



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

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PRESS RELEASE

**BALLET'S MOST BEAUTIFUL GHOST STORY:
LOVE CONQUERS ALL IN THE ROYAL BALLET'S
*GISELLE***

Friday 26 February – 15 April

Live Cinema Relay Wednesday 6 April at 7.15pm



The most famous ballet of the Romantic era and a signature work in The Royal Ballet's repertory, **Peter Wright's** hallmark production of *Giselle* returns to the Royal Opera House.

The role of Giselle is one coveted by dancers the world over and is renowned for being both technically and dramatically challenging. Making their debuts as Giselle are First Soloist **Akane Takada** and Guest Artist **Iana Salenko**. Royal Ballet Principals **Matthew Golding** and **Vadim Muntagirov**, and First Soloist **Ryoichi Hirano** make their debuts as Count Albrecht.

Giselle is set in a medieval Rhineland village and tells the story of a gentle peasant girl who is driven to her death when deceived by her aristocratic lover Count Albrecht. Filled with remorse, Albrecht visits her moonlit grave where he is condemned to death by the vengeful Wilis, ghosts of young women who died before their wedding day. However, Giselle's love transcends death and she saves her lover from his fate.

In this acclaimed production by Peter Wright, who turns 90 this year, the real and supernatural aspects of the ballet are perfectly conceived: the first act dramatized in rich, naturalistic detail and the second with a spectral, moonlit beauty.

– ENDS –

Notes to Editors

Draft Works in the Clore: *Reimagining Giselle*

Pre-show performances in the Clore Studio Upstairs

1, 9, 15 April at 6.30pm

In this version of Draft Works, The Royal Ballet has invited Canadian choreographer **Joshua Beamish** to reimagine *Giselle* in his own choreographic language. Taking place in the Royal Opera House Clore Studio Upstairs prior to three performances of **Peter Wright's** full-length production, *Reimagining Giselle* will be presented without costumes and lighting and is an opportunity to see new work and Royal Ballet dancers in an intimate setting in draft form.

Giselle

26 February at 7.30pm / 27 February at 7.00pm / 17 March at 2.30pm & 7.30pm /
19 March at 12.30pm / 22, 23, 29, 31 March at 7.30pm / 28 March at 2.00pm &
7.00pm / 1, 6*, 9, 15 April at 7.30pm / 2 April at 7.00pm

*Live cinema relay

Generous philanthropic support from the Paul Ferguson Memorial Fund, Peter Lloyd and The Royal Opera House Endowment Fund.

Choreography	Marius Petipa after Jean Coralli and Jules Perrot
Music	Adolphe Adam revised by Joseph Horowitz
Scenario	Théophile Gautier after Heinrich Heine
Production and additional choreography	Peter Wright
Designer	John Macfarlane
Original lighting	Jennifer Tipton
Lighting recreated by	David Finn
Orchestra of the Royal Opera House	

Images (L-R)

Artists of The Royal Ballet as the Wilis in *Giselle* ©ROH / Bill Cooper

Sarah Lamb as Giselle in *Giselle* ©ROH / Bill Cooper

Natalia Osipova as Giselle in *Giselle* ©ROH / Bill Cooper

More images available to download by following this link:
<http://bit.ly/GiselleROHpics>

CASTING

26 Feb / 17 Mar / 29 Mar	Natalia Osipova, Matthew Golding*
27 Feb / 19 Mar (mat)	Iana Salenko*, Steven McRae
17 Mar (mat) / 23 Mar / 2 Apr	Lauren Cuthbertson, Federico Bonelli
22 Mar / 31 Mar / 6 [†] Apr	Marianela Nuñez, Vadim Muntagirov*
28 Mar (mat) / 9 Apr	Akane Takada*, Thiago Soares
28 Mar	Sarah Lamb, Ryoichi Hirano*
1 Apr / 15 Apr	Laura Morera, Nehemiah Kish

*Role debut

[†]Live cinema relay, Wednesday 6 April

***Giselle* pre-performance talks**

23, 29 March at 6.30pm

Clore Studio Upstairs

A fascinating introduction to the production before curtain up.

£5/£2.50

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