

## **Scottish Ballet announces two new dance films, to celebrate International Dance Day 2021**

Scottish Ballet is excited to announce the world premiere of two new dance films by company creatives Sophie Laplane and Nicholas Shoesmith, with the first being screened to celebrate International Dance Day on Thursday 29 April 2021.

Following the success of her recent Zoom ballet *Indoors* and dance film *Oxymore*, Scottish Ballet's Choreographer in Residence Sophie Laplane is the first to bring her work back to the screen with her quintessentially quirky style in a new short film called *Dive*, directed by Oscar Sansom

Premiering on International Dance Day, Laplane has partnered with James Bonas (*The Crucible*) to create a new piece inspired by French artist Yves Klein and what has become the world's most famous shade of blue. Set to music by Schubert and Walter Wanderley, it will premiere on Thursday 29 April 2021 at 1pm.

Next up, Scottish Ballet Soloist Nicholas Shoesmith returns to choreograph for the company after premiering his socially distanced piece *Catalyst* for Edinburgh International Festival's *My Light Shines On* programme in 2020.

His new work *Odyssey*, directed by Ciaran Lyons, is a high-octane short film that takes viewers on a journey through a game-like landscape inhabited by otherworldly beings, where the real and virtual collide. Set to music by Craven Faults and Squarepusher, it will premiere on Tuesday 4 May 2021 at 1pm.

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

‘I’m thrilled to have commissioned two new works, celebrating creativity and showcasing the evolving artistic language of each of our choreographers. Whilst contrasting in style, they are a wonderful achievement from our home-grown talent and I’m excited to share each with audiences this spring.’

**Sophie Laplane, Choreographer in Residence, said:**

*Dive* is a new venture for me into the world of cinematography, immersing the viewer in a world of monochrome blue and the empty white space, inspired by the visionary ideas of the artist Yves Klein. From stillness, we dive into the complexity that lies beneath the surface of simplicity; drawing the viewer in to a world of infinite possibilities and the unexpected, where questions are posed but not answered.’

**Nicholas Shoesmith, Choreographer and Soloist, said:**

‘With Scottish Ballet taking great strides in pushing and developing dance films and digital content, I’m thrilled to bring our audiences on an other-worldly experience with our new film *Odyssey*. In collaboration with film-maker Ciaran Lyons, and inspired by the storytelling and camera work of many modern video games, we hope to plant audiences firmly in the passenger seat of our virtual escape.’

*Dive* by Sophie Laplane will premiere on Thursday 29 April at 1pm. It is free for members to watch and will be available until Monday 31 May.

*Odyssey* by Nicholas Shoesmith will premiere on Tuesday 4 May at 1pm. It is free for members to watch and will be available until Monday 31 May.

To become a free member and to book tickets visit:

<https://www.scottishballet.co.uk/>

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

A press pack of assets, biographies, photographs and press release, is available for [download here](#).

### **Scottish Ballet press contact**

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[scottishballet.co.uk](http://scottishballet.co.uk)

### ***Dive***

#### **Creative Team**

Choreographer and Co-Creator: Sophie Laplane

Co-Creator: James Bonas

Director: Oscar Sansom

Director of Photography: David Liddell

Music: Schubert, Walter Wanderley

Produced in Association with Forest of Black

#### **Copy**

‘I have written my name on the far side of the sky.’

Yves Klein

Scottish Ballet’s Choreographer in Residence Sophie Laplane partners with James Bonas (*The Crucible*) and film director Oscar Sansom to create *Dive*, a short film inspired by French artist Yves Klein and what has become the world’s most famous shade of blue. Expect Laplane’s quintessentially quirky choreography paired with striking visuals in this teal-toned treat.

*Dive* by Sophie Laplane will premiere on Thursday 29 April at 1pm. It is free for members to watch and will be available until Monday 31 May.

<https://www.scottishballet.co.uk/event/dive>

Sophie Laplane is generously supported by Sir Sandy & Lady Crombie.

## Odyssey

### **Creative Team**

Choreographer: Nicholas Shoesmith  
Director: Ciaran Lyons  
Director of Photography: David Liddell  
Music: Squarepusher, Craven Faults  
Produced in Association with Forest of Black

### **Copy**

Player ready. Step into the arena.

Choreographed by Scottish Ballet Soloist Nicholas Shoesmith (*Catalyst*, *The Fates*) and directed by Ciaran Lyons, this high-octane short film takes viewers on a journey through a game-like landscape inhabited by otherworldly beings, where the real and virtual collide.

*Odyssey* by Nicholas Shoesmith will premiere on Tuesday 4 May at 1pm. It is free for members to watch and will be available until Monday 31 May.

<https://www.scottishballet.co.uk/event/odyssey>

Nicholas Shoesmith is generously supported by Linda Herd.

### **Events linked to Odyssey**

Enjoy dance film, *Odyssey*, followed by a Q&A with some of those involved!

Meet the choreographer, Soloist [Nicholas Shoesmith](#), and hear from our Senior Wardrobe Technician Ciara Nolan about the making of otherworldly costumes. First Artist [Grace Paulley](#) tells us what it was like to translate a virtual reality sci-fi fantasy into ballet.

The event is on Tuesday 4 May, 5.30pm — 6.30pm on Zoom and tickets are £5.

<https://www.scottishballet.co.uk/event/odyssey-costumes>

### **Become a Member**

A link to watch each will be sent to Members at around 1pm (GMT) on the date of premiere. If you have not received any emails from Scottish Ballet by 6:15pm please check your spam and junk folders.

If you become a Member after this time, the link will be in your welcome email. Please note, your welcome email may take up to an hour to arrive in your inbox after your sign up.

Not sure if you're a Member? Click [here](#) to find out.

### **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, both on stage and via digital platforms.
- 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.

**ENDS**