



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

THE ROYAL BALLET

Director

KEVIN O'HARE CBE

Founder

DAME NINETTE DE VALOIS OM CH DBE

Founder Choreographer

SIR FREDERICK ASHTON OM CH CBE

Founder Music Director

CONSTANT LAMBERT

Prima Ballerina Assoluta

DAME MARGOT FONTEYN DBE

THE ROYAL BALLET IN ASSOCIATION WITH
THE FREDERICK ASHTON FOUNDATION

INSIGHTS: ASHTON REDISCOVERED

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Programme devised by **JEANETTA LAURENCE** and
CHRISTOPHER NOURSE and presented by kind permission
of **ANTHONY RUSSELL-ROBERTS** CBE

Introduced by **GARY AVIS** AND **ISABEL MCMEEKAN**

Pianist **KATE SHIPWAY**

Pianist, *Dante Sonata* **JONATHAN HIGGINS**

Supported by **THE BALLET ASSOCIATION**

Insights supported by



ROLEX

and **THE PAUL HAMLYN FOUNDATION**

APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

The performance lasts about 2 hours and 15 minutes with
one 25-minute interval.

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES

We want to welcome you back into the building in a way
that keeps you, our staff and our artists safe. As a courtesy
to each other and to help us provide a comfortable and
enjoyable experience for everyone, please wear a face
covering at all times, unless exempt for medical reasons.

Please be mindful of others and their personal space when
moving around the theatre and queueing for bars and
toilets. Regular cleaning is taking place, with particular
attention to high-touch areas such as bannisters and toilets.
Hand gel will be available throughout the building.

WELCOME

On behalf of the Frederick Ashton Foundation, I welcome
you most warmly to this special Insight marking the
Foundation's tenth anniversary. In addition to showing
examples on film and in live performance of rarely-
performed pieces from Frederick Ashton's prolific output
over a span of six decades, tonight sees the premiere of
Lynne Wake's film *Frederick Ashton: Links in the Chain*.

In addition to the Foundation's popular *Ashton
Rediscovered* masterclasses, perhaps the other most
significant initiative in ensuring that Ashton's legacy
is enriched and prospers has been the establishment
of a shadowing scheme to enable a new generation of
répétiteurs to watch and learn from original cast members,
and others who worked with Ashton, to ensure that his
ballets are presented to as high a standard as possible and
in a way of which Frederick Ashton himself would have
approved.

I thank Kevin O'Hare most warmly for allowing the
Frederick Ashton Foundation to mark its 10th anniversary
here in the Linbury Theatre, the artists of The Royal Ballet
and Birmingham Royal Ballet for agreeing to appear, and
the staff of The Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and
the Royal Opera House for their assistance and cooperation
in enabling this special evening to be given.

CHRISTOPHER NOURSE

Executive Director, The Frederick Ashton Foundation

A TRIBUTE TO SIR FREDERICK ASHTON, 24 JULY 1970

ROBERT HELPMANN

RIO GRANDE, THE SAILOR'S DANCE

Premiere by the Camargo Society (under the title *A Day in a
Southern Port*) 29 November 1931

Music **CONSTANT LAMBERT**

Original cast **WALTER GORE**

Dancer **ALEXANDER GRANT**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

FOYER DE DANSE, SOLO AND ADAGE

Premiere by the Ballet Club 9 October 1932

Music **LORD BERNERS**

Original cast **ALICIA MARKOVA, FREDERICK ASHTON**

Featured in an Ashton Rediscovered masterclass with Ursula Hageli and Christopher Newton, 27 October 2019

Rehearsed by **URSULA HAGELI** and **CHRISTOPHER NEWTON**

Dancers **GINEVRA ZAMBON** and **HARRIS BELL** with **YU HANG, BOMIN KIM, VIOLA PANTUSO, MARIKO SASAKI, SUMINA SASAKI, AMELIA TOWNSEND**

DANTE SONATA, CHILDREN OF LIGHT PAS DE DEUX

Premiere by the Vic-Wells Ballet 23 January 1940

Music **FRANZ LISZT**

Original cast **MARGOT FONTEYN, MICHAEL SOMES**

Rehearsed by **PATRICIA TIERNEY**

Dancers **MOMOKO HIRATA** and **CÉSAR MORALES**

Momoko Hirata and César Morales appear by kind permission of **CARLOS ACOSTA** CBE, Director of Birmingham Royal Ballet

SYLVIA, SOLO FROM ACT III

Premiere by Sadler's Wells Ballet 3 September 1952

Music **LÉO DELIBES**

Original cast **MARGOT FONTEYN**

Rehearsed by **MARIANELA NUÑEZ**

Dancer **ANNA ROSE O'SULLIVAN**

SWAN LAKE, DUET FROM THE ACT I PAS DE QUATRE

First performance of this production by The Royal Ballet 12 December 1963

Music **PYOTR IL'YICH TCHAIKOVSKY**

Original cast **BRIAN SHAW, GRAHAM USHER**

Rehearsed by **CHRISTOPHER CARR**

Dancers **LEO DIXON** and **JOSEPH SISSENS**

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY, FAIRY OF JOY, THE PROLOGUE

First performance of this production by The Royal Ballet 17 December 1968

Music **PYOTR IL'YICH TCHAIKOVSKY**

Original cast **GEORGINA PARKINSON**

Featured in an Ashton Rediscovered masterclass with Monica Mason, 11 February 2018

Rehearsed by **MONICA MASON**

Dancer **ISABELLA GASPARINI**

LE ROSSIGNOL, THE FISHERMAN'S SOLO

Premiere at the Metropolitan Opera 3 December 1981

Music **IGOR STRAVINSKY**

Given by permission of Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers Limited

Original cast **ANTHONY DOWELL**

Featured in an Ashton Rediscovered masterclass with Anthony Dowell, 19 November 2017

Rehearsed by **GARY AVIS**

Dancer **MATTHEW BALL**

HAMLET PRELUDE

Premiere by The Royal Ballet 30 May 1977

Music **FRANZ LISZT**

Original cast **MARGOT FONTEYN, RUDOLF NUREYEV**

FIRST PERFORMANCE OF A NEW PRODUCTION AS

HAMLET AND OPHELIA

Premiere by The Royal Ballet 27 October 2021

Recreated and staged by **WAYNE EAGLING**

Painter and Designer **SARAH ARMSTRONG-JONES**

Costumes realized by **JAMES KELLY**

Benesh Choreologist **DANIEL KRAUS**

Dancers **FRANCESCA HAYWARD** and **WILLIAM BRACEWELL**

INTERVAL OF APPROXIMATELY 25 MINUTES

FREDERICK ASHTON: LINKS IN THE CHAIN

Director **LYNNE WAKE**

A film commissioned by the Frederick Ashton Foundation to mark the Foundation's tenth anniversary

THE FREDERICK ASHTON FOUNDATION

Chairman **TONY DYSON**

Trustees **CARLOS ACOSTA** CBE, **SIR DAVID BINTLEY** CBE, **FELICITY CLARK**, **JEANETTA LAURENCE** OBE, **DAME MONICA MASON** DBE, **KEVIN O'HARE** CBE, **KRISTINA ROGGE**, **ANTHONY RUSSELL-ROBERTS** CBE, **LYNN WALLIS** OBE

Executive Director **CHRISTOPHER NOURSE**

PRODUCTION

Senior Stage Manager **JOHANNA ADAMS-FARLEY**

Stage Manager **SARAH WOODWARD**

Assistant Stage Manager **ALEXANDRA KETTEL**

Lighting Design **CAROL SADLER, BERNIE DAVIS**

Costume Production Manager **ALICE LESSING**

Linbury Technical Manager **THOMAS THOMPSON**

Assistant Linbury Technical Manager **NICK MANNING**

Producer **ADRIENNE MILLER**

Insight Producers **MATT KING-WOODWARD, ALEXANDRA SHARP**

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE RECOVERY CAMPAIGN

Live performance is a shared experience, and our audiences are at the heart of what we do on our stages, backstage, online, in cinemas and in our communities. Since March 2020 we have lost £3 in every £5 of our income and we are hugely grateful for all the support we have received, including from Arts Council England and government, and from you, our generous audiences.

In September 2020, we launched our fundraising Recovery Campaign, which continues to form a vital part of our long journey back to a fully functioning and sustainable theatre. Please consider making a donation to help us secure the future of ballet and opera. roh.org.uk/donate