



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

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 **CARLOS ACOSTA, ALEXANDER  
AGADZHANOV, LEANNE BENJAMIN, OLGA EVREINOFF,  
ZENAIDA YANOWSKY**

Conductor **VALERY OVSYANIKOV**

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

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**

GENERAL REHEARSAL  
**SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 12.30PM**

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## APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

**ACT I** 50 minutes  
**INTERVAL** 25 minutes  
**ACT II** 35 minutes  
**INTERVAL** 25 minutes  
**ACT III** 35 minutes

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## CAST

Don Quixote **GARY AVIS**  
Sancho Panza **DAICHI IKARASHI**  
His squire  
Lorenzo **CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS**  
The innkeeper  
Kitri **YASMINE NAGHDI**  
His daughter  
Basilio **MATTHEW BALL**  
A young barber  
Gamache **THOMAS WHITEHEAD**  
A rich nobleman  
Espada **NICOL EDMONDS**  
A famous matador  
Mercedes **ITZIAR MENDIZABAL**  
A street dancer  
Kitri's Friends **MICA BRADBURY, HANNAH GRENNELL**  
Two Matadors **DAVID DONNELLY, JOONHYUK JUN**  
Gypsy Couple **MICA BRADBURY, LEO DIXON**  
The Queen of the Dryads **MARIKO SASAKI**  
Amour **ASHLEY DEAN**  
Dulcinea **NADIA MULLOVA-BARLEY**  
Fandango Couple **NADIA MULLOVA-BARLEY, LUKAS B.  
BRÆNDSRØD**  
Guitarists **DAVID BUCKINGHAM, FORD HENDERSON, DAN  
THOMAS, NIGEL WOODHOUSE**  
Townspeople, Matadors, Gypsies, Dryads **ARTISTS OF  
THE ROYAL BALLET, STUDENTS OF THE ROYAL BALLET  
SCHOOL**

Students of The Royal Ballet School appear by kind  
permission of the Artistic Director **CHRISTOPHER POWNEY**

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## SYNOPSIS

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

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

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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