

THE FREDERICK ASHTON FOUNDATION



Press release - Tuesday 21 May 2024

The Frederick Ashton Foundation today announces details of *Ashton Worldwide 2024-2028*, an international festival conceived by the Frederick Ashton Foundation to celebrate the work of Frederick Ashton (1904 – 1988) and to be launched at the Royal Opera House next month.

Book-ended by the 120th anniversary of Frederick Ashton's birth in 2024 and the 40th anniversary of his death in 2028, the festival aims to highlight the universal appeal of Ashton's ballets across the globe, foster the spread and influence of his legacy and encourage companies worldwide to perform Ashton works, whether as revivals or for the first time. Companies involved come from around the world, including from Australia, Canada, South America, Europe, Japan, South Africa, New Zealand and the USA as well as the UK.

In addition to the programme of Ashton ballets being performed by The Royal Ballet and The Sarasota Ballet at the Royal Opera House next month to launch the festival (*see details below), English National Ballet School and The Royal Ballet School will also be featuring Ashton works in their 2024 end-of-year performances.

To date, 24 companies and four UK-based schools have agreed to participate in the festival, including American Ballet Theatre, The Australian Ballet, Ballet West (USA), Birmingham Royal Ballet, Boston Ballet, The National Ballet of Canada, Cape Town City Ballet, Central School of Ballet (London), Cincinnati Ballet, Elmhurst Ballet School, English National Ballet School, Estonian National Ballet, Houston Ballet, New York Theatre Ballet, National Ballet of Japan, Noriko Kobayashi Ballet Theatre (Tokyo), Philadelphia Ballet, Queensland Ballet, The Royal Ballet (London), The Royal Ballet School (London), Royal New Zealand Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Ballet de Santiago (Chile), The Sarasota Ballet, Scottish Ballet, Semperoper Ballet (Dresden), Vienna State Ballet and The Washington Ballet.

Repertoire will be announced by individual companies in their usual way, season by season, following agreement with the appropriate ballet rightsholder, but works currently under discussion include Birthday Offering, Cinderella, Daphnis and Chl e, Foyer de danse, The Dream, La Fille mal gard e, Lament of the Waves, Marguerite and Armand, Les Patineurs, Les Rendezvous, Rhapsody, Sc enes de ballet, Sylvia, Symphonic Variations, The Two Pigeons, La Valse, A Wedding Bouquet and Ashton’s choreography for Stravinsky’s opera Le Rossignol.

For further information, please contact:

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*Ashton ballets being performed at the Royal Opera House to launch Ashton Worldwide 2024-2028

The Royal Ballet (Main Stage) 6 - 22 June 2024:

Les Rendezvous (a new production co-produced by The Royal Ballet and the Frederick Ashton Foundation)

The Dream

Rhapsody

Five Brahms Waltzes in the manner of Isadora Duncan

Hamlet and Ophelia (first Main Stage performances of a new production commissioned by the Frederick Ashton Foundation in 2021)

The Walk to the Paradise Garden (performed by dancers of The Sarasota Ballet)

<https://www.roh.org.uk/tickets-and-events/les-rendezvous-the-dream-rhapsody-by-frederick-ashton-details>

<https://www.roh.org.uk/tickets-and-events/the-dream-short-works-rhapsody-by-frederick-ashton-details>

The Sarasota Ballet (Linbury Theatre) 4 – 9 June 2024:

Valses nobles et sentimentales

Dante Sonata

Sinfonietta

Fa ade

Tweedle

La Chatte

Jazz Calendar

Illuminations pas de cinq

Romeo and Juliet balcony pas de deux

Dance of the Blessed Spirits

Varii Capricci

Ends