May at 7pm/ 31 May, 3 June at 7.30pm/ 4 June at 12.30pm/11 June at 1.30pm and 7pm

Three ballets from three very different choreographers, all closely associated with The Royal Ballet: a world premiere from McGregor, dark drama from MacMillan and acclaimed ensemble work from Wheeldon.

Obsidian Tear is **Wayne McGregor's** latest work for the Company. In it, he collaborates with the Finnish conductor and composer **Esa-Pekka Salonen**. Set design is by **Wayne McGregor**, and lighting by **Lucy Carter**, continuing their creative partnership having most recently collaborated on 2015's *Wolf Works*.

The mixed programme also includes a revival of **Kenneth Macmillan's** *The Invitation*, created in 1960 for the Royal Ballet Touring Company. Set to music by **Mátyás Seiber**, *The Invitation* also features designs from the original conception by **Nicholas Georgiadis**, with lighting by **John B. Read**. A watershed production from The Royal Ballet repertoire, *The Invitation* remains one of the first fruits of MacMillan's conviction in balletic grit and on stage realism.

Christopher Wheeldon's *Within the Golden Hour* returns to complete this triple bill following its Royal Ballet premiere in February 2016. Created for San Francisco Ballet in 2008, the production features a score by **Ezio Bosso**, lighting and projections by **59 Productions**, with costumes recreated by **Lynette Mauro** after **Martin Pakledinaz's** original designs.

Obsidian Tear- Generous philanthropic support from Linda and Philip Harley and Victoria Robey.

The Invitation- Generous philanthropic support from Richard and Delia Baker and The Friends of Covent Garden

CASTING TO BE ANNOUNCED

OBSIDIAN TEAR

Choreography **Wayne McGregor**
Music **Esa-Pekka Salonen**
Set Designer **Wayne McGregor**
Fashion Director **Katie Shillingford**
Lighting Designer **Lucy Carter**

Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

THE INVITATION

Choreography **Kenneth MacMillan**
Music **Mátyás Seiber**
Designer **Nicholas Georgiadis**
Lighting designer **John B. Read**

Vasko Vassilev/ Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

WITHIN THE GOLDEN HOUR

Choreography **Christopher Wheeldon** Music
Ezio Bosso
Original costume designer **Martin Pakledinaz**
Costume designs re-created by **Lynette Mauro**
Lighting designer **59 Productions**
Projection Designer **59 Productions**

Sergey Levitin/ Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

INSIGHT EVENTS

Obsidian Tear

11 May, 7.15pm

Hear Wayne McGregor reveal his plans for the world premiere of this dynamic new ballet just weeks before opening night.

Clore Studio Upstairs

£17/£7

Joining The House: The Royal Ballet 1946-1956

12 May, 7.30pm

The Royal Ballet celebrates its 70th anniversary as resident ballet company for the Royal Opera House. Special guests explore the Company's rich history during its first decade based at Covent Garden. Featuring an excerpt danced by members of The Royal Ballet.

Clore Studio Upstairs

£14/£7

In Conversation with Francesca Hayward and James Hay

8 June, 7.45pm

Hear from Hayward and Hay as they discuss the joys and challenges of performing in The Royal Ballet's dynamic repertory.

Clore Studio Upstairs

£14/£7

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