



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

# DARK WITH EXCESSIVE BRIGHT

A co-production with the National Ballet of Canada

Generously supported by

**DANCE** BY  
**REFLECTIONS**  
VAN CLEEF & ARPELS

10, 12, 15, 16, 20 FEBRUARY 2024

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## APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

The performance lasts about 45 minutes.

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## CAST AND CREATIVES

Concept and Choreography **ROBERT BINET**

Music **MISSY MAZZOLI** © G Schirmer., Inc.

*All I Want Is All Of It* - World Premiere

*Vespers for Cello*

*The Night Ahead and No Real Fate*

*A Thousand Tongues*

*Dissolve, O My Heart*

*Postlude*

*Dark with Excessive Bright*

Set Designer **SHIZUKA HARIU**

Costume Designer **THOMAS TAIT**

Lighting Designer **SIMISOLA MAJEKODUNMI**

Sound Designer **JON NICHOLLS**

Immersive Descriptive Audio **DEVON HEALEY**

Répétiteur **SAMIRA SAIDI**

Costume Technicians **ADAM KEPPEL, JANE STONER**

Musical Director and Solo Piano **JOSEPH HAVLAT**

Solo Violin **PETER SCHULMEISTER**

Solo Double Bass **MARCO BEHTASH**

Quintet **PETER SCHULMEISTER** (violin),

**MARION MCGOWAN** (violin), **FELICITY MATTHEWS** (viola),

**GUNDULA LEITNER** (cello), **PAUL SHERMAN** (double bass)

Dancers **REECE CLARKE, LETICIA DIAS, MARTIN**

**DIAZ, NICOL EDMONDS, MELISSA HAMILTON, MARCO**

**MASCIARI, TAISUKE NAKAO, MARIKO SASAKI, JOSEPH**

**SISSENS, ANNA ROSE O'SULLIVAN, YU HANG**

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**PETER SCHULMEISTER** Solo Violin

Born in 1977, he studied with Victor Tretjakov in Cologne and also with Igor Ozim, Vladimir Spivakov, Joseph Silverstein, the Melos Quartet and Shmuel Ashkenasi. He has won top prizes in music competitions in Germany, Italy and Portugal and has been awarded scholarships by the Habisreutinger Foundation, Zürich, and the Bavarian RSO, Munich. He has performed as guest leader with the LPO and appears as guest concert master with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, Kurpfalz Chamber Orchestra, Mannheim, and Württemberg Chamber Orchestra, Heilbronn. In 2001 he was a member of the Amar Quartet, Zürich. He was awarded the Deutsch-Russischer Kulturpreis für Musik by the State of Baden-Württemberg. In the 2007/8 Season he joined the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House as Associate Concert Master.

**MARCO BEHTASH** Solo Double Bass

Born in California, Marco Behtash is currently the second Principal bass with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House. He started playing the double bass at age 14, guided by Shinji Eshima of the San Francisco Opera. He furthered his studies at the SF Conservatory with Scott Pingel and later at Guildhall School of Music & Drama, completing his Master's degree in 2014 with Rinat Ibragimov and Luis Cabrera. He has played with orchestras including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the London Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Netherlands Philharmonic and Chamber Orchestras. In 2016 he joined the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House as Sub-Principal bass, and was promoted in 2022 to his current position.



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## 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**  
Senior Lighting Technician **SOPHIE BAILEY**  
Senior Stage Technician **LUCAS RAJPAUL**  
Stage Technician **ANDREAS PAPADOPOULOS**  
Senior Sound and Video Technician **ANDRE BIRCK**  
Sound and Video Technician **LORENZO MARTELLI**

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## 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.

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.

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## 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.

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## 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](https://roh.org.uk/donate)