

## CAST

ODETTE/ODILE	<b>ZENAIDA YANOWSKY</b>
PRINCE SIEGFRIED	<b>NEHEMIAH KISH</b>
THE PRINCESS SIEGFRIED'S MOTHER	<b>ELIZABETH MCGORIAN</b>
AN EVIL SPIRIT LATER VON ROTHBART	<b>GARY AVIS</b>
THE TUTOR	<b>ALASTAIR MARRIOTT</b>
BENNO	<b>VALERI HRISTOV</b>
PAS DE TROIS (ACT I)	<b>HELEN CRAWFORD, YUHUI CHOE, ALEXANDER CAMPBELL</b>
CYGNETS (ACT II)	<b>ELIZABETH HARROD, MEAGHAN GRACE HINKIS EMMA MAGUIRE, SABINA WESTCOMBE</b>
TWO SWANS (ACTS II and IV)	<b>HIKARU KOBAYASHI, ITZIAR MENDIZABAL</b>

Tweet your thoughts about tonight's performance before it starts, during the interval or afterwards with **#ROHswanlake**

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Berlioz: *Les Troyens* (The Royal Opera)

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Tchaikovsky: *The Nutcracker* (The Royal Ballet)

Live in cinemas, Thursday 13 December

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE LIVE CINEMA SEASON 2012/13

**www.roh.org.uk/cinema**

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ROYAL  
OPERA  
HOUSE

CINEMA

## THE ROYAL BALLET

DIRECTOR **KEVIN O'HARE**  
FOUNDER **DAME NINETTE DE VALOIS** OM CH DBE  
FOUNDER CHOREOGRAPHER  
**SIR FREDERICK ASHTON** OM CH CBE  
FOUNDER MUSIC DIRECTOR **CONSTANT LAMBERT**  
PRIMA BALLERINA ASSOLUTA  
**DAME MARGOT FONTEYN** DBE

# SWAN LAKE

BALLET IN FOUR ACTS

MUSIC **PYOTR IL'YICH TCHAIKOVSKY**  
CHOREOGRAPHY **MARIUS PETIPA** AND **LEV IVANOV**  
ADDITIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY  
**FREDERICK ASHTON** (ACT III NEAPOLITAN DANCE)  
AND **DAVID BINTLEY** (ACT I WALTZ)

PRODUCTION **ANTHONY DOWELL**  
DESIGNS **YOLANDA SONNABEND**  
LIGHTING DESIGN **MARK HENDERSON**  
PRODUCTION RESEARCH **ROLAND JOHN WILEY**  
STAGING **CHRISTOPHER CARR**  
BALLET MASTER **GARY AVIS**  
BALLET MISTRESS **SAMANTHA RAINE**  
PRINCIPAL COACHING **LESLEY COLLIER, DONALD MACLEARY**  
DANCE NOTATORS **GRANT COYLE, ANNA TREVIEN**

### ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

CONDUCTOR **BORIS GRUZIN**  
CONCERT MASTER **VASKO VASSILEV**  
DIRECTED FOR THE SCREEN BY  
**ROSS MACGIBBON**

LIVE FROM THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE  
TUESDAY 23 OCTOBER AT 7.15PM

IN ASSOCIATION  
WITH

**Bank of America**  
**Merrill Lynch**

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**ARTS COUNCIL**  
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LOTTERY FUNDED

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# THE STORY

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## ACT I - The grounds of the palace

Outside the palace grounds, peasants are making final preparations to celebrate Prince Siegfried's coming of age. His tutor arrives to see that all is in order, followed by Benno (Siegfried's close comrade), cadets and ladies of the court. Three dancers arrive to perform a *pas de trois* as an entertainment for all. Siegfried's mother learns of the unofficial party and as she approaches, hurried attempts are made to conceal evidence of drinking. She tells Siegfried he must marry and must choose a bride from eligible girls who will attend a ball the following evening. The tutor and Benno try to cheer Siegfried's anxious and pensive mood.

In the evening sky Benno sees a flock of swans, and Siegfried and the cadets decide to finish the day's festivities with a hunt. They seize crossbows from the guards and set out after the swans.

## Short pause

## ACT II - A lakeside at night; the ruins of a chapel stretch down to the water

Benno and the cadets arrive at the lakeside where an evil spirit lurks in the form of an owl. They move on as Siegfried arrives; he hides as a flock of swans settle in the ruins and one of them transforms into a beautiful maiden, the Swan Queen Odette. Frightened, she tells him that the evil spirit has cast a spell over her and her friends, making them swans by day. Only at night by the enchanted lake, a lake of tears shed by Odette's mother, can they return to human form. The spell can only be broken if someone who has never loved before swears to love Odette for ever.

The evil spirit appears but Odette prevents Siegfried from shooting him - if he dies the spell can never be broken.

Odette and Siegfried express their love for each other. As dawn approaches he tries to hold on to her, but the power of the spell draws her and the maidens back to the ruins to become swans again.

## Interval

## ACT III - A ballroom in the palace

Guests arrive in masks for a costume ball. Siegfried and Benno, disguised by masks, mix with them. The Princess enters and commands Siegfried to dance with six young princesses who have come to the ball and to choose one of them for his bride. He tells her that he does not love any of them and refuses to choose.

A fanfare announces the arrival of Von Rothbart, the evil spirit now in human form, his daughter Odile, who by magic resembles Odette, and an entourage. Siegfried cannot believe that Odette has appeared at the ball and asks Von Rothbart who she is. He tells him that she is his daughter and, before Siegfried can approach her, starts an entertainment of national dances.

Siegfried and Odile then dance, and Odette, appearing as a vision, tries in vain to warn Siegfried that he is being deceived. Captivated by the beauty of the new guest and sensing nothing wrong, Siegfried chooses Odile for his bride. Von Rothbart triumphantly takes his daughter's hand and gives it to Siegfried, who in the presence of everyone promises a vow of marriage and eternal love. Von Rothbart reveals the vision of Odette, and Siegfried realizes his error. Grief-stricken, he returns to the lake.

## Interval

## ACT IV - The lakeside

By the lake, the swans are looking for Odette and await her return. She appears, distraught, and tells them of Siegfried's betrayal. They try to console her, but she is resigned to death. To be free from the evil power she must perish in the waves of the lake. Siegfried's desperate search through the storm ends at the lakeside. Odette forgives him and they reaffirm their love. Von Rothbart appears and declares that Siegfried must fulfil his vow to marry Odile. If he does, Odette will become a swan for ever with the coming of dawn. Siegfried resolves instead to die with her, which will destroy Von Rothbart. The lovers run to the cliff and throw themselves into the lake below to be united in death.

Anthony Dowell

### APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

Live cinema relay begins at 7:15pm

Feature Behind the curtain: an introduction to *Swan Lake*

Acts I and II 70 minutes

(there will be a short pause between Acts I and II)

**Cinema interval 15 minutes**

Feature Corps de ballet: the heart and soul of *Swan Lake*

Act III 34 minutes

**Cinema interval 15 minutes**

Feature The final act

Act IV 21 minutes

The live relay will end at approximately 10.25pm