

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

SPRING 2022 HERALDS A UK TOUR OF CARLOS ACOSTA'S BRAND-NEW PRODUCTION OF *DON QUIXOTE*

Don Quixote Images [here](#)

Press Night: 7.30pm, Friday 18 February, Birmingham Hippodrome

For spring 2022, Birmingham Royal Ballet's Director Carlos Acosta promises entertainment for all ages when he brings an explosion of Spanish sunshine, spectacular dance and vivacious comedy to stages across the country.

In a new production created especially for Birmingham Royal Ballet and featuring all-new designs by Tim Hatley, *Don Quixote* introduces us to Cervantes' famous knight himself, lovers Kitri and Basilio, and a host of supporting characters. As the Don sets out on a quest to track down his true love, with his loyal friend and servant Sancho Panza at his side, he finds himself embroiled in an unlikely adventure of love and dreams.

The first UK performances of Acosta's sparkling new 21st-century production of this 19th-century masterpiece, featuring music by one of the founding fathers of Russian Ballet music Ludwig Minkus, performed live by the Royal Ballet Sinfonia, take place in Southampton in February and the tour continues to Birmingham, Salford, Sunderland and Plymouth through to 19 March.

Carlos Acosta's original production, his first full length ballet, was created for The Royal Ballet in 2013, and was last seen at the Royal Ballet in 2019. It has also been seen in cinemas all over the world. Carlos has been performing in *Don Quixote* since the age of 16 when he won the Prix de Lausanne so it's very close to his heart but also a real crowd pleaser. As well as wanting to ensure this new version is suitable for touring, Acosta said:

"For this new production, I wanted to give it a completely new take and a new look to the one that I gave to the Royal Ballet so that Birmingham has its own. It's a new production with new concept and designs, re-orchestration, new elements of the choreography, new colours, a whole new palette.

"This ballet is really popular with dancers," he says. "It is a ballet for virtuosos. If you really have aspirations to become the best ballet dancer you can be, then you must have this ballet under your belt. Also it's a production which gives opportunities to a large ballet company because there are a lot of roles for everyone in the company - for soloists, for corps members and principals so it's a real showcase."

/Ends

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Listings

DON QUIXOTE

Music Ludwig Minkus

Choreography Carlos Acosta after Marius Petipa

Production Carlos Acosta

Designs Tim Hatley

Lighting Peter Mumford

Staged by Christopher Saunders

Southampton Mayflower

Thursday 10 - Saturday 12 February

brb.org.uk/quixote

Birmingham Hippodrome

Friday 18 - Saturday 26 February

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brb.org.uk/quixote

Salford Lowry

Wednesday 2 - Saturday 5 March

brb.org.uk/quixote

Sunderland Empire

Thursday 10 - Saturday 12 March

brb.org.uk/quixote

Plymouth Theatre Royal

Wednesday 16 - Saturday 19 March

brb.org.uk/quixote

Notes to Editors:

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Based at Birmingham Hippodrome, Birmingham Royal Ballet is the United Kingdom's leading touring ballet company performing a range of traditional, classical and heritage ballets as well as ground-breaking new works with the aim of encouraging choreographers of the future.

The Company's Director since January 2020 is the internationally renowned Carlos Acosta.

Birmingham Royal Ballet standardly performs at Birmingham Hippodrome for approximately ten weeks of the year and the remainder of the year tours throughout the United Kingdom and overseas. On average, the Company performs 175 shows a year nationally and internationally.

The Royal Ballet Sinfonia is Birmingham Royal Ballet's permanent orchestra, it is also Britain's busiest ballet orchestra. The Sinfonia also plays frequently for The Royal Ballet and other leading ballet companies, including performances with Paris Opéra Ballet, New York City Ballet, Australian Ballet, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, the Kirov, Norwegian Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and La Scala Ballet.