

DON QUIXOTE

JOBURG
BALLET



JOHANNESBURG
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA



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*Photograph:
Tammy Higgins
and Revil Yon
Don Quixote
Joburg Ballet 2023
Photographer:
Lauge Sorensen*

DON QUIXOTE

Joburg Ballet
Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra

Choreography after **Marius Petipa** (1818-1910) and **Alexander Gorsky** (1871-1924)

Produced by **Angela Malan**

Assisted by **Shannon Glover, Natasha Ireland, Sanmarie Kreuzhuber-Hagler** and **Thabang Mabaso**

Music **Ludwig Minkus** (1826-1917)

Conductor **Lykele Temmingh**

Set Design **Andrew Botha**

Costumes **Joburg Ballet**

Lighting Design **Simon King**

Joburg Theatre

29 September, 6 October at 19h00

30 September, 1, 7, 8 October at 14h00

4*, 5* October at 11:00 | 2023

* To recorded music

Also participating in this production are dancers from WGRUV Dance Company, Cape Town City Ballet, Jozi Youth Dance Company and the Joburg Ballet Academy.

Cover: Darragh Hourrides

This page: Vadim Muntagiurov as Basilio and Marianela Nuñez as Kitri in *Don Quixote*,

©ROH 2019 Photo Andrej Uspenski

Programme Photographs: Lauge Sorensen
(unless otherwise stated)

Joburg Ballet is grateful for generous sponsorship from The Michel Tesson Trust, Friends of the Ballet, Air France and Legacy Hotels towards the production of *Don Quixote*





From Elroy Fillis-Bell | CEO

With barely a month under my belt since I took the helm as CEO of Joburg Ballet, we present the much-loved classic, *Don Quixote*. It is a testament to the thoughtful planning, professionalism and dedication of the full staff, dancers, artistic team, management and board that despite this leadership transition, there has not been a single misstep in bringing this production to you, our loyal audiences.

Indeed, *Don Quixote* has been waiting in the wings since 2020 as we were forced to postpone due to the Covid-19 pandemic. I am grateful to Angela Malan, our acclaimed guest producer, who has worked tirelessly, flying between Johannesburg and her home in Italy to bring her vision of *Don Quixote* to the Mandela Stage. Angela's adept and thoughtful attention to detail has been supported by a great artistic team in Thabang Mabaso, Shannon Glover, Sanmarie Kreuzhuber-Hagler and Natasha Ireland.

A great thanks is owed to my predecessor, Joburg Ballet's former CEO, Esther Nasser for staying on as Production Manager until the end of *Don Quixote* while I have been finding my feet. It is through her ongoing engagement that we are honoured to have two acclaimed dancers from The Royal Ballet with us this season. Vadim Muntagirov will be performing Basilio alongside Marianela Nuñez's Kitri as she makes her South African debut on 6 and 8 October. Both were scheduled to perform as part of the 2020 season of *Don Quixote* and we are grateful to have them with Joburg Ballet now to finally bring this vision to fruition.

I would like to extend a thank you to Joburg Theatre and the City of Johannesburg for their continued support of Joburg Ballet's work. For this season, Joburg Ballet is grateful for generous support from the Michel Tesson Trust and Friends of the Ballet that has enabled us to host Marianela and Vadim as well as other guest artists for this season. Support from the Michel Tesson Trust has also contributed to us hosting the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra for select performances of this run. A special thank you to Air France who have offered us an in-kind sponsorship for a return flight for one of our guest artists from the UK, as well as The Leonardo Hotel in Sandton for their in-kind sponsorship of accommodation. Joburg Ballet is also grateful for the excellent workmanship and generosity of Glynis Higgins who made and donated new tutus and the Dryad costumes as well as the white tutus and tunics seen in the finale.

Finally, to you, our audiences, thank you for your continued support and patronage of Joburg Ballet. For more than two decades, your support, along with the work of all who have come before me, have built this company to what it is today. We are evolving and growing as we enter a new phase of Joburg Ballet's life as we will soon be announcing the appointment of a new Artistic Director. The dancers, staff, board of directors and I are excited about Joburg Ballet's future as we begin expanding our base of loyal stakeholders to build new partnerships of shared value and introduce Joburg Ballet to new audiences through artistic innovation while continuing to present new and older classics you have come to love from Joburg Ballet.

We welcome all support and encourage you to join the Friends of the Ballet or, if the moment so takes you, feel free to donate to Joburg Ballet using the QR code in your programme. Please keep an eye out as we will be announcing our exciting programme for 2024 soon. We also look forward to welcoming you back to the ballet in December as Joburg Ballet presents *The Nutcracker* at Montecasino's Teatro, with a subsequent tour to Durban's Playhouse. Tickets are on sale now.



From Angela Malan | Guest Producer

It is with gratitude that I return to Joburg Ballet to stage this production of *Don Quixote*. I associate this production with the word 'collaboration' as it was originally done in 2011 in collaboration with the National Ballet School of Cuba. Now in 2023, we are collaborating with dancers from WGRUV Dance Company, Cape Town City Ballet, Jozi Youth Dance Company and our wonderful Joburg Ballet Academy.

I am proud and grateful to have been able to work with an amazing artistic team who have given their time and expertise to make this production what it is and I thank Shannon Glover, Thabang Mabaso, Natasha Ireland and Sanmarie Kreuzhuber-Hagler for the passion and professionalism they brought to the studio and to this production.

With guest artists Manuel Noram as the Don and Christopher Montague as Kitri's father, we look forward to welcoming international guests Marianela Nuñez and Vadim Muntigarov to the Joburg Theatre to collaborate on this vibrant version of Cervantes' tale.

The Story

Prologue

An old and eccentric nobleman named Don Quixote, obsessed with stories of ancient chivalry, transforms his servant, Sancho Panza, into a trusty squire and together they set off in search of gallant adventures.

ACT I : The Port of Barcelona

The lovely Kitri seeks out her sweetheart, the young barber Basilio. Their happy meeting in the square is interrupted by her father, the innkeeper Lorenzo, who tries to force her into accepting the marriage proposal of the rich and foppish Gamache. Kitri manages to elude Gamache and together with fishermen, townfolk and toreadors, she and Basilio join the spirited festivities. Don Quixote and Sancho Panza arrive in the square. The Don is enraptured by Kitri, imagining her to be a vision of maidenly perfection deserving of his noble and knightly protection, and they dance a stately minuet. At the height of the merriment, Kitri and Basilio sneak off followed by Don Quixote and Sancho Panza and with Lorenzo and Gamache in pursuit.

INTERVAL

ACT II Scene 1: A Gypsy Camp

Kitri and Basilio, seeking refuge in the countryside, find themselves in a gypsy camp where they are discovered by Don Quixote, now Kitri's protector, and Sancho Panza. Suddenly the wind gains momentum. The deluded Don attacks a windmill, believing it to be a giant threatening Kitri's safety. Knocked to the ground, he collapses into a deep sleep.

ACT II Scene 2: The Dream

Don Quixote dreams he is in a magic garden filled with beautiful maidens where the Queen of the Dryads brings a grateful Kitri to him. The dream fades and Don Quixote and Sancho Panza continue on their chivalric quest.

ACT II Scene 3: A Tavern

Kitri, Basilio and their friends celebrate their escape when Lorenzo and Gamache arrive with Don Quixote and Sancho Panza not far behind. In the face of Lorenzo's continued determination to marry his daughter to Gamache, Basilio 'commits suicide' in tragic despair. Realizing Basilio's trick, Kitri implores Don Quixote for help. In his pursuit to right a wrong, the Don compels Lorenzo to bless the young lovers before they are separated forever. Instantly Basilio 'comes to life' and he and Kitri triumphantly leave to prepare for their wedding.

Act III: The Wedding

The townfolk celebrate the marriage of Basilio and Kitri, and Lorenzo accepts Basilio as his son-in-law. Don Quixote gives his blessing to the young couple before he and the trusty Sancho Panza set out once more in search of adventures.

The Cast

Don Quixote
Sancho Panza, his Squire
Kitri
Basilio, a barber
Lorenzo, Kitri's father
Gamache, a wealthy suitor
A street boy
Mercedes, a street dancer
Espada, a Toreador
Kitri's Friends

Queen of the Dryads
Amour, a Cupid
Toreadors, Seguidilla
Dancers, Townfolk, Gypsies,
Fishermen, Dryads, Cupids

Manuel Noram

Lerato Letlape

Marianela Nuñez / Tammy Higgins / Monike Cristina / Darragh Hourrides

Vadim Muntagirov / Revil Yon / Ivan Domiciano / Ruan Galdino

Christopher Montague

Craig Pedro / Bruno Miranda

Ivan Domiciano / Luhle Mtati / Tumelo Lekana

Monike Cristina / Nicole Ferreira-Dill / Cristina Nakos / Savannah Ireland

Bruno Miranda / Gabriel Fernandes

Chloé Blair / Nicole Ferreira-Dill / Darragh Hourrides / Savannah Ireland / Alice le Roux /

Cristina Nakos / Erica Vadelka

Nicole Ferreira-Dill / Savannah Ireland / Monike Cristina

Erica Vadelka / Tammy Higgins / Chloé Blair / Alice le Roux

Artists of Joburg Ballet



Marianela Nuñez | Vadim Muntagirov
©ROH 2019 Photo: Andrej Uspenski



Photo: Johan Persson

Marianela Nuñez

Argentine dancer Marianela Nuñez is a Principal of The Royal Ballet. She joined The Royal Ballet Upper School in 1997 and the Company in 1998, was promoted to First Soloist in 2000 and Principal in 2002 aged 20. She has performed all the leading roles in the classical, dramatic and contemporary repertory, including in works by Frederick Ashton, George Balanchine, John Cranko, William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Kenneth MacMillan, Wayne McGregor, Ashley Page, Jerome Robbins, Liam Scarlett, Glen Tetley, Will Tuckett, Antony Tudor and Christopher Wheeldon.

She has created roles in *Infra*, *Carbon Life*, *DGV: Danse à grande vitesse*, *Asphodel Meadows*, *Human Seasons*, *Tetractys*, Carlos Acosta's *Carmen* and *Multiverse*, among other works.

Marianela Nuñez was born in Buenos Aires and began dancing at the age of three. When she was six she began training at the Teatro Colón Ballet School, joining the Teatro Colón company aged 14. She took on corps and soloist roles and toured internationally, both with the company and as a guest artist with Maximiliano Guerra.

Her awards include Best Female Dancer at the 2005, 2012, 2018 and 2022 Critics' Circle National Dance Awards. She received the 2013 Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance in recognition of her performances in *Viscera* and in roles created on her in *Aeternum* and '*Diana and Actaeon*' (*Metamorphosis: Titian 2012*). She has appeared as a guest artist with leading companies including Vienna State Opera Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, La Scala Milan, Ballet Estable del Teatro Colón, Ballet Argentino de La Plata and Australian Ballet, and in galas around the world.

These performances of *Don Quixote* mark Marianela Nuñez's début with Joburg Ballet and her first performances in South Africa. She appears by kind permission of the Director of The Royal Ballet.



Vadim Muntagirov

Russian dancer Vadim Muntagirov is a Principal of The Royal Ballet. He trained at The Royal Ballet Upper School and joined the Company from English National Ballet as a Principal in March 2014. His roles with the Company include Basilio (*Don Quixote*), Albrecht (*Giselle*), Prince Siegfried (*Swan Lake*), Prince Florimund (*The Sleeping Beauty*), the Prince (*The Nutcracker*), Colas (*La Fille mal gardée*), the Girl's Cousin (*The Invitation*), Young Man (*Two Pigeons*), Lensky (*Onegin*), Romeo, Des Grieux (*Manon*), Jack/Knave of Hearts (*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*), Florizel (*The Winter's Tale*), Don José (*Carmen*) and in *The Vertiginous Thrill of Exactitude*, '*Diamonds*' (*Jewels*), *The Human Seasons*, *Symphonic Variations*, *The Four Temperaments*, *Afternoon of a Faun*, *Tchaikovsky Pas de deux* and *Within the Golden Hour*.

Vadim Muntagirov was born in Chelyabinsk, the son of two dancers. He trained at Perm Ballet School before moving to The Royal Ballet Upper School. He graduated into English National Ballet in 2009, promoted to first soloist in 2010, principal in 2011 and lead principal in 2012. His roles with ENB included Apollo, Conrad (*Le Corsaire*), Albrecht (*Giselle*), the Prince (*Cinderella*), Prince Siegfried (*Swan Lake* in-the-round at the Royal Albert Hall), Prince Désiré (*The Sleeping Beauty*) and roles in *Songs of a Wayfarer*. He created the role of the Prince in Wayne Eagling's *The Nutcracker*.

His awards include the 2011 Outstanding Male Performance (Classical) and 2015 Best Male Dancer at the Critics' Circle National Dance Awards and the 2013 Benois de la danse. As a guest artist he has danced with Paris Opera Ballet, Mariinsky Ballet and American Ballet Theatre, in repertory including Solor (*La Bayadère*), and at National Ballet of Japan, Bavarian State Ballet, Mikhailovsky Ballet and Cape Town City Ballet.

These performances of *Don Quixote* mark Vadim Muntagirov's début with Joburg Ballet. He appears by kind permission of the Director of The Royal Ballet.



Tammy Higgins | Revil Yon



Monike Cristina | Ivan Domiciano

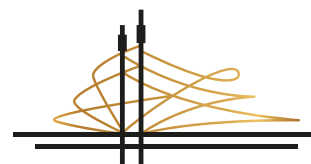


Darragh Hourrides | Ruan Galdino

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Leonie Greyling
Dieter Hendricks
Katrien Klopper

SECOND VIOLIN

Olga Maraba
Lebogang Ledwaba
Maria Branco
Bernard Madumo
Kgotso Langa
Lize Schaap
Mlungisi Zulu
Thokozani Radebe

VIOLA

Vladimir Ivanov *
Esther Spies
Violeta Miljkovic
Tiisetso Mashishi
Kgaugelo Mpyane
Gloria Boyi

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CLARINET

Chrisna Smith
Morné van Heerden

BASSOON

Penelope Fraser *
Brahm Henkins

FRENCH HORN

Shannon Armer *
Chris Bishop
Rudolf van Dyk
Peter Griffiths

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Donny Boucher
Alex Urban

TROMBONE

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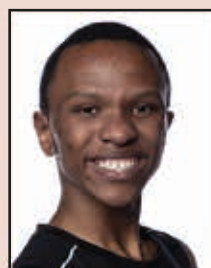
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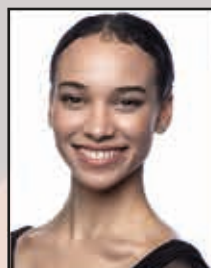
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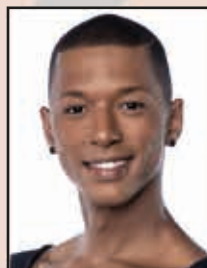
Christopher Montague



Manual Noram

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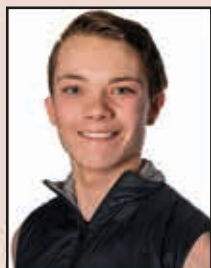
Craig Pedro



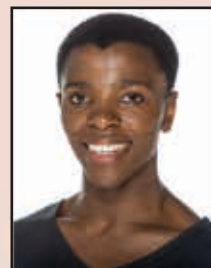
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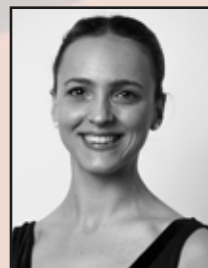
Tayla de Bie



Axton Green



Fanelo Ndweni



Nina Simpson



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Tehilla Ghodini
Isabella Meyer
Gia Segal

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Rhulani Neo Molo

JOBURG BALLET

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Programme compiled by Jonathan Hurwitz

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Smoking is not permitted on the theatre premises except in designated areas. No recording equipment may be used, including cellphones, without arrangement with the Management. At the end of the performance please remain seated until the house lights are on.



JOBURG
BALLET



The Nutcracker

Teatro Montecasino
1 - 10 December
webtickets.co.za

MONTECASINO