



Sadler's Wells

Autumn/Winter 2018/2019

A message from Alistair Spalding

As we reach the second half of 2018 and mark the 20th anniversary of our current building, it is a good time to reflect on our past achievements and hopes for the future. I believe the 20 new works we are bringing to our stage throughout the year aptly encapsulate what sits at the heart of Sadler's Wells. We exist to enable artists of all backgrounds to develop their practice and share a rich variety of different aesthetics, styles and stories on our stages, while our role as an international dance producer and creator of touring work ensures that their work reaches the widest possible audience.

From our Young Associates presenting their first professional creations to the Company of Elders demonstrating dance's contribution to wellbeing in later life, via emerging choreographic voices like Julie Cunningham, Alesandra Seutin and Botis Seva tackling socio-political issues in *Reckonings*, and established dance-makers such as our Associate Artist Jasmin Vardimon examining gender bias and climate change – these productions stem from our unwavering belief in, and backing of, the creative powers of a diverse pool of artists at every stage of their career.

It is only by supporting a broad range of outward-looking and internationally-minded dance makers that we can expand and diversify the pipeline of talent who will create the groundbreaking productions of the future – and that we can ultimately offer our audiences dance that authentically reflects and responds to their experience and the world around us.

Thank you for choosing to be part of our history in the last two decades. Here's to the next 20 years and all the innovative, moving and enlightening perspectives we will keep bringing to our stages through the unparalleled medium of dance.

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Romeo and Juliet

Tuesday 12 & Wednesday 13 June

Tue & Wed at 7.30pm

Wed at 2pm

£12 - £45, £12 - £35 (Wed matinee)

Kenneth MacMillian's visceral masterpiece returns to Sadler's Wells for the first time since 2010.

Woven into the famous tragedy of two young lovers, caught in the midst of an erupting feud between their noble families, are some of the most beautiful and ardent pas de deux ever choreographed. All set to the stirring Prokofiev score, played live by the Royal Ballet Sinfonia.

★★★★★ "Irresistible passion ending in glorious tragedy"
Daily Express

Birmingham Royal Ballet
Polarity & Proximity
Kin. / Embrace / In the Upper Room
Friday 15 & Saturday 16 June

Fri & Sat at 7.30pm
Sat at 2.30pm

£12 - £45

Pre-show talk: Sat at 6.30pm
(Free to BRB Friends and same-day ticket holders)

In an exhilarating mixed programme, Twyla Tharp's monochrome *In the Upper Room* is set ablaze by energetic choreography and red pointe shoes, the virtuosity of ballet technique is glorified by Sadler's Wells New Wave Associate and former Birmingham Royal Ballet dancer Alexander Whitley in *Kin.* and the programme is completed by the world premiere of George Williamson's *Embrace*.

"Dazzling. If your pulse isn't racing, check you have one"
The Guardian on *In the Upper Room*

Semperoper Ballett

All Forsythe

Thursday 21 - Saturday 23 June

Thu - Sat at 7.30pm

£12 - £27

In a triple bill dedicated to William Forsythe, Semperoper Ballett's dancers blend their fierce ballet technique with the choreographer's visionary work.

Opening the programme is the electrifying *In the Middle*, *Somewhat Elevated*, Forsythe's masterpiece which jolted ballet into a new age. A series of pas de deux, choreographed over a span of 12 years, make up *Neue Suite*. *While Enemy in the Figure* sees 11 dancers illuminated by a single spotlight.

Nederlands Dans Theater 1
León & Lightfoot / Pite / Goecke

Tuesday 26 - Friday 29 June

Tue - Fri at 7.30pm

£12 - £40



Audio Described performance: Fri at 7.30pm

Sadler's Wells Patrons' Event: Tue

In an evening showcasing "one of world dance's truly great companies" (Daily Telegraph), NDT1 brings the work of their house choreographers, Sol León and Paul Lightfoot, in *Shoot the Moon* and *Stop-Motion*, alongside two of their associate choreographers. Marco Goecke draws on the music of Jeff Buckley in *Woke up Blind*, while Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Crystal Pite reunites with playwright Jonathon Young for *The Statement*.

"Nederlands Dans Theater reinvents the art form"
Daily Telegraph

Hofesh Shechter Company

Grand Finale

Wednesday 4 - Saturday 7 July

Wed - Sat at 7.30pm

£12 - £32

Age guidance: 14+

Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Hofesh Shechter revives his vision of a world in freefall in the bleak and beautiful Grand Finale, following its 2017 triumph.

Ten dancers summon a world at odds with itself, full of anarchic energy and violent comedy, against the monolithic structures of Tom Scutt's design. Shechter's pulsating music is played live by the on-stage band.

★★★★ "Heart-stopping. Shechter's [Grand] Finale has arrived with a bang" Financial Times

L-E-V

Love Chapter 2

Friday 13 & Saturday 14 July

UK PREMIERE

Fri & Sat at 7.30pm

£20

In its 2016 Sadler's Wells Debut, the Israeli company's depiction of floundering affection, *OCD Love*, enraptured audiences. Back with *Love Chapter 2*, Sadler's Wells' newest Associate Artist Sharon Eyal and Gai Behar exercise their trademark club-like atmosphere with a score by music collaborator Ori Lichtik, to build on those themes of loneliness, despair and the search for connection.

"A tasty blend of ancient and modern"

Financial Times on *OCD Love*

Company Wayne McGregor
Autobiography

Thursday 26 - Saturday 28 July

Thu - Sat at 7.30pm

£12 - £32

Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Wayne McGregor delves into the archive of his own body and genome to create a collection of choreographic volumes which are algorithmically-assembled in a unique order at each performance.

McGregor is joined by designer Ben Cullen-Williams, lighting designer Lucy Carter, artist Aitor Throup and dramaturg Uzma Hameed. Electronic musician Jlin performs live alongside Sadler's Wells Resident Company, Company Wayne McGregor.

★★★★★ "Mesmerisingly good" The Guardian

Carmen La Cubana

Wednesday 1 - Saturday 18 August

UK PREMIERE

Tue - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm

Sun at 2pm & 7pm

Wed 8 & 15 at 2.30pm

£15 - £68



Audio Described performance: Sat 11 at 2.30pm

Touch Tour at 12.45pm

Carmen La Cubana is a sizzling new musical featuring Bizet's classic score flavoured with authentic Cuban styles, set against the simmering turmoil of revolution in Cuba, 1958. Inspired by Oscar Hammerstein II's Broadway hit Carmen Jones, Christopher Renshaw (The King and I) directs this UK premiere, with orchestrations by Tony and Olivier Award-winner Alex Lacamoire (Hamilton) and a cast of over 40 singers, dancers and musicians.

★★★★ "Hugely enjoyable and sexy. A fantastic adaptation"

Le Parisien

Natalia Osipova**Pure Dance**

Wednesday 12 - Sunday 16 September

WORLD PREMIERE

Wed - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm

Sun at 4pm

£12 - £60

Sadler's Wells Patrons' Event: Wed

Superstar ballerina Natalia Osipova brings together a hand-picked programme from classical ballet and contemporary repertoire, featuring a very special guest.

American Ballet Theatre principal David Hallberg will join Osipova in Antony Tudor's *Leaves Are Fading*, and a brand new work by Alexei Ratmansky that has been specially commissioned.

The evening also includes Israeli choreographer Roy Assaf's *Six Years Later* and a new work by Iván Pérez created for this programme.

A Sadler's Wells production

English National Ballet

Lest We Forget

Thursday 20 - Saturday 29 September

Mon - Sat at 7.30pm

Fri 21 & Thu 27 at 2pm

Sat at 2.30pm

£12 - £60

100 years after the First World War finally ended, English National Ballet revive their "moving and ambitious" (The Independent) triptych, recognising those who fought, and those who stayed behind.

Featuring work by two Sadler's Wells Associate Artists: Russell Maliphant's *Second Breath* and the award-winning *Dust* by Akram Khan, as well as Liam Scarlett's *No Man's Land*.

★★★★ "True to its title – it stays with you long after curtain-down"
Daily Telegraph

William Forsythe

A Quiet Evening of Dance

Thursday 4 - Saturday 6 October

Thu - Sat at 7.30pm

£12 - £27

One of the foremost choreographers of his generation, William Forsythe imagines something akin to an evening of chamber music in this convergence of new and existing work.

Designed to be listened to, the intricate phrasing of the dancers' breath is the primary accompaniment for this distillation of the geometric origins of classical ballet.

Seven of Forsythe's most trusted collaborators reunite in this full length evening of work for the first time since 2015.

A Sadler's Wells production

Julie Cunningham / Alesandra Seutin / Botis Seva
Reckonings

Thursday 11 - Saturday 13 October

WORLD PREMIERE

Thu - Sat at 7.30pm

£20

Sadler's Wells Patrons' Event: Thu



Free post-show talk: Thu

Sadler's Wells commissions three works from a new generation of UK-based dance-makers.

Julie Cunningham, whose work is concerned with gender identity, has recently launched her own company after dancing with Merce Cunningham and Michael Clark's companies. Alesandra Seutin fuses urban dance languages with African styles to explore contemporary issues. While Botis Seva, from collective Far From the Norm, uses foundations of hip hop to create his own physical dance language.

This is an exciting celebration of what theatres do best: offer a springboard for distinctive voices who help us see the world in a different light.

A Sadler's Wells production

Jasmin Vardimon Company

Medusa

Monday 22 - Wednesday 24 October

Mon - Wed at 7.30pm

£12 - £32

Now in its 20th anniversary year, Jasmin Vardimon Company celebrates with a brand new production *Medusa*: a reflection on the powerful feminine symbol, the myth and its various connotations in our contemporary life.

Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Jasmin Vardimon's work looks at the gendered historical significance and the philosophical idea of "reflection" associated with the snake-haired gorgon.

Created on and inspired by the coast of Spain, where the word "medusa" means jellyfish, it also explores what environmental fate awaits our seas.

Bringing together a remarkable international cast, Vardimon shows off her highly physical choreographic style in this epic theatrical piece.

Part of Season for Change, a UK-wide programme of cultural responses celebrating the environment and inspiring urgent action on climate change.

Artist focus: Dimitris Papaioannou

The writer Mark Getlein professed that one of the purposes of an artist was to “help see the world in new ways.” Showing us the new, in original ways, drives many artists, but rarely has one had so many ‘firsts’ attached to their name as Dimitris Papaioannou.

Athens-born Papaioannou is the first choreographer to create a full-length piece for Pina Bausch’s company following her death. A remarkable honour that came on the heels of his creation of the opening ceremony for the inaugural European Games, held in Baku, and *Nowhere*, which opened the newly renovated National Theatre of Greece.

A list of accomplishments that’s even more astonishing considering that Papaioannou started his dance company by accident. Trained as an artist, and already the author of several comic books, he was introduced to dance in New York. On his return, he demonstrated for a friend some of the experimental techniques he had picked up. Impressed, she became his company’s co-founder. Edafos Dance Theatre produced 17 works by Papaioannou in its 16-year lifespan, before being disbanded in 2002.

International prominence came following his creative direction of the 2004 Olympic Opening Ceremony in Athens, in which he mixed elements from the ancient Olympiads with mythology and Greek history. The ceremony was a tremendous success, and went on to win an Emmy.

Papaioannou’s Sadler’s Wells debut comes in the form of his Homer inspired, *The Great Tamer* as part of *Dance Umbrella* (see page 17), to be followed up by his new creation for Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch (see page 29).

Dimitris Papaioannou

The Great Tamer

Tuesday 16 & Wednesday 17 October

UK PREMIERE

Tue & Wed at 7.30pm

£12 - £27

Contains nudity



Meet the Artist with Dimitris Papaioannou and Emma Gladstone. Free post-show talk: Tue

Trained at the Athens School of Fine Arts, Dimitris Papaioannou draws on the Greek classics and his visual arts background in this investigation of life and death.

Inspired by the words of Homer and the work of the old masters, from El Greco to Rembrandt, Papaioannou builds macabre still lifes, dreamlike images and nightmarish creations with ten performers, his magical stagecraft and the shifting floor.

Papaioannou's return to Dance Umbrella, following Primal Matter in 2016, marks his first work to be performed at Sadler's Wells.

"Exquisite food for the senses. Addictive to the eye" El País

Part of Dance Umbrella

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Fire & Fury

Tuesday 30 & Wednesday 31 October

Tue & Wed at 7.30pm

Wed at 2pm

£12 - £45, £25 (Wed matinee)

Pre-show talk: Wed at 6.30pm (Free to BRB Friends and same-day ticket holders)

Journey back to the origins of ballet in *The King Dances*, and glimpse the kindling of its future when David Bintley reimagines ballet's first searing steps, taken by King Louis XIV of France as he danced the role of the sun god.

In his new work for the company, Juanjo Arqués draws inspiration from Turner's *The Burning of the House of Lords and Commons* in a ballet that looks at contemporary political conflict.

"A regal performance with heart and dazzle"
The Guardian on *The King Dances*

Birmingham Royal Ballet**La Fille mal gardée****(The Wayward Daughter)**

Thursday 1 - Saturday 3 November

Thu - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm

£12 – £45



Audio Described performance: Sat at 2.30pm

Touch Tour at 10.30am

In Frederick Ashton's joyous country tale, Lise and her mother clash in a foot-stomping, cabbage-throwing, battle of wills. Lise wants to marry her penniless sweetheart. Her shrewd mother prefers the prospects of the umbrella-obsessed Alain, a rich landowner's son.

With dancing chickens, a dizzying ribbon dance, clog-dancing and an adorable Shetland pony, this comic masterpiece is surely the happiest of ballets.

"Sweet and funny and replete with set-pieces" Sunday Telegraph

Rambert

Two

Tuesday 6 - Saturday 10 November

Tue - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm

£12 – £40

Free pre-show talk: Wed at 6.30pm

Schools' matinee: Thu at 1.30pm

Made up of the world's most exhilarating early career dancers, the brand new Rambert2 attacks works from some of the most thrilling choreographers: artistic director of Sydney Dance Company Rafael Bonachela's E2 7SD, Killer Pig by Sadler's Wells newest Associate Artist, Sharon Eyal, and a new creation by Rambert's guest artistic director Benoit Swan Pouffer.

Alongside this new ensemble are the final London performances of a classic, as Rambert performs Christopher Bruce's tribute to the victims of political oppression, Ghost Dances.

"One of Rambert's most-loved pieces, still works its spell"
Independent on Ghost Dances

Mark Morris Dance Group & Silkroad Ensemble

Layla and Majnun

Tuesday 13 - Saturday 17 November

UK PREMIERE

Tue - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2pm

£12 - £45

Free pre-show talk with Aida Huseynova: Wed at 6.30pm

Sadler's Wells Patrons' Event: Wed

Created by American choreographer Mark Morris in collaboration with Silkroad Ensemble, the musical collective founded by Yo-Yo Ma, and the British artist Howard Hodgkin, Layla and Majnun is based on the Azerbaijani opera by Uzeyir Hajibeyli, the story itself an ancient tragedy of Majnun (meaning "possessed"), driven mad over his love of Layla.

16 dancers tailor their movements to the improvised mugham music, sung by the celebrated father and daughter vocalists: Alim Qasimov and Fargana Qasimova. All backed by members of the Silkroad Ensemble, who perform on stage with traditional Asian instruments alongside Western strings and percussion.

★★★★★ "One of the most moving dances Morris has made"
Financial Times

Darbar Festival 2018

Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 November

Sat & Sun at 7.30pm

£12 - £50

Last year, the annual festival dedicated to Indian classical music expanded its remit to include dance, featuring performances from Sadler's Wells favourites Akram Khan, Mavin Khoo and Seeta Patel alongside international superstars like Mythili Prakash and Aditi Mangaldas.

With Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Akram Khan once again taking up the mantle as curator of this special programme, Darbar brings the best of classical Indian dance to Sadler's Wells in 2018.

Full festival listings can be found at sadlerswells.com/darbarfestival

"The festival that opened a window not only on to an art form but on to a worldview" The Guardian

Nitin Sawhney / Sébastien Ramirez & Honji Wang
Dystopian Dream

Tuesday 27 & Wednesday 28 November
UK PREMIERE

Tue & Wed at 7.30pm

£12 - £35

Sadler's Wells Patrons' Event: Tue

Dystopian Dream is created from a concept originated by composer Nitin Sawhney and co-devised with Honji Wang and Sébastien Ramirez. Taking inspiration from threads woven through Nitin Sawhney's album of the same name, this stage interpretation directed by Wang Ramirez, combines choreography, live music and theatre to examine themes of loss, isolation, surrender and continuity.

Featuring animated projections by Nick Hillel, costumes by Hussein Chalayan, lighting by Natasha Chivers and set by Shizuka Hariu, Dystopian Dream is performed by Wang Ramirez and singer Eva Stone in a stunning visual spectacle guaranteed to delight the eyes as well as the ears.

A Sadler's Wells production

With the support of COLAS

GöteborgsOperans Danskompani, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui & Antony Gormley

Led by artistic director Katrín Hall, Swedish contemporary dance company GöteborgsOperans Danskompani's repertoire focuses on original works, specially commissioned from both renowned and emerging choreographers.

In its first visit to Sadler's Wells, the company brings two UK premieres choreographed by Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, with designs by his regular collaborator, the sculptor Antony Gormley.

£12 - £38

(see next page for show details)

Icon

Friday 30 November

UK PREMIERE

Fri at 7.30pm

Three-and-a-half-tonnes of clay are molded, heaped and shaped by 18 dancers, drawn from both GöteborgsOperans Danskompani and Cherkaoui's own company, Eastman. Coating themselves and each other, they perform in the ritualistic creation, destruction and ultimate replacement of their graven idol to the sound of traditional songs from the Amami Islands, French ballads and medieval compositions.

"Icon is the year's greatest, most sumptuous dance experience"
Dagens Nyheter

Noetic

Saturday 1 December

UK PREMIERE

Sat at 7.30pm

19 black-clad dancers, elegantly dressed by fashion design duo Les Hommes, manipulate Antony Gormley's pliable carbon fibre strips in this exploration of noetic (from the Greek "noesis" meaning intellect) philosophy. Featuring live music by Szymon Brzóška, performed on stage by singer Miriam Andersén and taiko drummer Shogo Yoshii, Cherkaoui's Noetic examines humanity's need to both control the world, and escape from its rules.

New Adventures

Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake

Tuesday 4 December - Sunday 27 January

Performance times vary on selected dates. For full schedule visit sadlerswells.com

£12 - £72

Family Ticket available

Sadler's Wells Patrons' Event: Tue 11 Dec



Audio Described Performance: Sat 12 Jan at 2.30pm
Touch Tour at 1pm

Enjoy your evening with Supper at Sadler's Wells. Details announced soon at: sadlerswells.com/swanlake

Swan Lake returns with a fresh look for the 21st century. Retaining the iconic elements of the original, Matthew Bourne and award-winning designers Lez Brotherston (set and costumes) and Paule Constable (lighting) will create an exciting re-imagining of the classic production.

Thrilling, audacious and emotive, this Swan Lake is perhaps best known for replacing the female corps-de-ballet with a menacing male ensemble, shattering convention and taking the dance world by storm.

Collecting over 30 international accolades including an Olivier and three Tony Awards, Bourne's powerful interpretation of Tchaikovsky's masterpiece is a passionate and contemporary Swan Lake for our times.

★★★★★ "Witty, menacing, lyrical and wild"

Gandini Juggling & Alexander Whitley

Spring

Thursday 31 January - Saturday 2 February 2019

Thu - Sat at 7.30pm

£12 - £30

Age guidance: 10+

Regular participants in the award-winning London International Mime Festival, the “kings of juggling” (Libération) broke countless crockery sets at The Peacock with their Pina Bausch inspired Smashed: Special Edition in 2016, and collaborated with the bharatanatyam dancer and choreographer Seeta Patel in the Lilian Baylis Studio for Sigma in 2017.

For their main stage debut, cult-favourites Gandini Juggling join forces with Sadler’s Wells New Wave Associate Alexander Whitley to create a jubilant work of deconstructed rhythms and patterns. Performing to an original score by Gabriel Prokofiev, five jugglers and four contemporary dancers explore and evolve their respective art forms in this new show.

Part of London Interantional Mime Festival 2019

Sadler's Wells Sampled

Friday 8 & Saturday 9 February 2019

Fri & Sat at 7.30pm

Doors open at 6pm for free front of house activities

£20, £5 'proms' style standing

Schools' matinee, Fri at 1pm £6, £3 'proms' style standing

The world's best ballet dancers, b-boys and b-girls, tangoers and contemporary dancers gather together for Sadler's Wells' annual celebration of dance. Previous shows have seen the likes of New York City Ballet, Nederlands Dans Theater 2, Iron Skulls and Paco Peña Flamenco Dance performing an eclectic mix of extracts and short works.

Sampled lets you try out styles that you might not have experienced before for a special low price. Come early for the full experience and join in free workshops, classes, live performances and more.

For the full line-up, visit sadlerswells.com/sampled

★★★★ "A brilliant introduction to all that dance can be"
The Guardian

Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch

The unmistakable style of Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch was forged over decades performing Pina Bausch's huge catalogue of extraordinary work. Following the choreographer's death in 2009, the company is now ready to embark on the expansion of this hallowed repertoire with new works by two arresting choreographers.

£12 - £60

(see next page for show details)

New Piece I, Dimitris Papaioannou

Thursday 14 - Sunday 17 February 2019

UK PREMIERE

Thu - Sat at 7.30pm

Sun at 4pm

Sadler's Wells Patrons' Event: Thu

In an exchange of firsts, *New Piece I* marks the creation of the Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch's first full-length work by a guest choreographer, while also being the first work that Greek choreographer Dimitris Papaioannou has created outside of his own company. Trained as a visual artist, Papaioannou's work is renowned for its dream-like atmosphere, inhabited by a circus of contorted and absurd creatures.

New Piece II, Alan Lucien Øyen

Friday 22 - Monday 25 February 2019

UK PREMIERE

Fri, Sat & Mon at 7.30pm

Sun at 4pm

Norwegian choreographer, director and award-winning playwright Alan Lucien Øyen takes on the challenge of the second new work. Øyen practically grew up backstage at Ibsen's Den Nationale Scene, experiencing both the cutting-edge and the classical from an early age. As resident choreographer of the Norwegian National Ballet and for his own company winter guests, Øyen seeks to reflect the human experience using dance and text.

Lilian Baylis Studio

More than a show: following an artist's journey

One of the notions at the core of Sadler's Wells' artistic approach is building relationships with artists. As a theatre, we are of course looking for productions that offer the best of dance made today. However the production as an outcome, as crucial as it is, is only one aspect of our relationship with artists. We often choose to follow an artist's journey over different stages in their careers, offering you the chance to enter a deeper dialogue with their world.

This season in the Lilian Baylis Studio we present new works by artists we have an ongoing relationship with.

Under the umbrella of our 20th anniversary commissions, we bring you a new work by the ever-daring Swedish artist Jefta van Dinther, who returns with a striking duet where sight and sound trick us into questioning what we know. A hit in Europe, this is an accomplished piece taking a singular, contemporary approach to performance.

Another anniversary commission is by New Wave Associate Wilkie Branson (see page 41). TOM is an ambitious digital installation bringing together dance and film in a new hybrid form using several different technologies to tell a personal story.

Taking a crucial step in his artistic development, the distinguished dancer Aakash Odedra, known for his virtuosic, contemporary take on kathak, returns with his first work made for an ensemble of dancers from Turkey, in a political cry called #JeSuis.

In a science fiction of sorts, Matthias Sperling brings back an insightful performance lecture we tested out in 2016. Now

That We Know furthers his investigation into neuroscience and current findings with his own creative take.

Whether you've had a chance to see these artists' work before or discover them this autumn, we hope you find their worlds as moving and thought provoking as we do.

For the latest production listings visit
sadlerswells.com/lilianbaylisstudio

Roberta Jean

Brocade

Thursday 31 May & Friday 1 June

Thu & Fri at 8pm

£17

Free post-show talk: Thu

Choreographer Roberta Jean's Brocade was created in collaboration with, and is performed by, an exceptional ensemble of female dancers, including Stephanie McMann, Helka Kaski and Laura Dannequin.

Somewhere between a procession and a concert, movement and sound are propelled along a catwalk in this poetic response to both historical and contemporary notions of craft and physical work, featuring live music by Angharad Davies.

Akram Khan Company**Portraits in Otherness**

Tuesday 5 - Friday 8 June

Maya Jilan Dong and Dickson Mbi: Tue 5 & Wed 6 at 8pm

Ching-Ying Chien and Joy Alpuerto Ritter: Thu 7 & Fri 8 at 8pm

£17

In an innovative platform initiated and curated by Akram Khan and company producer Farooq Chaudhry, Portraits in Otherness seeks to transfer the values and philosophy of Akram Khan Company to a new generation.

Four highly charismatic and distinctive dance artists: Joy Alpuerto Ritter, Ching-Ying Chien, Dickson Mbi and Maya Jilan Dong, present their solo work, each embodying the echoes and primitive beauty of many dance languages both learned and inherited.

Alexandra Waierstall

And here we meet

Thursday 14 & Friday 15 June

UK PREMIERE

Thu & Fri at 8pm

£17

Free post-show talk: Thu

Contains nudity

Together with dancers Dani Brown, Evangelia Randou and composer HAUSCHKA, Alexandra Waierstall delves into hidden geographies, abandoned cities and no man's lands, and investigates the relationship between man and woman, the environment and choreography.

With an acute sense of musicality and the body's materiality, Waierstall, a distinctive new voice from Germany, creates a convincing world where new relationships arise between language, movement and space.

"Timeless beauty" opernnetz.de

Company of Elders

Mixed Bill

Friday 6 July

Fri at 8pm

£12 (£6 concessions*)

Since 1989, Company of Elders, Sadler's Wells' inspirational resident over-60s performance company, has been demonstrating the power of lifelong creativity and proving it is never too late to start dancing.

In this mixed bill they bring new work from exciting choreographers including Adrienne Hart and Seeta Patel. Showcasing their own unique style, these choreographers draw out new ways of moving from this established company.

* Concessions available for Over 60s, Access members, Students and Under 18s

A Sadler's Wells production

Young Associates

Mixed Bill

Tuesday 9 & Wednesday 10 October

Tue & Wed at 7.30pm

£12 (£6 concessions*)

This exciting mixed bill is the first opportunity to see the work of the inaugural Young Associates, Sadler's Wells' new programme that aims to both celebrate and support young artists under the age of 25, as they embark on their choreographic careers.

In their Sadler's Wells debuts, burgeoning choreographers Anthony Matsena, Wilhelmina Ojanen, Ruby Portus and Christopher Thomas showcase the innovative talent and original voices that mark them out as choreographers to watch.

* Concessions available for Over 60s, Access members, Students and Under 18s

A Sadler's Wells production

Jefta van Dinther
Dark Field Analysis

Wednesday 12 - Friday 14 September

UK PREMIERE

Wed - Fri at 8pm

£17

Contains nudity

Free post-show talk: Wed

A rising name known for creating striking sensorial illusions, Jefta van Dinther draws on the intensity of being alive by placing us in relation to other forms of life. Organic blends with synthetic, human with animal. A conversation about blood unfolds between two naked men, serving as an analogy for looking inwards and outwards: into and beyond our selves.

"A mature performance of great depth" Tanznetz

Matthias Sperling
Now That We Know

Thursday 1 & Friday 2 November

Thu & Fri at 8pm

£17

Free post-show talk: Thu

Symposium: Fri (see website for details)

What will change if science discovers how our bodies give rise to our minds? Choreographer and performer Matthias Sperling furthers his investigation into the relationship between mind and body in a performance lecture exploring a hypothetical future in which that connection is clarified.

Originally presented in 2016, this work of science fiction takes a choreographic perspective to freely imagine plausible, absurd, thrilling or worrying scenarios. It will be accompanied by a symposium with invited speakers to launch the "Institute of Neurochoreography."

Aakash Odedra Company**#JeSuis**

Wednesday 7 & Thursday 8 November

Wed & Thu at 8pm

£17

Free post-show talk: Wed

Aakash Odedra returns with his first group piece created for an international ensemble of talented young Turkish dancers. #JeSuis explores personal stories of conflict, media manipulation, displacement and identity. Tapping into different dance languages and qualities, this timely, emotive work asks: what makes a home when millions are on the move?

Winner of the Amnesty International Freedom Of Expression Award 2017

★★★★★ "A stunning piece of contemporary dance"
Edinburgh 49

Wilkie Branson**TOM**

Thursday 15 & Friday 16 November

WORLD PREMIERE

Thu & Fri at 8pm

£17

Set in a hinterland between the civilised world and the wilderness, TOM tells the story of one man's journey to rediscover who he really is.

TOM is a dance for camera installation created by award-winning choreographer, film-maker and New Wave Associate Wilkie Branson. In this new work, Wilkie explores storytelling using the hip hop language of b-boying, bringing it together with cutting-edge technologies including animation, projection mapping and sound design.

The Peacock

This season features the return of many well respected international companies to The Peacock. Following the runaway success this March of German Cornejo's new production, *Tango After Dark*, his company returns with an updated version of another of his seductive hit shows, *Tango Fire*. Back by popular demand, and returning for the seventh time to London, the show incorporates exciting new choreography from Cornejo and is once again accompanied by a live band bringing the intoxicating sounds of Buenos Aires direct to London.

This is followed closely by another visit from the stars of the Canadian contemporary circus scene, *Cirque Éloize*, with the European premiere of their new production. Under the watchful eye of our compere - the *maître d'* – the show brings the frenetic world of a grand hotel to life through the cast's antics, packed with acrobatics, artistry and wit.

The final new show of the season is one whose name says it all – *Passion* – as the *odaiko* drummers, *Yamato* demonstrate their extraordinary skill and prowess. Bringing their trademark strength and physicality to the theatre, this highly trained Japanese drumming group is set to wow London audiences.

Whether you missed these amazing companies on previous visits, or are keen to see what all the fuss is about, this upcoming season at The Peacock provides a guaranteed good time that will leave you glad you left the box set for another night.

Don't forget to go to peacocktheatre.com for the latest show listings, and visit The Peacock's YouTube channel to see all the latest video previews of shows.

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

Tuesday 11 - Saturday 22 September

Programme A:

Tue 11 - Sat 15 at 7.30pm

Sat 15 at 2.30pm, Sun 16 at 2.30pm

Programme B:

Tue 18 - Sat 22 at 7.30pm, Sat 22 at 2.30pm

£15 - £38

Free post-show talk: Wed 12

The award-winning all-male comedy ballet dancers ("The Trocks," as they've become known) storms back to The Peacock with two programmes of side-splitting send-ups and hilarious homages to classical ballet.

Programme A includes Swan Lake (Act II), Trovatiara and The Little Humpback Horse. Programme B features Les Sylphides, Napoli and Raymonda's Wedding.

★★★★★ "One of the funniest evenings you'll ever spend in the theatre" Time Out

Presented by Dance Consortium

New English Ballet Theatre
The Four Seasons / Remembrance

Thursday 27 - Saturday 29 September

Fri & Sat at 7.30pm

£18 - £42

Gala Performance: Thu at 7.30pm

Tickets to the Gala Performance available directly through New English Ballet Theatre at nebt.co.uk/tickets

World-renowned choreographer Wayne Eagling's Remembrance is inspired by the story of Dame Marie Rambert's life during the Great War. This moving, new ballet commemorating the armistice is set to Handel's Ode for St Cecilia's Day, played live by The English Concert, with chorus and soloists.

The Four Seasons, recomposed by Max Richter, provides the musical foundation for choreographer Jenna Lee's bold, stylish ballet, skilfully offset by dazzling costume designs for each season.

Taj Express

Tuesday 2 - Saturday 20 October

Tue - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm, Sun at 2pm & 6pm

£15 - £45

Under 16s half price. Max two half price child tickets per full paying adult

Vaibhavi and Shruti Merchant's glitzy Bollywood extravaganza is set to dazzle audiences once more following its sparkling summer run in 2017.

Combining music by Oscar-winning composer A.R. Rahman (Slumdog Millionaire) and acclaimed Bollywood composers, Salim & Sulaiman Merchant and Monty Sharma, with Toby Gough's text, Taj Express fuses classical Indian and contemporary dance in a celebration of the world's most prolific film industry.

★★★★ "The dancing goes straight to the heart" Sunday Express

Dein Perry's Tap Dogs

Tuesday 23 October - Saturday 10 November

Tue - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm

Sun at 2pm & 6pm

No perf Wed 7

£15 - £45

Under 16s half price (excluding Friday and Saturday). Max two half price child tickets per full paying adult

This is not just tap. The award-winning Australian dancer, choreographer and former steel fitter Dein Perry takes tap out of the tuxedo and onto the construction site for a high voltage, rugged and raw blend of live music, theatre and dance in Tap Dogs.

Winning over 15 international awards including an Olivier Award, this global smash hit has been seen live by over 12 million people.

★★★★ "Positively electrifying" New York Observer

German Cornejo's Tango Fire

Tuesday 29 January - Saturday 16 February 2019

Tue - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm

Sun at 2pm

£15 - £45

The phenomenal, award-winning Tango Fire returns for their seventh season due to incredible demand.

Starring Argentinean tango superstars German Cornejo and Gisela Galeassi and a cast of extraordinary tango dancers, this is a fiery and explosive journey through the history of authentic Argentine tango.

Five couples show off some of the speediest footwork and tightest twirling in the business, accompanied by Tango Fuego Quartet, playing live music on stage, this is a sizzling, sensual show guaranteed to make pulses race.

★★★★ "One of the most stupendous and drop-dead-sexy displays of tango that you are likely to see all year"

Daily Telegraph

Cirque Éloize

Hotel

Wednesday 20 February - Saturday 9 March 2019

UK PREMIERE

Tue - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm

Sun at 2pm & 6.30pm

£15 - £42

Celebrating their 25th anniversary, Canadian contemporary circus crew Cirque Éloize open the doors to their new show, Hotel. In an art deco grand hotel, tourists and travellers, the famous and infamous, mingle in the 1920s, stopping over in the 1970s and 2040. Sneak behind closed doors to witness their intimate stories, guided by the time-spinning groom and the artful maître d'hôtel.

With 12 acrobats and musicians, and an original score by Éloi Painchaud, Cirque Éloize show off their trademark blend of circus and drama in a place that never sleeps.

"Astounding" Time Out on Saloon

Yamato Passion

Tuesday 12 - Sunday 31 March 2019

Tue - Sat at 7.30pm

Sat at 2.30pm

Sun at 2pm & 6pm

No perf Sun 17

£15 - £38

As the Japanese taiko drumming troupe make their way back to London, they bring with them the Odaiko drums. These traditional drums, used in Shinto rituals, weigh over half a tonne each, and require exceptional skill and physicality to produce each floor-shaking note.

Dedicated to their art, the Yamato drummers train ferociously. On stage, they display a staggering strength, using their entire bodies to play and share with their audiences an intense passion that comes out in their pounding, high-energy and thrillingly thunderous performances.

"Primal, exhilarating; you want to do it too"
The Times on Chousensha – The Challengers

Family shows

You can do so many different things & express so many different emotions

As a dance venue (and producer) we like to talk about the power and importance of art, especially for children.

Whether it be to help learning, improve confidence or raise awareness of the world around them, there's no doubt that engaging in creativity has a myriad of benefits to help little ones on their path to becoming well-rounded grown-ups.

But now it's time to turn things over to the really important people: the kids.

At Sadler's Wells Sampled, we lay out a chalkboard (with plenty of chalk) and ask: why do you love dance? Our schools' matinee audience was more than happy to oblige us with plenty of answers, from the exuberant "it makes me feel ALIVE!" to the matter-of-fact "endorphins" and our favourite "because who doesn't love magic" (who indeed?).

Teachers from our Associate Schools are no less forthcoming: "Our students benefit hugely, developing social and life skills learning to be part of an audience, being in public environments. Having opportunities to learn and inspire involvement in dance, especially for students who are particularly inspired by expressive and creative arts."

We couldn't agree more.

Birmingham Repertory Theatre

The Snowman™

Thursday 22 November 2018 - Sunday 6 January 2019

11am, 2.30pm & 7pm

For full schedule visit peacocktheatre.com

£15 - £38

Family ticket available

Early Bird £21 Offer on selected performances.

Book by 28 October. For details see peacocktheatre.com

Suitable for all ages

Based on the much-loved book and film, The Snowman stageadaptation is now as firm a fixture of Christmas as mince pies and fairy-lights. Swooping back into The Peacock for its 21st consecutive year, this festive show has transported generations of children to a wintry wonderland to discover exquisite dancing, live music – including *Walking in the Air* – a boy and his magical snowman. Friendship is kindled as the two embark on a starry-skied adventure to the North Pole, where they meet dancing penguins, Father Christmas, Ice Princess, and escape the clutches of Jack Frost.

Based upon the book by Raymond Briggs and the film directed by Dianne Jackson and produced by John Coates.

With music and lyrics by Howard Blake.

Design by Ruari Murchison, lighting by Tim Mitchell, choreography by Robert North and direction by Bill Alexander.

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New digital works

Sadler's Wells is increasingly exploring digital as a way of reaching out to new audiences, and presenting dance work in innovative ways. Throughout 2018, we are creating and supporting a range of new digital projects that will aid people's understanding and enjoyment of dance.

At Sadler's Wells Sampled in February we presented *Celestial Motion*, a new virtual reality experience adapted from Alexander Whitley Dance Company's production *8 Minutes*. Made by The Guardian's award-winning VR team in association with Sadler's Wells, it can be viewed on The Guardian VR app on the Daydream platform and is coming soon to Google Cardboard and HTC Vive.

During Ballet British Columbia's visit to Sadler's Wells in March we piloted two new digital initiatives aimed at reaching new audiences around the UK. Our post-show talk with artistic director Emily Molnar was live streamed to UK theatres' Facebook pages, and we created a film with our local Get Into Dance ambassadors discussing their new dance experience. Both films can be viewed on our blog, and were produced in partnership with Dance Consortium, as part of our regional touring initiative *The Movement*.

We are also partnering with television channels to create work which will be accessible on their digital players and websites. This spring on BBC Four Sadler's Wells is curating and creating four 30-minute films as part of the channel's dance season, featuring former Royal Ballet principal Zenaida Yanowsky performing *The Dying Swan*, and Dickson Mbi making his first contemporary dance solo.

With Channel 4's Random Acts we've commissioned three original films from Julie Cunningham, Alesandra Seutin and Botis Seva for broadcast later in the year, linked to the new works the artists are creating for Reckonings in our 20th anniversary week.

Digital technology is constantly evolving, and we feel it's essential that we get involved in the making of digital work, in order to experiment with new ways of making and seeing dance.

To find out more, and to see the films as they are released, visit blog.sadlerswells.com

Behind the scenes:

Wilkie Branson and the making of TOM

One of our 20th anniversary commissions, TOM (see page 41) is the fruit of the poetic imagination of Wilkie Branson, one of our New Wave Associates.

Branson is an interdisciplinary dance-artist and film-maker with a talent for storytelling, bringing together the magic of the man-made and the wonder of technology. Self-taught in both dance and film, the roots of his practice lie in b-boying, developing into a unique fusion which emphasises emotional connection (demonstrated in his previous works Varmints and Boing!).

He has created a digital installation using layers of a special screen to create depth and a 3D effect. Instead of just using computer-generated material, he has hand crafted maquettes that are then digitised in a process called photogrammetry.

This process creates a poignant, organic physical landscape, questioning our emotional relationship to the real, the digital and ourselves.

New Wave Associates

Part of our artist development offer, this bespoke programme enables a new generation of dance artists to grow their ambition and network. At a key time in their careers, we commit to commissioning and presenting their work, and in doing so become their artistic home. We currently support six New Wave Associates: Wilkie Branson, Julie Cunningham, Alexander Whitley, Project O, Hetain Patel and L'atisse Rhoden.

Read more about our New Wave Associates at sadlerswells.com/newwaveassociates

The importance of our work with local schools

Sadler's Wells believes the arts play a key role in children's education. Dance in particular is an excellent tool for developing creativity, critical thinking, teamwork and self-confidence. As well as the obvious health benefits from taking part in physical activity, teaching dance in schools is an effective way to engage children in a range of subjects such as science, maths and history.

Over the last year we have expanded our work with schools and currently have partnerships with ten Associate Schools in north and east London. Our Associate Schools are made up of primary and secondary schools and we work with each of them to create a bespoke programme that supports their curriculum.

During the 2017/2018 academic year we delivered a variety of activities with our Associate Schools, including a week-long residency in a primary school led by Alexander Whitley Dance Company which explored dance and science, while local secondary school students worked with New Adventures to perform a curtain raiser in front of a sold out audience for Matthew Bourne's Cinderella. We look forward to expanding this work further in the coming years and thank our Associate Schools for their commitment to offering quality arts experiences to their pupils.

To find out more visit sadlerswells.com/schools

Sadler's Wells on tour May - Oct 2018

Sadler's Wells' productions have had a fantastic start to the year.

Nitin Sawhney & Wang Ramirez's Dystopian Dream had a successful three week residency in Paris and continue their tour to Perpignan in June. Audiences can look forward to seeing the show at Sadler's Wells in November.

Sutra undertook a 17 venue tour through The Netherlands, Belgium, the UK and Canada to celebrate ten years since the production first premiered. Its return to London earned five star reviews from critics and standing ovations from audiences.

Acosta Danza's Debut tour took in New York City Center before it heads to Norwich and Cardiff in June.

For full tour dates and information on all our productions see sadlerswells.com/touring

Find Sadler's Wells on tour**Acosta Danza****Debut**

31 May - 8 June 2018

Norwich, Cardiff, Lyon

Breakin' Convention

1 June - 2 November

Toronto, Denver

Nitin Sawhney & Wang Ramirez**Dystopian Dream**

7 June - 4 Oct 2018

Perpignan, Stanford

Michael Keegan-Dolan / Teac Daísa**Swan Lake/Loch na hEala**

7 June - 5 Nov 2018

Toronto, Hong Kong

William Forsythe**Quiet Evening of Dance**

10 - 2 Oct 2018

Antwerp

**Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui & Antony Gormley with monks from the
Shaolin Temple****Sutra**

12 & 13 Oct 2018

Belgium

Talks, classes and assisted performances

Pre and Post-Show Talks

Roberta Jean

Thursday 31 May 2018

Post-show talk

Alexandra Waierstall

Thursday 14 June 2018

Post-show talk

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Saturday 16 June 2018

Pre-show talk, 6.30pm

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo (The Trocks)

Wednesday 12 September 2018

Post-show talk



Julie Cunningham / Alesandra Seutin / Botis Seva

Thursday 11 October 2018

Post-show talk



Dance Umbrella

Tuesday 16 October 2018

Post-show talk

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Wednesday 31 October 2018

Pre-show talk, 6.30pm

Rambert

Wednesday 7 November 2018

Pre-show talk, 6.30pm

Mark Morris Dance Group

Wednesday 14 November 2018

Pre-show talk, 6.30pm

Dance Classes and Workshops**Breakin' Convention**

Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 May 2018

International hip hop dance masterclasses: £10

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Saturday 16 June 2018, 11.45am

Open company class on stage: £10 (free to BRB friends)

Hofesh Shechter Company

Thursday 14 September 2018, 2.30pm - 6pm in the Lilian Baylis Studio: £25

A-Level teachers' workshop

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Saturday 3 November 2018, 11.45am

Open company class on stage, £10 (free to BRB friends)

New Adventures

Friday 18 January 2018, 2pm - 5pm in the Ashton Studio: £25

A-Level teachers' workshop

Sampled

Saturday 9 February 2019

Dance workshops: £4

Age guidance: 18+

Assisted Performances



Nederlands Dans Theater 1

Friday 29 June 2018, 7.30pm

Audio Described performance



Carmen La Cubana

Saturday 11 August 2018, 2.30pm

Audio Described performance

Touch Tour at 12.45pm



Birmingham Royal Ballet

Saturday 3 November 2018, 2.30pm

Audio Described performance

Touch Tour at 10.30am



New Adventures

Saturday 12 January 2019, 2.30pm

Audio Described performance

Touch Tour at 1pm

Patrons' Events

For an opportunity to meet our artists, special events are held throughout the year for our Patrons.

Nederlands Dans Theater 1 León & Lightfoot / Pite / Goecke

Tuesday 26 June 2018

Natalia Osipova

Pure Dance

Wednesday 12 September 2018

Julie Cunningham / Alesandra Seutin / Botis Seva Reckonings

Thursday 11 October 2018

Mark Morris Dance Group & Silkroad Ensemble Layla and Manjun

Wednesday 14 November 2018

Nitin Sawhney / Sébastien Ramirez & Honji Wang Dystopian Dream

Thursday 27 November 2018

New Adventures

Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake

Tuesday 11 December 2018

Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch New Piece I

Thursday 14 February 2019

To find out more about becoming a Patron, visit
sadlerswells.com/patrons