



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

April 2019

**The Royal Ballet presents *Medusa*, a world premiere
by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**

Within the Golden Hour / Medusa / Flight Pattern

Wednesday 8 – Tuesday 21 May 2019

ROH Live Cinema relay Thursday 16 May 2019

#ROHmedusamixed

Acclaimed choreographer **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui** presents ***Medusa***, his first work for The Royal Ballet. Inspired by the *Medusa* myth, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui has reinterpreted the narrative for this new ballet which is set to the music of **Henry Purcell** with electronic additions by **Olga Wojciechowska**. Casting includes Royal Ballet Principals **Natalia Osipova** as Medusa, **Matthew Ball** as Perseus and **Ryoichi Hirano** as Poseidon and Royal Ballet Soloist **Olivia Cowley** as Athena. Set design is by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and the Royal Opera House Production Department, with costumes by **Olivia Pomp** and lighting design by **Adam Silvermann**. The ballet will be live-streamed to cinemas on Thursday 16 May.

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui has created more than fifty works for some of the world's leading dance companies. He has won several awards, including two Olivier Awards. In 2008 he created *Sutra* with artist **Antony Gormley** and the Shaolin Monks. Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui is an Associate Artist of Sadler's Wells and is Artistic Director of Royal Ballet of Flanders. His own company Eastman is based in Antwerp.

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The programme also includes ***Within the Golden Hour*** by **Christopher Wheeldon**. Originally created for San Francisco Ballet in 2008, the ballet had its Royal Ballet premiere in 2016. This revival features new designs by renowned British designer **Jasper Conran**, who produced his first womenswear collection in 1978 and was awarded Designer of the Year by the British Fashion Council in 1986. Conran has designed costumes for numerous plays, ballets and operas including **David Bentley's *Tombeaux*** for The Royal Ballet in 1993. *Within the Golden Hour* has been hailed as one of Wheeldon's finest ballets and is set to an original score by Italian minimalist composer **Ezio Bosso**. Lighting is by **Peter Mumford**.

Crystal Pite's Olivier Award winning ***Flight Pattern*** receives its first revival in this mixed programme. Created for The Royal Ballet in 2017, this poignant work is inspired by flight and human migration and is a response to world events, questioning the frailty of the human condition and the tension between despair and hope. The ballet is set to **Henryk Górecki's *Symphony no 3 (Symphony of Sorrowful Songs)***. Designs are by **Jay Gowler Taylor**, costumes by **Nancy Bryant** and lighting by **Tom Visser**.

ENDS

Please note that *Medusa* contains moderate, stylised physical threat and discreet sex references. It is not generally suitable for children under the age of 12.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Within the Golden Hour / Medusa / Flight Pattern

Wednesday 8 – Tuesday 21 May 2019

Evening Performances 8, 9, 15, 16, 21 May at 7.30pm and 18 May at 7pm

Matinee Performance Saturday 18 May at 1.30pm

Live Cinema relay Thursday 16 May

Tickets available from the Royal Opera House Box Office

www.roh.org.uk +44(0)20 7304 4000

Generous philanthropic support from

Julia and Hans Rausing and The Royal Opera House Endowment Fund

Within the Golden Hour – Royal Ballet Artistic Associate Christopher Wheeldon generously supported by Kenneth and Susan Green. Generous philanthropic support from Mr and Mrs Edward Atkin CBE.

Medusa: Generous philanthropic support from The Taylor Family Foundation, Georgia Rosengarten and the New Choreography Syndicate

Creative Team

Within the Golden Hour

Choreographer [Christopher Wheeldon](#)
Music [Ezio Bosso](#)
Designer [Jasper Conran](#)
Lighting designer [Peter Mumford](#)
Conducted by [Jonathan Lo](#) with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

Medusa

Choreographer [Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui](#)
Music Henry Purcell with electronic additions by [Olga Wojciechowska](#)
Set design [Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui](#) and ROH Production Department
Costume Director [Olivia Pomp](#)
Lighting designer [Adam Silverman](#)
Conductor/Harpsichord [Andrew Griffiths](#) with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

Flight Pattern

Choreographer [Crystal Pite](#)
Music [Henryk Mikolaj Gorecki](#)
Set designer Jay Gowler Taylor
Costume designer [Nancy Bryant](#)
Lighting designer [Tom Visser](#)
Conducted by [Jonathan Lo](#) with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

Royal Ballet Press Office

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About the Royal Opera House

The Royal Opera House's aim is for many more people to enjoy and engage in exceptional ballet and opera. As The Royal Ballet, The Royal Opera and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, we bring together the world's most extraordinary ballet and opera artists in more than 500 performances every year: live events that thrill, move and excite, and that transport people to other worlds through music, dance and theatre.

About The Royal Ballet

Under the directorship of **Kevin O'Hare**, The Royal Ballet unites tradition and innovation in world-class performances, and is a driving force in the development of ballet as an art form. Based at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, it brings together today's most dynamic and versatile dancers with a world-class orchestra and leading choreographers, composers, conductors, directors and creative teams to share awe-inspiring theatrical experiences with diverse audiences worldwide.

The Company's extensive repertory embraces 19th-century classics, the singular legacy of works by Founder Choreographer **Frederick Ashton** and Principal Choreographer **Kenneth MacMillan** and the compelling new canon of work including pieces by Resident Choreographer **Wayne McGregor**, Artistic Associate **Christopher Wheeldon** and Artist in Residence **Liam Scarlett**.