



2022: a packed year of premieres for Scotland's national dance company

- **Jan/Feb 2022:** the updated production of *The Nutcracker* continues its celebrated winter tour to Glasgow, Inverness, Aberdeen, Newcastle and Belfast.
- **April/May 2022:** the world premiere of *The Scandal at Mayerling* tours to major venues in Scotland. Sir Kenneth MacMillan's iconic ballet, which depicts shocking real events from 1889 and was boldly created in 1977, is reimagined and redesigned in 2022 by Scottish Ballet.
- **May 2022:** Scottish Ballet Health presents *Moving Minds*, Scotland's first major conference examining the connections between mental health, wellbeing and dance for young people.
- **June 2022:** bewitching Scottish Ballet hit *The Crucible* has its London premiere at Sadler's Wells.
- **August/Autumn 2022:** a new Edinburgh International Festival commission, *Coppélia*, created by award-winning dance film makers Jess & Morgs (*The Secret Theatre*) will have its world premiere, followed by a national tour. This darkly comic adaptation of the classic ballet will blend location and real-time filming with projection and live performance.
- **Nov 2022 – Jan 2023:** *The Snow Queen* makes her spectacular, glittering return to Scottish stages, following 2019's sellout tour.

After a year and a half of focusing on its already prolific digital and film output, Scottish Ballet returned to stages in autumn 2021 to rapturous audiences and star-studded reviews. Both dancers and producers demonstrated extreme flexibility with Gene Kelly's *Starstruck*, which premiered as both a live tour and a feature-length dance film presented on Marquee TV. *The Nutcracker* returned to stages in Scotland, but garnered international attention due to subtle updates made to some of the costumes and choreography, addressing racial stereotypes and questioning the gender of 'hero' characters. 'We're not an A-listed building, ballet must evolve to speak to our times' said Artistic Director & CEO Christopher Hampson. With one foot rooted in strong, classical technique and the other leaping boldly into the future, Scottish Ballet is looking forward to a year like no other in 2022, with a packed programme of exciting premieres:

The Scandal at Mayerling

13 April – 28 May

Glasgow, Inverness, Aberdeen, Edinburgh.

[Full dates, details and tickets.](#)

[The Scandal at Mayerling press images](#)

Reimagined and redesigned by Scottish Ballet, this dramatic world premiere will be the first time Sir Kenneth MacMillan's iconic ballet is produced in the UK outside of London. Set in 1889 in the opulent, royal courts of Vienna, *The Scandal at Mayerling* tells the true story of the Crown Prince Rudolf, an anti-hero as compelling as Hamlet. In a series of increasingly intense duets with his mother, his wife, and his teenage mistress, Rudolf descends deeper into his obsession with death, and hurtles towards tragedy. MacMillan's breathtaking choreography takes us on a physical and emotional rollercoaster, as Scottish Ballet turns the spotlight onto the lethal power dynamics in this gripping story of a royal family's destructive descent. The sweeping intensity of the choreography is matched by the sumptuous music of Franz Liszt, performed live by the Scottish Ballet Orchestra. This production comes with a content warning that it includes themes of mental illness, sexual violence, addiction and suicide.

Moving Minds

An Immersive Conference

Mental Health, Wellbeing and Dance

4-6 May 2022

Glasgow and online

Scottish Ballet Health presents this first major conference of its kind in Scotland, examining the connections between mental health, wellbeing and dance for young people. This immersive event will feature panel discussions, performances and workshops for those working with young people in dance, education, health and social care, mental health and policy. Leave your suits at home and join the conversation! Tickets on sale from January.

The Crucible

14-18 June

Sadler's Wells, London

The Crucible bewitched audiences and garnered five-star reviews when it premiered at Edinburgh International Festival in 2019. Helen Pickett's white-hot choreography unleashes the emotional force of Arthur Miller's riveting masterpiece, vividly soundtracked by Peter Salem's haunting score. This London premiere marks the production's first performances outside Scotland, with tickets on sale from 31 January.

Coppélia

Edinburgh International Festival, August 2022

Glasgow, Inverness, Aberdeen, Autumn 2022

Dates TBA

Scottish Ballet will test the boundaries of dance, theatre and film in this distinctive new adaptation of the classic ballet, blending location and real-time filming with projection and live performance. This innovative, darkly comic world premiere of *Coppélia* will be choreographed and directed by award-winning dance film makers duo Jess & Morgs. Building on their previous films for Scottish Ballet (*Tremble*, *The Secret Theatre*), Jess & Morgs will explore our relationship with reality and artificial intelligence, through their playful use of the camera, creating a unique experience for a live theatre audience. The original Delibes score will have a new arrangement, performed live by the Scottish Ballet Orchestra. *Coppélia* has been commissioned by the Edinburgh International Festival.

The Snow Queen

19 Nov 2022 – 28 Jan 2023

Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Inverness.

[Full dates, details and tickets.](#)

[Snow Queen 2022 press images](#)

Following 2019's premiere and sell-out tour, *The Snow Queen* makes her spectacular, sparkling return to Scottish stages, arriving in Edinburgh a little earlier than usual. This glittering production, inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale (also the basis for *Frozen*), is choreographed by Scottish Ballet Artistic Director Christopher Hampson, designed by the award-winning Lez Brotherston and set to the music of Rimsky-Korsakov, performed live by the full Scottish Ballet Orchestra. As part of the company's commitment to addressing and removing racist stereotypes from ballet, there will be some subtle but important improvements to scenes inspired by the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, ensuring *The Snow Queen* remains a festive family favourite for years to come.

[The Nutcracker production images](#)

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Notes to Editors:

The world premieres of *The Scandal at Mayerling* and *Coppélia*, and the return of *The Crucible* and *The Snow Queen* have been generously supported by patrons of **The Five in Five Campaign**. The Campaign was launched in 2019 to commission and stage five new full-length ballets in five years; a legacy of work to commemorate Scottish Ballet's 50th anniversary year.

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 screen.
- 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.
- For more information, visit: scottishballet.co.uk

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