

Stars of The Australian Ballet begin preparations on two signature works for the upcoming tour to London



Amber Scott and Adam Bull – *Swan Lake*. Photo Lynette Wills



Leanne Stojmenov – *Cinderella*. Photo Lynette Wills

This week **The Australian Ballet** commences rehearsals for its upcoming tour to **London**, where it will perform at the **Coliseum**, the West End's largest theatre, over a **two-week season**, from **13 to 23 July 2016**.

Tail feathers are being shaken and glass slippers dusted off as the company prepares two of its signature works; a return season of Graeme Murphy's highly acclaimed *Swan Lake* and a first time London season of Alexei Ratmasnky's *Cinderella*.

Principal Artists Amber Scott (Odette) and Adam Bull (Prince) with Soloist Dimity Azoury (Duchess) will open *Swan Lake*, with Rudy Hawkes, Amy Harris and Leanne Stojmenov, Kevin Jackson and Ako Kondo performing lead roles in subsequent performances. Principal Artists Leanne Stojmenov (*Cinderella*) and Kevin Jackson (Prince) will open *Cinderella*, followed by Amber Scott and Ty King-Wall, and Ako Kondo and Chengwu Guo.

Libby Christie, Executive Director of The Australian Ballet said, "Both productions have become acclaimed works and earned the company rave reviews from critics and audiences across Australia and abroad, so we're very excited to be bringing them to London next month."

"International touring has been an important regular undertaking for The Australian Ballet. International tours to key cultural centres provide an excellent opportunity to showcase the company to the broader world market. Our international performances allow us to showcase the company's technical excellence, versatility and artistry and assist us to develop future collaborations and opportunities – in this case in the UK," said Christie

This tour has been made possible thanks to the company's International Touring Fund, an endowment fund within The Australian Ballet Foundation, that provides financial resources to assist the company to regularly present The Australian Ballet on the world stage.

The tour is also generously supported by the Australian Government and tour corporate partners News UK and Qantas.

"Regular international touring exposes us to new audiences and provides the opportunity to be consistently benchmarked by these audiences and critics against the great ballet companies of the world," said Christie.

Earlier this year ten shipping containers left Australian shores with a cargo of two sets, over 420 costumes and 297 pairs of shoes, including 104 pointe shoes. A touring party of 114 people, including dancers, music staff, wardrobe, medical, technical and company staff, arrive into London on Sunday 10 July.

As Australia's national ballet company, The Australian Ballet has had a long history of international touring, and has visited 37 countries and 87 cities since it was founded in 1962. This tour marks the company's 25th international tour.

For all media enquiries, including interviews and images, please contact:

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The Australian Ballet



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Wednesday 13 – Saturday 16 July

Press night is Wednesday 13 July

Evenings at 7.30pm

Matinees on Thursday and Saturday at 2pm

Tickets: £15 - £75 (£90 premium)

Groups: Discounts for 10+

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CINDERELLA

Wednesday 20 – Saturday 23 July

Press night is Wednesday 20 July

Evenings at 7.30pm

Matinees on Thursday and Saturday at 2pm

Tickets: £15 - £75 (£90 premium)

Groups: Discounts for 10+

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