

**For Immediate Release**

**10 December 2020**

## **Northern Ballet wins at the South Bank Sky Arts Awards**



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Northern Ballet is delighted to have won the dance award at the South Bank Sky Arts Awards for its production of *Victoria*. Presented at a socially-distanced ceremony at the London Coliseum on Wednesday, Northern Ballet was nominated alongside Ballet Black and Matthew Bourne's *New Adventures*. The awards will be televised on Sky Arts, Freeview channel 11, at 8pm on Sunday 20 December.

Recognising British achievements in the arts since 1996, the South Bank Sky Arts Awards are unique in celebrating the arts in their entirety, including; dance, opera, comedy, TV drama, literature, classical music, pop, film, visual art and theatre.

Northern Ballet's *Victoria* premiered in Leeds in March 2019 before embarking on a national tour. The production, choreographed by Cathy Marston, is a co-production with The National Ballet of Canada and has previously been screened on BBC Four and in cinemas nationally.

*Victoria* is currently available to purchase on DVD and Blu-Ray at [northernballet.com/victoria](http://northernballet.com/victoria).

Northern Ballet's Artistic Director David Nixon OBE, said: 'It is an incredible honour to have won the dance award at the South Bank Sky Arts Awards this year. Northern Ballet is about creativity and nurturing talent – resulting in the captivating and original performances we bring to audiences across the UK, like *Victoria*, through both the stage and the screen. This award is a significant recognition of the quality and innovation of our productions, the high standard achieved by all of our performing artists and the excellence of our creative team.'

Choreographer Cathy Marston said: 'I'm incredibly excited and honoured that *Victoria* has received the dance award at the South Bank Sky Arts Awards. Creating the work was such an inspiring challenge and the result of incredible teamwork from all concerned. I want to thank and celebrate this recognition with David Nixon, Mark Skipper, the dancers and all at Northern Ballet as well as my creative team - Philip Feeney (Composer), Steffen Aarfing (Designer), Uzma Hameed (Co-scenario writer with me), Alastair West (Lighting designer) and Jenny Tattersall (my choreographic collaborator).'

To find out more about Northern Ballet's upcoming work, please visit [northernballet.com](http://northernballet.com)

**-ENDS-**

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### **Notes to Editors**

#### Northern Ballet

Northern Ballet is one of the UK's leading ballet companies and the widest touring ballet company in the UK. Bold and innovative in its approach, Northern Ballet is prolific at creating new full-length work with a unique blend of strong classical technique and impressive storytelling. Northern Ballet's repertoire embraces popular culture and takes inspiration from

literature, legend, opera and the classics, pushing the boundaries of what stories can be told through dance.

A champion for the cultural exports of the North, Leeds-based Northern Ballet is dedicated to bringing ballet to as many people and places as possible, under the leadership of Artistic Director David Nixon OBE. Northern Ballet's Company of 43 dancers performs a combination of its full-length ballets and specially created ballets for children at more than 40 venues annually.

For more details of Northern Ballet's tour, on sale dates and booking information, please visit [northernballet.com/whatson](http://northernballet.com/whatson)

### Sky Arts

As the UK's only dedicated Arts channel, Sky Arts exists to bring more art to more people across the UK. By throwing open the doors to make the channel free to air, they want to increase access to and participation in the arts.

Offering something for everyone, whatever their passion, Sky Arts showcases the best of classical and popular music, theatre, opera, dance and the visual arts, as well as original drama and comedy.



Photo Emma Kauldhar.