

His Royal Highness The Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, celebrates 50 years of Scottish Ballet

- On Thursday 31 October, HRH Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, received a visit from Scottish Ballet to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Scotland's national dance company.
- Scottish Ballet dancers and staff visited His Royal Highness at Dumfries House, the stunning 18th-century estate in East Ayrshire, which HRH The Duke of Rothesay saved for the nation in 2007.
- His Royal Highness enjoyed two exclusive performances by Scottish Ballet, including a preview from the company's upcoming new production of *The Snow Queen*.
- 2019 is the 10th anniversary of His Royal Highness being Patron of Scottish Ballet and, during the visit, he announced that his Patronage would continue for a further five years.
- This year, His Royal Highness also celebrates fifty years since his investiture as the Prince of Wales in 1969.

During the visit, HRH Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, enjoyed two private performances from Scottish Ballet: a duet from the recent world premiere of *The Crucible*, and one from the company's much-anticipated production of *The Snow Queen*.

Performing the roles of Elizabeth and John Proctor in *The Crucible* was Bethany Kingsley-Garner and Barnaby Rook Bishop. Performing 'The Strongman' and 'The Ballerina', dancers Evan Loudon and Alice Kawalek gave an exclusive preview of *The Snow Queen*, choreographed by CEO/Artistic Director Christopher Hampson, ahead of its world premiere in Edinburgh in December.

For the occasion, HRH Prince Charles selected the location of Dumfries House. In 2007, HRH saved Dumfries House for the nation and transformed it into a tourism and education hub which is used to inspire the local community and help people engage in learning experiences that promote confidence and personal development as well as training in real-life skills to open up future employment opportunities.

In 2019, Scotland's national dance company celebrates fifty years of inspiring audiences on stage and beyond. Founded in 1969, the company performs regularly across Scotland, throughout the UK and internationally – promoting Scotland's pioneering spirit far and wide. This winter, the glittering new production of *The Snow Queen* will be the spectacular conclusion of a year filled with exciting new work, groundbreaking community engagement initiatives and memorable events.

HRH Prince Charles has been Patron of Scottish Ballet since 2009, and today announced his intention to continue his Patronage for a further five years. The company was delighted to receive a visit from The Duke and Duchess of Rothesay in 2014, during which Their Royal Highness attended rehearsals in preparation for Scottish Ballet's performance at the Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony.

This year also marks fifty years since the Prince of Wales' Investiture. His Royal Highness became Prince of Wales aged nine years old, but it was not until eleven years later, in the summer of 1969, that he was formally invested with the title by The Queen. In Scotland, the Prince of Wales is formally known as Duke of Rothesay.

Christopher Hampson, CEO/Artistic Director of Scottish Ballet, said:

'We thoroughly enjoyed performing for our Patron HRH Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, as part of our 50th anniversary celebrations. It was a pleasure to bring our full company of dancers and staff to share our work with His Royal Highness, especially in the unique setting of Dumfries House.'

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Images of His Royal Highness Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, and Scottish Ballet can be [downloaded here](#)

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About Scottish Ballet

- Scottish Ballet, founded in 1969, is Scotland's national dance company. Based in Glasgow, the company performs regularly across Scotland, throughout the UK and internationally – promoting Scotland's pioneering spirit far and wide.
- Under CEO/Artistic Director Christopher Hampson, Scottish Ballet presents bold, adventurous performances rooted in strong classical technique, accompanied by the Scottish Ballet Orchestra. The company's broad repertoire includes new versions of the classics and ground-breaking commissions, as well as an innovative digital season every two years.
- Scottish Ballet runs an extensive engagement programme, tailored to the needs of diverse communities, promoting confidence, fostering wellbeing and encouraging creativity through dance.
- In 2019, Scottish Ballet celebrates 50 years of inspiring audiences on stage and beyond, with a creative vision crafted by Scotland. For more information about *The Snow Queen* and the full anniversary season, visit: scottishballet.co.uk/50
- Scottish Ballet is funded by the Scottish Government.

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