



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

# DON QUIXOTE

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## BALLET IN THREE ACTS

Production and choreography CARLOS ACOSTA after  
MARIUS PETIPA  
Music LUDWIG MINKUS  
Arranged and orchestrated by MARTIN YATES  
Designer TIM HATLEY  
Lighting designer HUGH VANSTONE

Staging CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS  
Senior Répétiteurs GARY AVIS, SAMANTHA RAINE  
Répétiteurs HELEN CRAWFORD, SIAN MURPHY  
Principal coaching ALEXANDER AGADZHANOV,  
OLGA EVREINOFF

Conductor VALERY OVSYANIKOV

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE  
Principal Guest Concert Master by arrangement with Trittico  
VASKO VASSILEV

Directed for the screen by ROSS MACGIBBON

The Royal Opera House Principals  
JULIA AND HANS RAUSING

Generous philanthropic support from  
AUD JEBSEN, YLEANA ARCE FOUNDATION, DOUG  
AND CERI KING, CHARLES HOLLOWAY, THE FRIENDS  
OF COVENT GARDEN and THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE  
ENDOWMENT FUND

The 2023/24 Royal Ballet Season Generously supported by  
AUD JEBSEN

Broadcast live screening from the Royal Opera House  
THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7PM

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## APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

PRE-SHOW 15 minutes  
ACT I 50 minutes  
INTERVAL 25 minutes  
ACT II 35 minutes  
INTERVAL 25 minutes  
ACT III 35 minutes  
CURTAIN CALL 10 minutes

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## CAST

Don Quixote GARY AVIS  
Sancho Panza LIAM BOSWELL  
His squire  
Lorenzo THOMAS WHITEHEAD  
The innkeeper  
Kitri MAYARA MAGRI  
His daughter  
Basilio MATTHEW BALL  
A young barber  
Gamache JAMES HAY  
A rich nobleman  
Espada CALVIN RICHARDSON  
A famous matador  
Mercedes LETICIA DIAS  
A street dancer  
Kitri's Friends SAE MAEDA, SOPHIE ALLNATT  
Gypsy Couple HANNAH GRENNELL,  
VALENTINO ZUCCHETTI  
The Queen of the Dryads ANNETTE BUVOLI  
Amour ISABELLA GASPARINI

All casts subject to change. For full up-to-date casting, find  
the full cast sheet online.

Tweet your thoughts about tonight's performance before it  
starts, during the intervals or afterwards with #DonQuixote

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## SYNOPSIS

### ACT I

Don Quixote reads a book of adventures and becomes deluded, believing that he is the successor of the medieval knights-errant, on a quest to serve his imaginary Lady, Dulcinea. He sets out with Sancho Panza. They meet Kitri, who is in love with Basilio, a poor barber. Her father Lorenzo wishes her to marry the foppish nobleman Gamache. Kitri and Basilio run away together to get married. Lorenzo and Gamache set out in pursuit, followed by Don Quixote and Sancho Panza.

### INTERVAL

### ACT II

Kitri and Basilio find themselves surrounded by gypsies who suspect they have come to steal from them. Lorenzo and Gamache arrive followed by Don Quixote and Sancho Panza. Don Quixote mistakes a windmill for a monster and goes on the attack with disastrous results. Half unconscious from his injuries, Don Quixote falls into a dream-filled sleep in which he is transported to a magic garden, where he meets the Queen of the Dryads.

### INTERVAL

### ACT III

Lorenzo and Gamache find Kitri and Basilio in a local tavern. Lorenzo is determined to see Kitri married to Gamache. Basilio pretends to stab himself in jealous despair, while Kitri implores Don Quixote for help. Don Quixote forces Lorenzo to bless the lovers, convinced that Basilio is dying. Basilio makes a miraculous recovery – their scheme has worked. The entire town celebrates the wedding of Kitri and Basilio. Don Quixote realizes that he must continue his quest and sets out once more to perform deeds of chivalry.

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## THE ROYAL BALLET

Director KEVIN O'HARE CBE

Music Director KOEN KESSELS

Resident Choreographer WAYNE MCGREGOR CBE

Artistic Associate CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON OBE

Administrative Director HEATHER BAXTER

Rehearsal Director CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS

Clinical Director Ballet Healthcare SHANE KELLY

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## SUPPORT OUR ONGOING RECOVERY

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.

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