



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

BALLET BLACK: PIONEERS

16, 17, 18 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.45PM

19 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 3PM

APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

The performance lasts about 1 hour 45 minutes, including one interval of 25 minutes.

GUIDANCE

Suitable for ages 7+

Contains scenes of domestic violence and racism. *Nina: By Whatever Means* contains flash photography and haze effects.

THEN OR NOW

Choreography and Direction **WILLIAM TUCKETT**

Music **DANIEL PIORO** *Then Or Now - variations on a theme by Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber*, **HEINRICH IGNAZ FRANZ VON BIBER** *Passacaglia for solo violin (1676)*

Performed by **DANIEL PIORO**

Lighting Design **DAVID PLATER**

Costume Design **YUKIKO TSUKAMOTO**

Poetry **ADRIENNE RICH**

Director of Poetry **FIONA L BENNETT**

Poetry recordings **HAFSAH ANEELA BASHIR, NATASHA GORDON, MICHAEL SHAEFFER**

Selected poems from *Dark Fields of the Republic 1991-1995* by Adrienne Rich and used by permission of The Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Dancers **MEGAN CHIU, ISABELA CORACY, TARAJA HUDSON, SAYAKA ICHIKAWA, LOVE KOTIYA, BHUNGANE MEHLOMAKHULU, MTHUTHUZELI NOVEMBER, HELGA PARIS-MORALES, EBONY THOMAS**

NINA: BY WHATEVER MEANS

Choreography and Direction **MTHUTHUZELI NOVEMBER**

Composers **MANDISI DYANTYIS, MTHUTHUZELI NOVEMBER** and **NINA SIMONE** (1954-2002)

Featuring the voices of **ZOLANI YOUTH CHOIR** and **BALLET BLACK**

Including **BARNEY BIGARD, DUKE ELLINGTON** *Mood Indigo*, performed by Nina Simone; **NINA SIMONE** *Sinnerman* (Live In New York, 1965)

Lighting Design **DAVID PLATER**

Costume Design **JESSICA CABASSA**

Set Design and Scenery **MTHUTHUZELI NOVEMBER**

Additional Set Design and Construction **RICHARD BOLTON** and **ALISTAGE LTD.**

Nina Simone's songs and speeches are licensed from the Nina Simone Charitable Trust and Rich and Famous Records, Ltd. courtesy of Steven Ames Brown.

Eunice Waymon/Nina Simone **ISABELA CORACY**

Child Eunice Waymon **SIENNE ADOTEY**

Young Eunice Waymon **HELGA PARIS-MORALES**

Mary Kate Waymon, Eunice's mother **TARAJA HUDSON**

Muriel Massinovitch, Eunice's piano teacher **SAYAKA ICHIKAWA**

Andrew Stroud, Nina's husband **EBONY THOMAS**

Members of the congregation, patrons of the jazz club and Nina Simone concert

MEGAN CHIU, TARAJA HUDSON, SAYAKA ICHIKAWA, MIKAYLA ISAACS, LOVE KOTIYA, BHUNGANE MEHLOMAKHULU, MTHUTHUZELI NOVEMBER, HELGA PARIS-MORALES, EBONY THOMAS



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

LOTTERY FUNDED

BALLET BLACK

Patrons **KWAME KWEI-ARMAH OBE, THANDIWE NEWTON OBE**

Founder, CEO and Artistic Director **CASSA PANCHE MBE**

Chair of the Board **ALTHEA EFUNSHILE CBE**

Board of Trustees **TUNDE BANJOKO OBE, HEIDI HALL, CHRISTOPHER HAMPSON, PATRICIA HAMZAHEE FRSA, ANDREW HOCHHAUSER KC, ANNA PRAG, TONYE VIANANA**

Interim General Manager **ISABELLE DRUMMOND**

Producer, Live and Digital **RICHARD BOLTON**

Executive Assistant **SIMONE MEASURES**

Media and Special Projects Producer **KELLY QUINTYNE**

Assistant Producer **CHRISTINA MCDUGALL**

Press Manager **JOHN COTTON PR LTD.**

Marketing and Research **DWAYNICA GREAVES**

Administrative Assistant **SARINA YOUNG**

Rehearsal Director **CHARLOTTE BROOM**

Company Teachers **DENZIL BAILEY, RAYMOND CHAI, DEIRDRE CHAPMAN, DIMA GRUZDEV, KATE LYONS, CHRISTOPHER MARNEY, CIRA ROBINSON**

Chief Lighting Designer and Technical Manager **DAVID PLATER**

Stage Manager **TINA DÉZART**

Wardrobe Manager **MANUELA FLEMING**

THE ROYAL BALLET

Director **KEVIN O'HARE CBE**

Administrative Director **HEATHER BAXTER**

Creative Producer **EMMA SOUTHWORTH**

Producers **JULIA GILLESPIE, HANNAH MAYHEW** and **RHIANNON SAVELL**

Assistant Producer **ANIA KAPSZA**

Linbury Technical Manager **THOMAS THOMPSON**

Assistant Linbury Technical Manager **NICK MANNING**

Lighting Operator **MATTHEW LOFTING**

Followspot Operator **ED SAUNDERS**

Lighting Technician **OLIVER HORNE**

Stage Technician **MARIUS GOLEBIOWSKI**

Sound Technician **NICK BURGE**

DIGITAL CAST SHEETS

We are working hard on our commitment towards becoming more sustainable and are striving for our net zero goal of 2035. By using digital rather than printed cast sheets, we have reduced our paper consumption by over five tonnes per year. You can view our digital cast sheets on a computer, tablet or smartphone by scanning the QR codes displayed around the building using your smartphone's camera app. They are also displayed on screens outside the auditoria. Cast sheets are generously supported by the Royal Opera House Endowment Fund.

SAFETY GUIDELINES

Photography and filming are prohibited during performances in any of our auditoriums. You are welcome to take pictures throughout the rest of the building and before performances and share them with us through social media. Commercial photography and filming must be agreed in advance with our press team.

Larger bags and backpacks need to be checked into our complimentary cloakrooms. Unattended bags may be removed. Please do not place any personal belongings on the ledges in front of you.

Only bottled water and ice cream purchased from the premises can be taken into the auditorium. If you arrive late to the auditorium or leave during a performance, you will not be allowed back to your seat until the interval or a suitable break.

Smoking and vaping are not permitted anywhere on the premises.

The safety of our visitors, staff and artists is still our priority. To help us provide a comfortable experience for everyone, please be mindful of others and their personal space.

Our staff are committed to treating everyone with dignity and respect and we ask that you show them and your fellow audience members respect too. We adopt a zero-tolerance approach in response to anyone who interacts with our staff or with fellow audience members in an intimidating, aggressive or threatening manner.

SUPPORTING THE RECOVERY OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

We are so glad to welcome our artists back to our theatres to perform for you the opera and ballet you love. During the pandemic we lost £3 in every £5 of our income and we continue to feel the impact as we recover. Sustaining the future of ballet and opera has never been so important. Please consider making a donation to the Royal Opera House community today and help support the future of ballet and opera.

roh.org.uk/donate