

Northern
Ballet



CONTEMPORARY CUTS 2021

CHOREOGRAPHY BY

AMAURY LEBRUN | DEMIS VOLPI | JONATHAN WATKINS
CATHY MARSTON | KENNETH TINDALL

London Sadler's Wells
11 & 12 June 2021



Welcome

David Nixon OBE
Artistic Director

Dear audiences, we heartily welcome you back to our tour.

As I write this, following one of the most challenging years our industry has ever faced, there is a palpable sense of optimism and excitement that the light is finally at the end of the tunnel and better days are just around the corner. Indeed, it feels like a victory to be writing this note knowing it will be read by audiences attending our first tour since autumn 2019.

Through the darkest days of lockdown, at Northern Ballet we have found opportunities to let our creativity shine a light. Without the tour demanding most of our time and resources, our programme of digital films has grown exponentially in unexpected and wonderful ways. However, performing live in front of an audience is in our blood; at the very core of why we do the job we do.

We are still limited in terms of the productions we are able to rehearse and perform whilst adhering to the safety measures we have in place to protect our company. In Salford and London, we will perform an adapted version of *Dangerous Liaisons* which was a big success when we were able to revive it for a brief number of performances at Leeds Playhouse in October 2020. *Contemporary Cuts 2021*, which will be performed in London only, is a fantastic programme of our most popular contemporary short works and excerpts from full-length productions. This programme includes Kenneth Tindall's *States of Mind* which was our first stage production to be created entirely during lockdown. Finally, we return to Leeds Grand Theatre, one of our home venues, with our unique interpretation of *Swan Lake*.

Although the tour this season will only reach three venues, we are just thrilled that even this short tour has been possible. We have bigger plans afoot for another tour later in 2021 that will see us return to more towns and cities that we have missed visiting a great deal.

I do hope that circumstances for us all will continue to improve in the coming weeks and months. Once again, I would like to thank each and every one of our supporters, audience members, staff and freelancers for all you have done over this difficult period.

Continue to stay safe everyone. Enjoy these performances and we will be back again soon.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Nixon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



CONTEMPORARY CUTS 2021

Production supported by



John Ellerman
Foundation

For an Instant by Amaury Lebrun (London Première)

Little Monsters by Demis Volpi

1984 (Countryside Pas de Deux) by Jonathan Watkins

Jane Eyre (Proposal Pas de Deux) by Cathy Marston

States of Mind by Kenneth Tindall (London Première)

Antoinette Brooks-Daw in *For an Instant*.
Photo Emma Kauldhar.

For an instant...I live
For an instant... I breathe
For an instant... I die
For an instant... I dance

FOR AN INSTANT

This work intends to picture fleeting aspects of life and humanity. The title in itself allows me to have a lot of room and freedom for expressing emotions without having a narrative guideline. I would describe this ballet as a poetical work or poetry in motion. The amazing music of Heinrich Biber and Henry Purcell enhance the movements of the dancers guiding them through this journey.

Amaury Lebrun



Amaury Lebrun

CHOREOGRAPHER

Amaury trained at the School of Ballet du Nord and School of American Ballet in New York. He has worked in various European countries as a soloist and in 2000 joined Compañía Nacional de Danza as a principal. He is in demand to teach workshops and masterclasses worldwide and as a choreographer, Amaury has created many award-winning works including the acclaimed *Left Unseen* (2018) for Northern School of Contemporary Dance and Phoenix Dance Theatre.

LITTLE MONSTERS

In *Little Monsters* a love story is told from the beginning to its end based on the scenarios expressed through the lyrics and emotional landscapes created in three songs by Elvis Presley.

The songs, *Love Me Tender*; *I Want You, I Need You, I Love You*; and *Are You Lonesome Tonight?*, tell the story from the first meeting and the ecstatic passionate joy of new love, to the conflict and despair of separation as the lovers grow apart and go their separate ways.



Demis Volpi

CHOREOGRAPHER

Demis is from Argentina and trained at the Escuela de Danza del Instituto Superior de Arte del Teatro Colón, the National Ballet School of Canada and the John Cranko Schule in Stuttgart before joining the Stuttgart Ballet. He has created numerous successful works across the world and in 2020 was appointed Artistic Director and Chief Choreographer of Ballett am Rhein. *Little Monsters* was created in 2011 for the Erik Bruhn competition where it won the choreographic prize.

1984

(Countryside Pas de Deux)

Winston and Julia plan a secret meeting away from the omnipresent eyes of Big Brother. They travel to the countryside where they give in to their lust and begin a passionate love affair.



Jonathan Watkins

CHOREOGRAPHER

Jonathan trained at The Royal Ballet School and previously performed with The Royal Ballet. He began choreographing at a young age and has since gone on to create work worldwide. Most recently he directed a stage adaptation of Matt Haig's *Reasons to Stay Alive*, and his adaptation of *Kes*, based on Barry Hines' *A Kestrel for a Knave* achieved huge success on stage and screen.

JANE EYRE

(Proposal Pas de Deux)

Mr Rochester attempts to revive the intimacy with a hesitant Jane who believes he is engaged to another. He gently mocks her, encouraging her to unleash her jealousy and passion before proposing marriage.



Cathy Marston

CHOREOGRAPHER

Cathy Marston is a choreographer, Artistic Director and Clore Cultural Leadership Fellow. After education in Cambridge, she spent two years at The Royal Ballet School before launching a successful international career. She has a long history of working with Northern Ballet, previously creating *Dividing Silence* (2004) and *A Tale of Two Cities* (2008) before *Jane Eyre* (2016). Her most recent creation for Northern Ballet, *Victoria* (2019), was the winner of the 2020 South Bank Sky Arts Award for Dance.

STATES OF MIND

Created in 2020 and inspired by a collection of thoughts, feelings and news headlines, this work is an abstract response through movement to a selection of situations experienced during the global pandemic.



Kenneth Tindall

CHOREOGRAPHER

Kenneth trained at Central School of Ballet and performed with The Israel Ballet and K Ballet before joining Northern Ballet in 2003, becoming a Premier Dancer before retiring in 2015. He has created numerous successful works for Northern Ballet as well as directed many dance films for the Company's digital dance platform. Kenneth is increasingly in demand as a choreographer worldwide and most recently created work for Cape Town City Ballet and Milwaukee Ballet.

For a full biography visit northernballet.com/our-people

Production credits

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Production Manager | Steve Wilkins |
| Costume Supervisors | Kim Brassley Julie Anderson Carley Marsh |
| Costumes cut and made by | Julie Anderson Carley Marsh |
| Assisted by | Northern Ballet Wardrobe staff |
| Printed fabric by | L&S Prints, Keighley |
| Hair & Make-Up | Harriet Rogers |
| Pointe shoes by | Freed of London |

For an Instant

| | |
|--|---|
| Choreography & Costume Design | Amaury Lebrun |
| Music | Heinrich Ignaz Franz Biber Henry Purcell |
| Lighting Design | Alastair West |

Little Monsters

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Choreography | Demis Volpi |
| Music | Elvis Presley |
| Costume Design | Katharina Schlipf |
| Staged by | Daniel de Andrade |

1984

(Countryside Pas de Deux)

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Choreography | Jonathan Watkins |
| Music | Alex Baranowski |
| Costume Design | Simon Daw |
| Staged by | Daniel de Andrade |

Jane Eyre

(Proposal Pas de Deux)

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Choreography | Cathy Marston |
| Music | Philip Feeney |
| Costume Design | Patrick Kinmonth |
| Solo Piano | Andrew Dunlop |

States of Mind

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Choreography | Kenneth Tindall |
| Assistant | Christelle Horna |
| Music | Johann Sebastian Bach Jacob Ter Veldhuis Aretha Franklin |
| Sound Design | Neil Rigg |
| Costume Design | Hannah Bateman |
| Lighting Design | Alastair West |

A Lockdown Creation

Kenneth Tindall's *States of Mind* was our first original stage creation to take place entirely during lockdown in 2020 and premièred at Leeds Playhouse in October. Inspired by thoughts, feelings and experiences from the strangest of years, we caught up with Kenneth about the piece.

What was it like as an artist to have been totally locked down at the beginning of 2020 and unable to be in a studio?

There has been a full spectrum of feelings and emotions; and it was, and still is devastating. But the light in the dark is that adversity has always been a friend to creativity. New spaces and new ways of creating have presented themselves and our cognitive creativity is allowing us to excel in different and exciting ways. We have discovered totally different landscapes, virtual rooms and spaces that have become the playground for creation beyond the studios and stage.

Was *States of Mind* born of a need to translate your thoughts and feelings from lockdown into dance?

The truth of it is that whatever I made at that point would inevitably be layered and flavoured with those thoughts as I drew on my surroundings and subconscious to create, and the pandemic was our immediate reality.

In what ways was the creative process of *States of Mind* different to your previous creations because of the pandemic?

Bubbles, social distancing, masks and restricted time together were all very new and real parameters to navigate. The piece was created entirely adhering to these rules and the restrictions led to a very specific way of creating and casting. Some scenes were created with dancers rehearsing separately to mitigate the risks and they didn't see each other until the week of the première, and we really had to hope we'd calculated the spacing and counts exactly right. It was so strange to not see the piece as a whole until that late into the process, especially knowing that you couldn't do much about it at that point if it didn't turn out as imagined.

A huge positive for me was the intimacy and connection in the creation process as we were always working in small numbers, with limited time. This created a concentration, hunger and intensity in those special rehearsals.

Have there actually been benefits to come out of the pandemic in terms of creating space for the Company to be creative and produce more new stage and screen work?

We have developed in-house talent to a point where we are fully capable of capturing almost all the types of work we are currently producing. By identifying potential and up-skilling our people we have adapted and are now in some regards a small film production company.



The tour being cancelled has given us the gift of time and resources for the digital work and being able to shift the focus of our in-house departments onto the digital platform has lifted and enhanced every project. It's been wonderful watching our wardrobe and technical teams tackle the film world and push their own boundaries as film often offers possibilities not achievable on stage.

The same is true of the dancers who act intimately and extensively with the camera and deal with new environments, landscapes and spaces. To watch dance paint the streets and canvases of every space imaginable is a reminder of its beauty and resilience.

We've also seen international collaboration become a reality through such mediums as Zoom and our in-house capabilities mean that we can design and capture the content from our end. It's also hugely exciting that our digital work has now been integrated into the production schedule.

Are there aspects of this way of working you would like to see continue?

The inclusivity and relevance the digital platform can provide for us is invaluable. The platform really is a place where we can take risks and engage with a wide breadth of artists, makers and audiences. The ideas, passions and visions of these collaborative artists, mixed with our ethos and history, is a rich cultural exchange I hope to see grow and flourish. The possibilities are endlessly exciting and inspiring.

Zoom has enabled international collaboration to happen remotely and through these very special virtual rooms, we can now potentially create and offer more and varied opportunities as it's a financially viable model.

I never want to see live theatre replaced with digital, and I truly believe it can't be. Instead, I want them to work in conjunction with one another to reach and inspire as many people as possible.

Watch Northern Ballet's Digital Dance films at digitaldance.org

Northern
Ballet

WORLD PREMIÈRE

MERLIN

A BALLET BY DREW MCONIE
Music by Grant Olding

Nottingham
Theatre Royal
25 Sep – 2 Oct

Norwich
Theatre Royal
19 – 23 Oct

Leeds
Grand Theatre
9 – 20 Nov

Hull
New Theatre
12 – 16 Oct

Sheffield
Lyceum Theatre
2 – 6 Nov

Southampton
Mayflower Theatre
2 – 4 Dec

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Foundation**



Artistic Director David Nixon OBE



David Nixon has been Artistic Director of Northern Ballet since 2001.

David trained as a dancer, first in his hometown of Chatham, Ontario and then at the National Ballet School of Canada where his training began in earnest. It was during his time there that he first became interested in choreography, helping to revive a choreographic workshop with the approval of school director Betty Oliphant. After further training in Europe he returned to Canada to train with Erik Bruhn and the great Russian teacher, Eugene Valukin.

David's career began at the National Ballet of Canada where he progressed rapidly through the ranks to become a Principal Dancer, dancing lead roles in the classical and contemporary repertoire. In 1985 he joined the Deutsche Oper Ballet in Berlin as Principal Dancer where he won the Critics' Award for Best Male Performance (1987) and continued to increase his own choreographic output. This included producing and directing the successful mixed programme, *David Nixon's Liaisons*, at the Hebbel Theatre, Berlin in 1990.

David left Berlin for a series of Principal Guest Artist positions with National Ballet of Canada, Bayerisches Staatsballett, Munich and Royal Winnipeg Ballet before returning to Deutsche Opera Ballet in 1994 as First Ballet Master. His Guest Artist credits also include: Birmingham Royal Ballet; Komische Oper; Deutsche Staatsoper; Hamburg Ballet; and Sydney City Ballet.

In 1994 David became Artistic Director of BalletMet in Columbus, Ohio, USA. During his six years with the Company, he added 16 world and 15 company premières to the repertoire.

Since joining Northern Ballet, David has added an impressive array of new works to the repertoire including: *Madame Butterfly* (nominated for an MEN Award); *Wuthering Heights*; *I Got Rhythm*; *Swan Lake*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (nominated for an Olivier Award and MEN Award); *Peter Pan*; *Dracula*;

The Three Musketeers (winner of MEN Award and nominated for an Olivier Award); *A Sleeping Beauty Tale*; *The Nutcracker*; *Hamlet*; *Cleopatra*; *Beauty & the Beast*; *The Great Gatsby* (nominated for a Critics' Circle National Dance Award and UK Theatre Award); *Cinderella* (nominated for a Manchester Theatre Award); *The Little Mermaid* (winner of a BroadwayWorld UK Award); and several short works. His adaptation of *Dracula* became Northern Ballet's first performance to be broadcast live in cinemas on Halloween 2019.

David's productions have been staged worldwide including Europe, Canada, the USA and South Africa. Most recently he reproduced *The Great Gatsby* for West Australian Ballet in 2017.

In 2020, David's choreography featured on primetime television on BBC One's *The Greatest Dancer*.

David was voted Director of the Year by readers of Dance Europe in 2003 and 2006, and in 2018 was awarded the Ken McCarter Award for Distinguished National Ballet School Alumni by Canada's National Ballet School.

Under his directorship Northern Ballet has also won several awards: Critics' Circle National Dance Awards (Audience Award) 2004, 2005 and 2006; Critics' Circle National Dance Awards (Patron's Award) 2009; Taglioni European Ballet Awards (Best Company) 2014; South Bank Sky Arts Awards (Dance Award) 2016 for 1984 and 2020 for *Victoria*; UK Theatre Awards (Achievement in Dance) 2018. Northern Ballet has also been nominated for many prestigious awards: South Bank Sky Arts Awards (Dance Award 2017) for *Jane Eyre*; UK Theatre Awards (Achievement in Dance) 2016; and the Critics' Circle National Dance Awards (Outstanding Company) 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

In January 2010 David was awarded an OBE for his services to dance in The Queen's New Year Honours List.

The Dancers - Our Collaborative Artists



Miki Akuta
JUNIOR SOLOIST

Miki is from Fukuoka in Japan and joined Northern Ballet in 2014. She trained at Kazuko Sugihara Ballet Art in Japan and Académie Princesse Grace in Monte Carlo.



Sean Bates
FIRST SOLOIST

Sean is from Milton Keynes. He trained at The Royal Ballet School and joined Northern Ballet in 2012.

Sponsor Clive & Virginia Lloyd



Harris Beattie
DANCER

Harris trained at Danscentre in Aberdeen and Central School of Ballet. In 2017 he won the Gold Medal at the Genée International Ballet Competition. He previously performed with Ballet Central and joined Northern Ballet in 2018.

Sponsor Christine & Peter Farmer



Helen Bogatch
DANCER

Helen is from Tallinn. She trained at Tallinn Ballet School and later danced with Estonian National Ballet. She joined Northern Ballet in 2018.

Sponsor Kate & Andrew Fisher



Alessandra Bramante
DANCER

Alessandra is from Siracusa, Italy. She trained with the ASDC Dietro le Quinte in Catania, Il Balletto di Castelfranco Veneto and the John Cranko School in Stuttgart. She joined Northern Ballet in 2019.



Wesley Branch
DANCER

Wesley was born and raised in East London. He trained at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts and English National Ballet School. Past performance experience includes works by Kenneth MacMillan, Didi Veldman and Wayne Eagling. He joined Northern Ballet in 2019.



Antoinette Brooks-Daw
PREMIER DANCER

Antoinette is from Somerset and joined Northern Ballet in 2008. She trained at The Trull School of Dancing in Taunton and was a Junior Associate of The Royal Ballet School before joining The Royal Ballet School (Lower and Upper Schools).



Sarah Chun
FIRST SOLOIST

Sarah is from Chicago, Illinois and trained at the Faubourg School of Ballet and The Joffrey Ballet Academy of Chicago. She previously danced with Oklahoma City Ballet and Kansas City Ballet. She has won awards placing second and third at the Youth America Grand Prix in Chicago. She joined Northern Ballet in 2016.

Sponsor Bernard Eke



Filippo Di Vilio
JUNIOR SOLOIST

Filippo is from Vinci in Italy and joined Northern Ballet in 2014. He trained at Teatro alla Scala Ballet School in Milan, St. Carlo Ballet School in Naples, English National Ballet School and the Academy of Northern Ballet's Professional Graduate Programme.

Sponsor Jane & Alan Foale



Ashley Dixon
PRINCIPAL SOLOIST

Ashley is from Hull and trained at Central School of Ballet. He joined Northern Ballet in 2004.



Sara Dos Remedios
APPRENTICE

Sara was born in England and raised in Barcelona. She trained at the Professional Dance Conservatoire in Barcelona, EESA/CPD Institut del Teatre and at the Ecole Supérieure de Danse Rosella Hightower in Cannes, France. She completed her training on the Academy of Northern Ballet's Professional Graduate Programme and joined Northern Ballet in 2020.



Rachael Gillespie
FIRST SOLOIST

Rachael is from Swindon and joined Northern Ballet in 2007. She trained with the Judith Hockaday School and Central School of Ballet. Her previous companies include Scottish Ballet and Ballet Central.

Sponsor Louise & Philip Keller



Albert Gonzalez Orts
DANCER

Albert is from Valencia in Spain. He trained at Estudio de Danza María Carbonell in Valencia, the École Atelier Rudra Béjart in Lausanne and the Academy of Northern Ballet's Professional Graduate Programme. He joined Northern Ballet in 2019.

Sponsor Andy & Kath Barff



Jonathan Hanks
SOLOIST

Jonathan is from Gloucester and trained at Linda Virgoe's Dance Studio and The Royal Ballet School (Lower and Upper Schools). He danced with the Estonian National Ballet before joining Northern Ballet in 2016.

Sponsor Bernard Eke



Riku Ito
FIRST SOLOIST

Riku is from Yokohama, Japan and trained at Yumi Kitamori Ballet Studio and The Hamburg Ballet School. He joined Northern Ballet in 2014.

Sponsor Kyla & Andy Mullins



Minju Kang
FIRST SOLOIST

Minju is from Seoul, South Korea. She trained at Seoul Arts High School, Korea National Institute for the Gifted in Arts and The Hamburg Ballet School. She previously performed with Bundesjugendballett for two years before joining Northern Ballet in 2016.

Sponsor Linda & John Topott



Natalia Kerner
DANCER

Natalia is from Salvador-Bahia in Brazil. She trained at Ebateca School of Ballet in Brazil and at Académie Princesse Grace in Monte Carlo. In 2014 she performed with The Norwegian National Ballet in *The Nutcracker*. She joined Northern Ballet in 2015.

Sponsor Dean Eggleston



Sena Kitano
DANCER

Sena is from Osaka in Japan and trained at Soda Ballet School in Japan and the Dutch National Ballet Academy in Amsterdam. She joined Northern Ballet in 2020.

The Dancers - Our Collaborative Artists



Matthew Koon
FIRST SOLOIST

Matthew is from Manchester. He trained as an Associate of the Academy of Northern Ballet before taking up full-time vocational training at English National Ballet School. He joined Northern Ballet in 2013.

Sponsor Neil Eckersley



Mlindi Kulashe
LEADING SOLOIST

Mlindi is from Cape Town, South Africa where he trained at the Cape Town City Ballet and Cape Junior Ballet School. He completed his training at English National Ballet School. He has performed with Cape Town City Ballet and was awarded a Bronze Medal at the 2011 Genée International Ballet Competition. He joined Northern Ballet in 2013.

Sponsor Paul & Diane Cusworth



Kyungka Kwak
DANCER

Kyungka is from Seoul, South Korea and trained with the Sunhwa Arts School and Ewha Womans University. Her previous companies include Universal Ballet Company, Korea. She joined Northern Ballet in 2018.



Dominique Larose
FIRST SOLOIST

Dominique was born in San Francisco, California and trained at the Ayako School of Ballet, Tanz Akademie Zürich and the Academy of Northern Ballet's Professional Graduate Programme. She joined Northern Ballet in 2014.



Heather Lehan
DANCER

Heather is from Kitchener in Ontario, Canada. She trained at Canada's National Ballet School and joined Northern Ballet in 2017.

Sponsor Mr Jolyon & Mrs Carol Harrison



George Liang
DANCER

George is from Taipei, Taiwan and trained with the New Zealand School of Dance, Canada's National Ballet School and I Shin Dance Studio. He previously danced with The National Ballet of Canada and joined Northern Ballet in 2018.



Harriet Marden
DANCER

Harriet was born in Rochford, Essex and raised in Bournemouth. She trained at the Jo Heynes Performing Arts School in Bournemouth and at Central School of Ballet before joining the Academy of Northern Ballet's Professional Graduate Programme. She joined Northern Ballet in 2015.



Greig Matthews
FIRST SOLOIST

Greig is from Aberdeen and trained at The Lamour School of Dance in Aberdeen, The Dance School of Scotland and The Royal Ballet Upper School. He previously danced with Vienna State Ballet and The Joffrey Ballet in Chicago before joining Northern Ballet in 2021.



Gavin McCaig
JUNIOR SOLOIST

Gavin is from Motherwell near Glasgow and trained at The Dance School of Scotland and English National Ballet School. He joined Northern Ballet in 2014.

Sponsor The Sterry Family Foundation



Charlotte McKay
DANCER

Charlotte is from Rossland in British Columbia, Canada and trained at Canada's National Ballet School. She joined Northern Ballet in 2020.



Aerys Merrill
DANCER

Aerys Merrill is from Richmond, Virginia and studied with Richmond Ballet through high school. Aerys later attended the University of North Carolina School of the Arts receiving a B.F.A in Ballet Performance. Aerys previously danced with Atlanta Ballet in their second company and with Ballet Memphis before joining Northern Ballet in 2020.



Ayami Miyata
LEADING SOLOIST

Ayami was born in Shiga, Japan and trained at Jun Ballet Gakuen, Japan and Académie Princesse Grace in Monte Carlo. She joined Northern Ballet in 2009 and performed with Ballet Ireland and Singapore Dance Theatre, before rejoining Northern Ballet in 2014.

Sponsor Louise & Philip Keller



Matthew Morrell
DANCER

Matthew is from Manchester and trained at Central School of Ballet and the Academy of Northern Ballet's Professional Graduate Programme. He joined Northern Ballet in 2018.

Sponsor Neil Eckersley



Julie Nunès
DANCER

Julie is from La Ciotat in France and trained at the National Dance School in Marseille and Central School of Ballet. Upon graduation, she joined the Academy of Northern Ballet's Professional Graduate Programme. She was part of the corps de ballet in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*, Stockholm and joined Northern Ballet in 2018.



Leandro Olcese
APPRENTICE

Leandro was born in Brazil and raised in Italy. He trained at Spazio Danza Cicagna in Italy and English National Ballet School. He joined Northern Ballet in 2019.



Aurora Piccininni
DANCER

Aurora is from Italy. She trained at the Conservatory of Valencia and on the Professional Graduate Programme at the Academy of Northern Ballet. She joined Northern Ballet in 2019.



Kevin Poeung
FIRST SOLOIST

Kevin is from Montpellier in France. He joined Northern Ballet in 2012 having trained at English National Ballet School.

Sponsor Russell Race



Abigail Prudames
PRINCIPAL SOLOIST

Abigail is from Harrogate in North Yorkshire and joined Northern Ballet in 2011. She trained at The Royal Ballet Lower School and Elmhurst School for Dance (Upper School).

Sponsor The Sterry Family Foundation

The Dancers - Our Collaborative Artists



Mariana Rodrigues
JUNIOR SOLOIST

Mariana is from Lisbon, Portugal and trained at the National Conservatory Dance School in Lisbon and at The Royal Ballet School. She joined Northern Ballet in 2012.

Sponsor Patricia Swallow



Bruno Serraclara
DANCER

Bruno is from Barcelona and started dancing at Escola de Dansa Marisa Yudes in Barcelona at age eight before continuing his training at Académie Princesse Grace in Monte Carlo from 2015 until 2020. He joined Northern Ballet in 2020.



Archie Sherman
APPRENTICE

Archie is from Kent and trained at Hilton Hall Dance Academy before joining The Royal Ballet School. He joined Northern Ballet in 2020.

Sponsor Stephen Griffith MBE



Joseph Taylor
LEADING SOLOIST

Joseph is from Skegness, Lincolnshire. He trained at the Janice Sutton Theatre School and Elmhurst School for Dance (Upper School). He joined Northern Ballet in 2012.

Sponsor Patricia Swallow



Andrew Tomlinson
DANCER

Andrew was born in Leeds and trained on the Academy of Northern Ballet's Centre for Advanced Training Programme and at Canada's National Ballet School. He previously performed with The National Ballet of Canada and joined Northern Ballet in 2017.



Matthew Topliss
SOLOIST

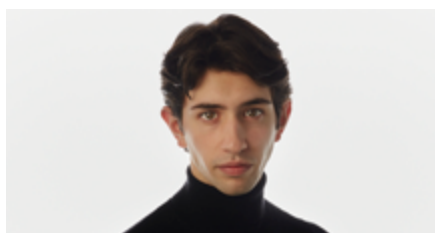
Matthew was born in Boston, Lincolnshire. He is a graduate of the Academy of Northern Ballet's Centre for Advanced Training programme and continued his training at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. He joined Northern Ballet in 2012.

Sponsor Jo McLaren



Javier Torres
PREMIER DANCER

Javier is from Cuba and trained at the National Ballet School of Havana. He previously performed with Ballet Nacional de Cuba and also performs regularly as a guest artist. He joined Northern Ballet in 2010 and was nominated for Best Male Dancer at the 2018 National Dance Awards. He is a member of the International Dance Council CID, UNESCO and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



Lorenzo Trossello
SOLOIST

Lorenzo is from Crova, Italy. He trained at Teatro alla Scala Ballet School in Milan and at The Royal Ballet School before joining Northern Ballet in 2016.



Sarah Chun and Kyungka Kwak in *States of Mind*.
Photo Emma Kauldhar.

Music Staff



Jonathan Lo

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Hong Kong-born Briton Jonathan Lo is Music Director of Northern Ballet, Staff Conductor of the Royal Ballet, Covent Garden, and Principal Conductor of the New Bristol Sinfonia and the Haffner Orchestra. Jonathan was a BBC Performing Arts Conducting Fellow with Birmingham Royal Ballet and has returned every season since as a guest conductor. Other highlights include: Dutch National Ballet; Scottish Ballet; Rambert; BBC Philharmonic; and the London Sinfonietta. He was a Jette Parker Young Artist at the Royal Opera House and was Principal Guest Conductor with the Xi'an Symphony Orchestra in China. Jonathan read Music at Oxford University before studying conducting at the Royal Northern College of Music.



Daniel Parkinson

ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR

Daniel was appointed Associate Conductor of Northern Ballet in 2019 following several years as the Company's Assistant Music Director. He combines this role with a busy freelance career, most notably as a regular guest conductor for Scottish Ballet. In 2020, Daniel brought together a group of friends to record Copland's *Appalachian Spring Suite* in aid of Help Musicians, whose support for musicians through the coronavirus crisis has been vital. Daniel studied Orchestral Conducting at the Royal Northern College of Music with Clark Rundell and Mark Heron.



Ellie Slorach

GUEST CONDUCTOR

Based in Manchester, in 2021-22 Ellie will be the Assistant Conductor for the Orchestre Philharmonique Royal de Liège. She will also make her debut with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir for a world première performance and with Northern Opera Group as part of the Leeds Opera Festival. In 2020-21 Ellie conducted the BBC Singers in recording, London Sinfonietta in workshop and participated in conducting sessions with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House. In 2019-20 Ellie was the Musical Director of the Hallé Youth Orchestra and made several appearances with the Hallé Orchestra. In 2015, Ellie founded Kantos Chamber Choir, putting on innovative concerts and rising to the fore of the choral scene in the North of the UK.



Geoffrey Allan

ORCHESTRA LEADER

Born in Scotland, Geoffrey studied with the great violinist Nathan Milstein. Leader for the orchestras of Scottish Ballet and the new D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, he has guest-led for: Welsh National Opera; English National Ballet; Vancouver Symphony Orchestra; Ulster Orchestra; Orchestre de la Suisse Romande; and the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, with whom he has broadcast concertos by Tchaikovsky and Lalo for the BBC.



Andrew Dunlop

COMPANY PIANIST

Andrew received his doctorate as a Fulbright Scholar from the Eastman School of Music (New York) after gaining his MMus and BMus at the RNCM on full scholarship. He has performed across Europe and USA, teaches piano for Leeds Conservatoire and Yorkshire Young Musicians and is an examiner for ABRSM. Andrew recently released his first album, *Dithis*, with his sister Gaelic Singer Joy Dunlop.



Ewan Gilford

COMPANY PIANIST

Ewan trained at Leeds College of Music and the Royal Northern College of Music where he was a Sir John Fisher Foundation Répétiteur Junior Fellow. He has worked with RNCM and the Halle Youth Choirs and Orchestra. He is Musical Director for Opera On Location and supports outreach work with Liverpool Philharmonic and Live Music Now.

For full biographies please visit northernballet.com/our-people

Northern Ballet Sinfonia

Northern Ballet believes that live music enhances performance and is committed to music being played live for almost all of its productions. Northern Ballet Sinfonia travel the length and breadth of the UK with the Company playing for over 100 performances every year.

The full Sinfonia is made up of 27 players and is available to play concerts and performances outside the main tour.

If you would like to book the Sinfonia for a concert or to find out more about workshops or recordings, please contact:

info@northernballet.com
0113 220 8000

Sinfonia Supporters

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Rebecca Smith*
Raimonda Koço
Katy Barnes*

2nd Violin

Winona Fifield
Ian Flower
Laura Concar
Kay Stephen*
Gavin Davies*

Viola

Rosalyn Cabot
Hannah Horton
Lynne Baker*

Cello

Sasha Volpov
Toby Turton
Julia Morneweg*

Double Bass

Hannah Turnbull*
Katy Furmanski*

Flute

Tom Hancox
Helena Gourd*

Bassoon

Paul Boyes

Harpsichord

Andrew Dunlop

*Guest/Extra



Minju Kang and Riku Ito in *For an Instant*.
Photo Emma Kauldhar.

Ballet Staff



Daniel de Andrade

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE

Daniel is from Brazil and danced with National Ballet of Portugal, London City Ballet, Zurich Ballet and Scottish Ballet before joining Northern Ballet as Principal Artist in 1995 where he performed and created roles until joining the artistic team in 2003. He has also worked as a guest with companies across the world. As a choreographer he has created many short works and children's ballets for Northern Ballet, as well as *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*. He created two full-length ballets for Slovak National Ballet, most recently *Chaplin, The Tramp* in 2019. He was awarded the 2011/12 Dance Fellowship on the Clore Leadership Programme where he was mentored by Wayne McGregor and seconded to Sadler's Wells.



Yoko Ichino

REHEARSAL DIRECTOR &
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF ACADEMY

Yoko was born in Los Angeles where she trained with Mia Slavenska. Her previous companies include American Ballet Theatre, The National Ballet of Canada, Stuttgart Ballet and Joffrey Ballet. She also performed for numerous companies as a guest across the globe and danced opposite such artists as Rudolf Nureyev, Helgi Tómasson, Anthony Dowell and Fernando Bujones. Yoko was the Director of the Professional Training Programme at BalletMet (1996 – 2001) and has been invited to be a guest teacher with schools and companies around the world.



Christelle Horna

REHEARSAL DIRECTOR

Born in France, Christelle trained at the Paris Opera School and with Marika Besobrasova in Monaco. She was a Principal Dancer at the Ballet de l'Opera de Nice, France until joining the Compañía Nacional de Danza, Spain as a Principal Dancer under the direction of Nacho Duato. She has worked with numerous world-renowned choreographers and is a graduate of the State Teaching Diploma of Dance in France. She has worked widely as an Associate Director, Teacher and Rehearsal Director and is regularly invited to teach masterclasses and give repertory workshops.

For full biographies visit northernballet.com/our-people



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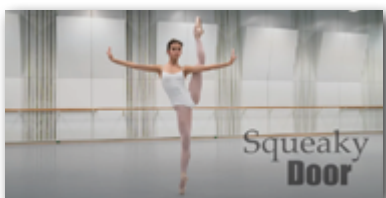
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