

## **Scottish Ballet's sensational *Swan Lake* takes flight across Scotland**

Following a hugely successful 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, Scottish Ballet opens its 2020/2021 season with a contemporary take on the ballet world's most iconic title – *Swan Lake*.

Following a sold-out debut in 2016, David Dawson's sleek production returns and opens on Thursday 9 April at the Festival Theatre in Edinburgh, before touring to Aberdeen, Inverness and Glasgow until Saturday 2 May.

Stylish and stripped-back, this is a classic that is retold for a new generation. Featuring arching backs, spiralling arms and mesmerising patterns – the company dancers are pushed to their physical limits in this tale of purity versus seduction.

The strong, graceful Odette captivates young and lonely Siegfried, their duets are powered by emotional honesty. She flies across the stage towards him, flanked by shifting formations of swans – reflections of her true form. But Siegfried mistakenly betrays his love for the fierce passion of Odile, who whips the air around her into a thrilling physical and psychological frenzy.

A story of light and dark, David Dawson's daring, visceral choreography is perfectly paired with the rich, romantic Tchaikovsky score, played live by the Scottish Ballet Orchestra.

### **Talking about *Swan Lake*, Choreographer David Dawson said:**

'I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with everyone at Scottish Ballet once again on my production of *Swan Lake*. I am looking forward to beginning a new adventure of discovery together with the wonderful artists of this unique and dynamic company – searching for new layers within the character and theatre of this mythical love story, and finding new ways of questioning the heart, mind and body, to reach a deeper understanding of this work. It is always the purest pleasure for me to be in Scotland – a country that will always hold a very special place in my heart.'

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

'I'm thrilled that we are kicking off our 2020 season with the sensational *Swan Lake* by David Dawson. We first premiered the production in 2016 when I set David the challenge to take something as classic and iconic as *Swan Lake* but refresh it so it speaks to our generation. We are excited to have the opportunity to bring it back into our repertoire and refine it. It really shows our company in the best light – both creative and innovative.'

For more information, to book tickets to *Swan Lake*, visit:

<https://www.scottishballet.co.uk/event/swan-lake>

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

### **Scottish Ballet Press Contact:**

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### ***Swan Lake***

Choreographer:	David Dawson
Costume Designer:	Yumiko Takeshima
Set Designer:	John Otto
Lighting Designer:	Bert Dalhuysen
Composer:	Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Festival Theatre, Edinburgh:	9-11 April 2020
His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen:	16-18 April 2020
Eden Court, Inverness:	23-25 April 2020
Theatre Royal, Glasgow:	29 April – 2 May 2020

Swan Lake Press Pack can be downloaded [here](#)  
#SBSwanLake

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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.
- Scottish Ballet is funded by the Scottish Government.  
<https://www.scottishballet.co.uk/>

### **About Scottish Ballet's Five in Five Campaign**

- Scottish Ballet's ambitious Five in Five campaign launched as part of the company's 50th anniversary in 2019 and is a commitment to commissioning and staging five new full-length ballets in five years, one for every decade of our company's history.
- The first Five in Five ballet was Helen Pickett's *The Crucible*, followed by Christopher Hampson's *The Snow Queen*. 2020 will see the third of the ballets open with *The Scandal at Mayerling* by Sir Kenneth MacMillan.
- To support Scottish Ballet and the Five in Five campaign visit:  
<https://www.scottishballet.co.uk/support>

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