



ROYAL  
BALLET

NOVEMBER 2016

**BALLET, CONTEMPORARY DANCE AND OPERA SHARE  
CENTRE STAGE IN WORLD PREMIERE FROM THE  
ROYAL BALLET**

*Les Enfants Terribles*

Friday 27 – Sunday 29 January, Barbican Theatre



The Royal Ballet brings together acclaimed choreographer **Javier De Frutos** and leading lights of ballet, contemporary dance and opera to direct a provocative new production of **Philip Glass**'s dance opera inspired by **Jean Cocteau**'s surrealist tragedy *Les Enfants Terribles*. This radical piece is presented at the **Barbican** during their *Glass at 80* weekend to mark Glass's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on 31 January and as part of their season long series *Reich, Glass, Adams: The Sounds that Changed America*.

Published in 1929, *Les Enfants Terribles* tells the story of orphaned siblings Lise and Paul who escape isolation in the real world by creating their own private game in an 'enchanted' room. As they grow up, the rules of the Game start to control their lives until the distinction between reality and their own imagination becomes dangerously blurred. The novel is considered to be Cocteau's seminal work and he collaborated with director **Jean-Pierre Melville** to adapt it into the 1950 film of the same name.

Royal Ballet Principal Dancers **Edward Watson** and **Zenaida Yanowsky** perform in this production, with their roles being mirrored by exciting names from the world of contemporary dance and singers from The Royal Opera's **Jette Parker Young Artists Programme**. Accompanied by pianists on three grand pianos, this is a multi-layered piece that portrays a world unhooked from reality.

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## Notes to Editors

### Les Enfants Terribles

Friday 27 – Sunday 29 January

Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2Y 8DS

Tickets £10 - £40

27, 28 January at 7.45pm

29 January at 4pm

Running Time: about 2 hours, including an interval

#### Box Office:

[www.roh.org.uk](http://www.roh.org.uk) / [www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk)

0207 304 4000 / 0207 638 8891

This production contains adult themes

Suitable for ages 14+

Sung in French with English surtitles, and narrated in English

Director	<b>Javier De Frutos</b>
Choreography	<b>Javier De Frutos</b>
Music	<b>Philip Glass</b>
Designer	<b>Jean-Marc Puissant</b>
Lighting designer	<b>Bruno Poet</b>
Video Artist	<b>Tal Rosner</b>
Dancers	<b>Zenaida Yanowsky*</b> <b>Edward Watson*</b> <b>Kristen McNally*</b> <b>Thomas Whitehead*</b> <b>Gemma Nixon</b> <b>Clemmie Sveas</b> <b>Jonathan Goddard</b> <b>Thomasin Gülgeç</b>
Singers	<b>Jennifer David**</b> <b>Emily Edmonds**</b> <b>Gyula Nagy**</b> <b>Paul Curievici</b>
Piano	<b>Kate Shipway</b> <b>Grant Green</b> <b>James Hendry</b>

**Conducted by Timothy Burke**

**\*The Royal Ballet**

**\*\*Jette Parker Young Artist**

**Image credit:** Zenaida Yanowsky and Edward Watson. © ROH 2016.  
Photographed by Rick Guest. Image by AKA.

## **INSIGHT: PHILIP GLASS AT 80 – LES ENFANTS TERRIBLES**

11 January 2017 at 7pm

Clore Studio Upstairs

Javier De Frutos and team reveal their vision for this new production and celebration of Philip Glass. This Insight will be filmed and live-streamed. Go to [www.roh.org.uk](http://www.roh.org.uk) on the day for more details and a link to watch. The recording will also be available afterwards to watch on the ROH website and YouTube channel.

£17/£7

## **The Royal Ballet Studio Programme**

The Studio Programme is part of The Royal Ballet's vision to keep classical ballet as an essential part of contemporary culture. The Programme works with new and established choreographers from inside the Company and from the wider dance community to produce new choreography and present contemporary performances. The Programme traditionally presented most of its work in the former Linbury Studio Theatre. However during the Royal Opera House's Open Up project to enhance the public spaces in the building, including the refurbishment of the Linbury, it is collaborating with other exciting venues to realize its diverse range of projects.

## **The Barbican**

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the Barbican pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does. Over 1.5 million people pass through the Barbican's doors annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 staff work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, The Pit, Cinemas One, Two and Three, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, foyers and public spaces, a library, Lakeside Terrace, a glasshouse conservatory, conference facilities and three restaurants. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican is home to Resident Orchestra **London Symphony Orchestra**, Associate Orchestra **BBC Symphony Orchestra**, Associate Ensembles the **Academy of Ancient Music** and **Britten Sinfonia**, and Associate Producer **Serious**. Our Artistic Associates include **Boy Blue Entertainment**, **Cheek by Jowl**, **Deborah Warner** and **Michael Clark Company**. International Associates are **Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam**, **New York Philharmonic**, **Los Angeles Philharmonic**, **Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig** and **Jazz at Lincoln Center**.

## BIOGRAPHIES

### Javier De Frutos

Has worked widely in dance, theatre, visual arts and film. Work at the Royal Opera House Linbury Studio Theatre includes *The Misty Frontier* for The Royal Ballet, *Studies in M* for **HeadSpaceDance**, *First and Wait* for **Wendy Whelan and Edward Watson** and *The Anatomy of a Passing Cloud* for **Royal New Zealand Ballet**.

De Frutos was born in Caracas. He trained at **London School of Contemporary Dance** and the **Merce Cunningham Studio** in New York, returning to Britain in 1993. His awards include the Olivier Award for Best Theatre Choreography for *Cabaret*, an Evening Standard Award for *The Most Incredible Thing* in collaboration with **Pet Shop Boys**, Critics' Circle Awards for *Milagros* with **RNZB** and *Elsa Canasta* with **Rambert** and **Scottish Ballet**, a South Bank Show Award for *Grass* and a TimeOut Award for *Sour Milk* with **Candoco Dance Company**. Further credits include *London Road* and *Everyman* for the **National Theatre** and *Fiction* for **BalletBoyz**. In 2000 he became one of the first recipients of an Arts Council Fellowship, through which he studied the works of Tennessee Williams. He represented Britain at the 2006 Venice Biennale.

### Philip Glass

One of the world's most popular living composers, he has written prolifically for the stage. His works include several ballets and more than 20 operas. The Linbury Studio Theatre presented three UK premieres of Glass chamber operas, with **The Royal Opera** producing *Orphée* in 2005 and **Music Theatre Wales** *In the Penal Colony* in 2010. In 2014 MTW gave the world premiere of Glass's chamber opera *The Trial* in the Linbury.

Glass was born in Baltimore and studied at the **University of Chicago** and the **Juilliard School**. In 1967 he formed the **Philip Glass Ensemble** in New York, for which he created a large collection of new music, and for **Mabou Mines Theater Company**, culminating in *Music in Twelve Parts* and the landmark opera *Einstein on the Beach*. He went on to expand his repertory to include music for opera, dance, theatre, chamber ensemble, orchestra and film. His film scores have received **Academy Award** nominations (*Kundun*, *The Hours*, *Notes on a Scandal*) and a **Golden Globe** (*The Truman Show*). Further works include the operas *Appomattox* and *The Perfect American* (a co-commission between **Teatro Real**, Madrid, and **English National Opera**), the song cycle *Ifé* for **Angelique Kidjo**, the Double Piano Concerto for **Katia and Marielle Labèque** and the **Los Angeles Philharmonic** and his memoir *Words Without Music* (Liveright Publishing).

Glass presents lectures, workshops and solo keyboard performances around the world and has created collaborations with such figures as **David Bowie**, **Allen Ginsberg**, **Woody Allen**, **Paul Simon**, **Yo-Yo Ma**, **Doris Lessing** and **Twyla Tharp**.

### **Jean Cocteau (1889 – 1963)**

The French writer, designer, playwright, artist and filmmaker was a leading figure in the Surrealist movement and one of the most influential creative figures in the Parisian avant-garde between the two World Wars. Over a 50-year career, he wrote poetry, novels and plays; created illustrations, paintings and other art objects; and directed influential films. He moved in circles that included **Marcel Proust**, **Pablo Picasso**, **Coco Chanel** and ballet impresario **Sergei Diaghilev**, with whom he collaborated on a production for the **Ballets Russes**. His illustrious career gained him a reputation as one of the most versatile and influential creative minds of his era and, in 1955, he was inducted into the Academie Française. Cocteau died of a heart attack at the age of 74, on October 11, 1963, at his chateau in Milly-la-Forêt, France.

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