

Scottish Ballet returns to stage and screen, as tickets for the UK premiere of Gene Kelly's ballet go on sale

- Scottish Ballet return to performing to live audiences, after 18 months without touring
- The company present the UK premiere of *Starstruck*, a revival of Gene Kelly's *Pas de Dieux*, with tickets for the Scottish tour on sale from today
- World premiere of company's second feature-length film will be created alongside the stage production, released in partnership with Marquee TV, a global streaming platform for performing arts, following the tour
- Audiences can help bring both to life, by donating to the 'Fit for the Gods' Costume Appeal

Today, Scottish Ballet confirm that they'll make their long-awaited return to stage and screen this autumn as tickets for the Scottish tour of *Starstruck* go on sale.

After 18 months without performing to a live audience, Scottish Ballet are excited to present *Starstruck* from 23 September–16 October, in a tour that will see the company open in Glasgow (23-25 September), Inverness (30 September-2 October), Aberdeen (7-9 October) and Edinburgh (14-16 October).

Gene Kelly's ballet created for the stage, *Pas de Dieux*, is being given a new set of wings for its UK premiere. Created in collaboration with Kelly's widow, **Patricia Kelly**, Scottish Ballet's CEO/Artis-

tic Director **Christopher Hampson** and designer **Lez Brotherston** have lovingly revived the original ballet and added a delightful new twist to the jazzy and joyful original.

Set within the glamour of Paris in 1960, *Starstruck* recreates a world where jazz meets ballet, gods masquerade as mortals, and the stars align. The performance is set to Gershwin's effortlessly cool Concerto in F, with extracts from Chopin, recorded by the Scottish Ballet Orchestra. *Starstruck* is exactly the evening of entertainment audiences have been longing for.

Following the tour, Scottish Ballet will be on screen this autumn as they release the **world premiere of their second feature-length film**. Inspired by Gene Kelly's iconic work in Hollywood, *Starstruck* will combine live performance capture with cinematic filming techniques, to create an immersive, theatrical experience that will allow audiences around the world to escape to the glamour and grace of Paris, 1960.

Directed for screen by Oscar Sansom (*Dive*), in partnership with Forest of Black (*The Secret Theatre*), *Starstruck* will be **released in partnership with Marquee TV**, receiving its world premiere on Friday 26 November until 5 December 2021. Tickets for the premiere access of the film will go on sale in October 2021.

Audiences can help bring the ballet to life as Scottish Ballet has launched a **'Fit for the Gods' Costume Appeal**, asking the public to donate to the creation of nearly 100 stunning new costumes, reimagined by Tony and Olivier award-winning Designer Lez Brotherston. The glorious sixties Parisian designs will add lustre to Kelly's energetic choreography, and the mischievous adventures of Aphrodite and Eros. After a year and a half without box office income, this public support is vital to help the company return to touring.

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

'We are overjoyed to be returning to stage this autumn, to finally perform to live audiences across our much-loved venues in Scotland. Gene Kelly's pioneering choreography and much-loved style influenced a generation of dance-makers, and we honour his creative legacy with this dazzling new production. We are very proud of the distinctive dance films we have made over the last few years and look forward to adding this to our canon.'

Lez Brotherston, Designer, said:

‘It’s a simple story that we aim to tell in a sophisticated way. I hope it will be a great event to get people back into the theatre and remind them of the fun of being there.’

Patricia Kelly, Artistic Collaborator, said:

‘It took over two decades for me to find the right home for Gene’s ballet, but I am certain now that it is in the right place and in the right hands... Gene would be very proud.’

For more information and to book tickets visit:

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

To join Scottish Ballet’s membership to keep up to date with news, alongside exclusive offerings, visit:

<https://www.scottishballet.co.uk/support/individual-support/membership>

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

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

Scottish Ballet press contact

For more information about Scottish Ballet, please contact Joy Parkinson, Press Manager:

Joy Parkinson: joy.parkinson@scottishballet.co.uk / +44 7780310614

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Starstruck has been generously supported by The Gene Kelly Legacy Fund

Starstruck (Stage)

Starstruck, with original choreography by Gene Kelly and additional material created by Scottish Ballet CEO/Artistic Director Christopher Hampson, is a re-staging of *Pas de Dieux*, Gene Kelly's only ballet created for the stage, which was choreographed in 1960 for the Paris Opera Ballet and performed only twice since then.

Original Choreography & Direction for <i>Pas de Dieux</i> :	Gene Kelly
Additional Choreography & Scenario:	Christopher Hampson
Design & Additional Scenario:	Lez Brotherston
Artistic Collaborator:	Patricia Kelly
Lighting Designer:	Lawrie McLennan
Music:	George Gershwin & Frédéric Chopin

Starstruck will tour Scotland from 23 September–16 October, and will open at:

Theatre Royal, Glasgow:	23-25 September
Eden Court, Inverness:	30 September-2 October
His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen:	7-9 October
Festival Theatre, Edinburgh:	14-16 October

Running time: is 1 hour with no interval

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

#SBStarstruck

Starstruck (Film)

Alongside original production credits above, the *Starstruck* film credits are:

Director:	Oscar Sansom
Director of Photography:	David Liddell

Produced in association with Forest of Black

Starstruck will be available to view exclusively on Marquee TV, receiving its world premiere from 26 November to 5 December 2021. Tickets for the premiere access of the film will be available from the Scottish Ballet website and Marquee TV in October 2021.

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.

About Marquee TV

- Marquee TV is the global streaming TV service for dance, opera and theatre. Based in London and New York, available around the world, it is the platform for the best of arts and culture. Curating a rich mix of dance, ballet, opera, theatre and documentaries – the world's greatest artists in their greatest performances from the contemporary and cutting-edge to the classics.
- Available direct from app stores and also on the best TV platforms, Marquee TV is the world's leading arts streaming service. Marquee TV is already available on iOS and Android apps, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire, Comcast X1, Cox, Roku and Samsung with regular launches on additional platforms around the world.
- Described by both Dance Magazine and the Financial Times as “the new Netflix for the arts”, Marquee TV is at the vanguard of the next generation of subscription video on demand services.
- @MarqueeArtsTV can be found on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, with more information here: <https://www.marquee.tv/>

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