

## Another star is born at The Australian Ballet - Robyn Hendricks is promoted to principal artist, the company's highest rank



Known for her athletic grace and serene presence, Robyn Hendricks has been promoted to principal artist of The Australian Ballet, the company's highest rank.

Artistic Director David McAllister made the surprise announcement following her performance in *Swan Lake* at Arts Centre Melbourne this evening.

"Since joining the company, Robyn Hendricks has had the sort of physicality and artistry that marked her out as a ballerina," said McAllister.

"Over her time with The Australian Ballet, Robyn has honed her ability and grown into an artist of great intelligence and beauty. It is always a joy to see a dancer who has worked tirelessly to achieve their potential be elevated to the highest position."

"I am sure Robyn will draw on her experience and continue to evolve as a principal artist to beguile us with her dazzling performances well into the future," McAllister added.

South African-born Robyn Hendricks began ballet classes at the age of eight, after her grandfather observed her dancing on her toes all the time. Growing up in an academic family, Robyn was the first family member to pursue a creative passion.

Robyn travelled to Melbourne in 2001 to participate in the annual Cecchetti International Competition, during which she was approached by The Australian Ballet School to audition for the prestigious national school. Robyn joined The Australian Ballet in 2005; she was promoted to soloist in 2011 and senior artist in 2016.

Robyn has been performing this week in the Melbourne season of Stephen Baynes' *Swan Lake*. She will be seen next in The Australian Ballet's productions of *Nijinsky* and *Coppélia*. Tickets and casting details are available at [australianballet.com.au](http://australianballet.com.au)

### CRITICS COMMENTS

"It's Robyn Hendricks who steals the show... she is a rising star." *Sun Herald*

### REPERTOIRE HIGHLIGHTS

- Christopher Wheeldon's *After the Rain*® 2016, 2011
- Aurora in David McAllister's *The Sleeping Beauty* 2015
- Gamzatti in Stanton Welch's *La Bayadère* 2014
- Wayne McGregor's *Chroma* 2014
- Jiří Kylián's *Petite Mort* 2014, 2005
- "Cigarette" solo in Serge Lifar's *Suite en blanc* 2014
- 2nd Ballerina in George Balanchine's *Ballet Imperial* 2014
- Principal Lady in *Paquita* 2014

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

Gabrielle Wilson, Senior Publicist **M:** 0447 749 618 **E:** [gabriellew@australianballet.com.au](mailto:gabriellew@australianballet.com.au)

Elise Tobin, Publicist **P:** 03 9669 2771 **M:** 0419 375 751 **E:** [eliset@australianballet.com.au](mailto:eliset@australianballet.com.au)