



ROYAL
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HOUSE

Royal Opera House launches 11 titles for the 2018/19 Live Cinema Season

Tuesday 20 March 2018 – UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 10AM TUESDAY 20 MARCH

With 11 titles set to be broadcast to more than 500 UK cinemas and to another 1,000 in 40 countries across the globe, the Royal Opera House's Live Cinema Season 2018/19 will showcase a wide variety of ballet and opera, including three new works, all relayed live from Covent Garden. The 2018/19 Season will feature the great classic of The Royal Ballet's repertory *The Nutcracker* and world-renowned opera stars including **Michael Fabiano**, **Jonas Kaufmann**, **Anna Netrebko** and **Eva-Maria Westbroek** among other treats.

Tickets for 2018/19 go on sale on **Tuesday 4 April 2018** in the UK and on **Tuesday 12 June 2018** for international territories.

The Royal Ballet will kick off the Live Cinema Season with **Kenneth MacMillan's** haunting psychological ballet *Mayerling* (Monday 15 October). The ballet captures the glamour of the Austro-Hungarian court and the mental torments of Crown Prince Rudolf, heir to the Habsburg throne. *Mayerling* will be followed by the romantic classical ballet *La Bayadère* (Tuesday 13 November 2018). Choreographer **Natalia Makarova's** opulent production perfectly complements the ballet's 19th-century origins. The work's highlights include the famous moonlit 'white act', a showpiece for the corps de ballet.

A favourite in the Royal Ballet's repertory, *The Nutcracker* (Monday 3 December) captures the magic of Christmas through **Tchaikovsky's** much-loved score as Clara and her enchanted Nutcracker embark on a magical journey to the Kingdom of Sweets. Previously, this has been the Royal Opera House's most successful broadcast, with 82,000 people watching the ballet in cinemas in December 2017. Moving from the Kingdom of Sweets to a colourful vision of romantic Spain, **Carlos Acosta's** staging of *Don Quixote* (Tuesday 19 February) pays tribute to **Marius Petipa's** original choreography.

A mixed programme (Thursday 16 May) consists of *Within the Golden Hour* choreographed by **Christopher Wheeldon**, *Flight Pattern* choreographed by **Crystal Pite** and a third new work choreographed by **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**. **Kenneth MacMillan's** great Shakespearean classic, *Romeo and Juliet* (Tuesday 11 June), brings the live ballet cinema Season to a close with a work that portrays the colour and life of Renaissance Verona, the feud between the Montagues and the Capulets and the tragedy which ensues when their offspring fall in love.

Five productions from The Royal Opera will be broadcast live to cinemas. **Wagner's *Die Walküre*** (Sunday 28 October) is the second and perhaps best-loved opera in **Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*** cycle and explores complex family entanglements set against a wonderful score whose highlights including the 'Spring' song and the 'Ride of the Valkyries'. The opera will be conducted by **Antonio Pappano** who leads a stellar cast including Wagnerian specialists **John Lundgren**, **Nina Stemme**, **Stuart Skelton**, **Emily Magee** and **Sarah Connolly**.

The New Year will kick off with **Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades*** (Tuesday 22 January 2019), in a production new to Covent Garden by acclaimed Norwegian director **Stefan Herheim**. The opera, which explores romantic obsession, will be conducted by **Antonio Pappano** with the large cast led by Latvian tenor **Aleksandrs Antonenko**, Bulgarian baritone **Vladimir Stoyanov** and Dutch soprano **Eva-Maria Westbroek**. **Richard Eyre's** stunning production of Verdi's *La traviata* returns to the big screen also (Wednesday 30 January). This much-loved opera contains a moving story of love and sacrifice and some of Verdi's most glorious melodies.

Verdi's epic *La forza del destino* (Tuesday 2 April) is being performed for the first time in more than a decade by The Royal Opera, in a spectacular production by **Christof Loy** from Dutch National Opera. The superb cast includes **Anna Netrebko** and **Jonas Kaufmann** as the star-crossed lovers Leonora and Don Alvaro. To complete The Royal Opera Live Cinema Season, David McVicar's stunning Parisian production of **Gounod's *Faust*** returns (Tuesday 30 April) conducted by **Dan Ettinger** and featuring **Michael Fabiano** in the title role, **Diana Damrau** as the innocent Marguerite and **Erwin Schrott** as the charismatic devil Méphistophélès.

For more information or to find a cinema near you please visit: www.roh.org.uk/cinema

ENDS

The 2018/19 Season is as follows

The Royal Ballet

MacMillan: MAYERLING

LIVE: Monday 15 October 2018 (7.15pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 21 October 2018 (2pm)

The Royal Opera

Wagner: DIE WALKÜRE

LIVE: Sunday 28 October 2018 (5pm)

The Royal Ballet

Petipa: LA BAYADÈRE

LIVE: Tuesday 13 November 2018 (7.15pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 18 November 2018 (2pm)

The Royal Ballet

Wright: THE NUTCRACKER

LIVE: Monday 3 December 2018 (7.15pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 9 December 2018 (2pm)

The Royal Opera

Tchaikovsky: THE QUEEN OF SPADES

LIVE: Tuesday 22 January 2019 (6.45pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 27 January 2019 (2pm)

The Royal Opera

Verdi: LA TRAVIATA

LIVE: Wednesday 30 January 2019 (6.45pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 3 February 2019 (2pm)

The Royal Ballet

Acosta/Petipa: DON QUIXOTE

LIVE: Tuesday 19 February 2019 (7.15pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 24 February 2019 (2pm)

The Royal Opera

Verdi: LA FORZA DEL DESTINO

LIVE: Tuesday 2 April 2019 (6.15pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 7 April 2019 (2pm)

The Royal Opera

Gounod: FAUST

LIVE: Tuesday 30 April 2019 (6.45pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 5 May 2019 (2pm)

The Royal Ballet

TRIPLE BILL

Pite: FLIGHT PATTERN / Wheeldon: WITHIN THE GOLDEN HOUR/ Cherkaoui: NEW WORK

LIVE: Thursday 16 May 2019 (7.15pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 19 May 2019 (2pm)

The Royal Ballet

MacMillan: ROMEO AND JULIET

LIVE: Tuesday 11 June 2019 (7.15pm)

ENCORE: Sunday 16 June 2019 (2pm)

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

Royal Opera House

The Royal Opera House leads the way for world-class opera and ballet experienced in cinemas and on a variety of digital platforms. 2017/18 was our most successful Season to date with more than 500,000 tickets sold in the UK for the first time, with the number of venues having increased to more than 500 sites. The Royal Opera House has seen a huge growth in the influence of independent cinemas, who now account for 45% of UK sales. Internationally, a partnership with Trafalgar Releasing sees our productions broadcast to more than 1,000 cinemas in 40 countries. Other digital platforms include the Royal Opera House YouTube channel with more than 322,000 subscribers – the most of any arts organization in the UK.

For more information, please contact:

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