

THE ROYAL BALLET
Director KEVIN O'HARE CBE
Founder DAME NINET'TE DE VALOIS OM CH DBE
Founder Choreographer SIR FREDERICK ASHTON OM CH CBE
Founder Music Director CONSTANT LAMBERT
Prima Ballerina Assoluta DAME MARGOT FONTEYN DBE

# **Romeo and Juliet**

Ballet in Three Acts

Choreography KENNETH MACMILLAN
Music SERGEY PROKOFIEV
Designer NICHOLAS GEORGIADIS
Lighting Designer JOHN B. READ
Staging and Artistic Supervisor to the MacMillan Estate
LAURA MORERA
Rehearsal Director CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS
Senior Répétiteurs GARY AVIS, DEIRDRE CHAPMAN,
SAMANTHA RAINE, SAMIRA SAIDI
Principal Coaching ALEXANDER AGADZHANOV

Conductor KOEN KESSELS Orchestra of the Royal Opera House Concert Master SERGEY LEVITIN

Directed for the screen by ROSS MACGIBBON

Exceptional philanthropic support from Royal Ballet and Opera Principal JULIA RAUSING TRUST

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The 2024/25 Royal Ballet Season generously supported by AUD JEBSEN

The role of Juliet is supported by RICHARD BAKER, FIONA AND SIMON THOMAS

Production generously sponsored by

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Broadcast live from the Royal Opera House Thursday 20 March 2025

## **Approximate Timings**

The performance lasts approximately 2 hours and 55 minutes, including two intervals

PRE SHOW 15 minutes ACT I 60 minutes INTERVAL 20 minutes ACT II 35 minutes INTERVAL 20 minutes ACT III 40 minutes CURTAIN CALL 10 minutes

#### Cast

Juliet FUMI KANEKO Romeo VADIM MUNTAGIROV Mercutio FRANCISCO SERRANO Tybalt RYOICHI HIRANO Benvolio GIACOMO ROVERO Paris LUKAS B. BRÆNDSRØD Lord Capulet BENNET GARTSIDE Lady Capulet CHRISTINA ARESTIS Escalus, Prince of Verona HARRIS BELL Rosaline ANNETTE BUVOLI Nurse OLIVIA COWLEY Friar Laurence THOMAS WHITEHEAD Lord Montague THOMAS WHITEHEAD Lady Montague LARA TURK Three harlots ITZIAR MENDIZABAL, MICA BRADURY, LETICIA DIAS Lead mandolin dancer DAICHI IKARASHI Juliet's friends, mandolin dancers, ballroom guests and townspeople ARTISTS OF THE ROYAL BALLET

Actors KIAN BERRY, MARTIAL BLAISE,
JEAN-PIERRE BLANCHARD, MADDIE BRENNAN,
LUCIEN CAMPBELL, ANGELO COASSIN,
PETER COONEY, JORDAN CORK, RUTH CROSS,
RAIN DE RYE BARRETT, CHRIS EDGERLEY,
KACHAAN ELLIS, SIMON JAYMES,
BLESS KLEPCHAREK, DAMIEN LEE STIRK,
CLARE LUMLEY, FIONA MARSHALL, KIM MENDEZ,
LAURENCE PASQUALINI, ALEJANDRO POSTIGO,
GEORGIA REID-HAMILTON, BARBARA RHODES,
SEBASTIAN ROSE, JULIA RUIZ FERNANDEZ,
OLGA SABADOCH, JACK SEARS,
SULEIMAN SULEIMAN, DANIEL SWAN,
VICTORIA TAYLOR, PETER TAYLOR,
JEREMY WALLIS, TIM WEBSTER

Junior Associates of The Royal Ballet School appear by kind permission of Artistic Director, IAIN MACKAY

All casts subject to change. For full up-to-date casting, find the full cast sheet online.

### **Synopsis**

The Capulets and Montagues are sworn enemies. A fight breaks out in the market place led by Romeo Montague and his friends Mercutio and Benvolio against Tybalt, Lord Capulet's nephew, and other members of the Capulet house. The Prince of Verona commands the families to end their feud. Lord and Lady Capulet introduce their daughter Juliet to Paris, a nobleman they intend her to marry. In disguise, Romeo, Mercutio and Benvolio sneak into a ball at the Capulets' house. Romeo and Juliet are taken with each other. Later, when Juliet is on her balcony, Romeo appears below and they profess their love.

INTERVAL

Juliet's nurse delivers a letter to Romeo in which Juliet says she will be his wife. The lovers are secretly married by Friar Laurence. In the market place, Tybalt fights Mercutio and kills him. Romeo avenges the death of his friend and is punished with immediate exile from Verona.

INTERVAL

Secretly, Romeo has been with Juliet through the night. In the morning, Romeo embraces Juliet and escapes as her parents enter with Paris. Juliet refuses to marry Paris, and her parents threaten to disown her. Juliet rushes to beg Friar Laurence's help. He gives her a potion that will make her fall temporarily into a deathlike sleep. Juliet agrees to marry Paris but the next morning her parents find her apparently lifeless. Romeo, who has not received the Friar's warning message about the subterfuge, returns to Verona at the news of Juliet's death. In the Capulet tomb, he believes Juliet to be dead and drinks poison. Juliet awakes, finds Romeo dead, and stabs herself.

#### The Royal Ballet

Director KEVIN O'HARE CBE
Music Director KOEN KESSELS
Resident Choreographer SIR WAYNE MCGREGOR CBE
Artistic Associate CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON OBE
Administrative Director HEATHER BAXTER
Rehearsal Director CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS
Clinical Director Ballet Healthcare SHANE KELLY

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