

RAMBERT IN 2018

A look at the year ahead for Britain's leading contemporary dance company, with listings details

- Rambert tours the UK with an expansive repertory of acclaimed recent works and contemporary classics
- The company premieres its first full-length narrative work in 30 years
- New ensemble Rambert2 launches with UK tour of cutting-edge work by international choreographers
- New appointments for Music and Choreography fellowships

2018 is a landmark year for Rambert and the company is busier than ever, with ambitious new creations, international touring and the launch of a new ensemble, all while expanding the company's artistic and educational work across the UK.

Rambert continues its dedication to touring large-scale contemporary dance works set to live music with an extraordinarily versatile range of repertory this spring, from the iconic *Ghost Dances* to the company's latest creation *Goat*, which premiered in 2017 to widespread critical acclaim. The hugely successful revival of *Ghost Dances* has its final performances in the autumn at Sadler's Wells and Bath Theatre Royal, alongside the company's new ensemble Rambert2.

In May, Rambert creates its first full-length narrative work in over 30 years with internationally-renowned choreographer **Kim Brandstrup** and legendary filmmakers the **Quay Brothers**. *Life is a Dream* is a two-act, modern reimagining of the 17th-century play by **Pedro Calderón de la Barca** commissioned by **Bergen International Festival** and premiering at **Sadler's Wells** before touring.

The company extends its reach with the launch of **Rambert2**. This ensemble brings together ten of the world's finest early-career dancers in a new wing of the company designed to develop and showcase the next generation of highly-skilled, thinking dance artists. Rambert2 tours the UK in the autumn with a triple bill of dance by top international choreographers **Rafael Bonachela**, **Sharon Eyal** and **Benoit-Swan Pouffer**, as well as **Ohad Naharin's** *Kamuyot* for non-theatre spaces.

Fellowship and associate programmes form the backbone of Rambert's commitment to supporting future generations of artists, and Rambert has appointed **Joseph Howard** to be this year's **Music Fellow** and **Hemabharathy Palani** as this year's **Choreography Fellow**. Palani's predecessor **Julie Cunningham** joins **New Movement Collective** and **Alexander Whitley** as a **Rambert Associate**, and Rambert presents Julie Cunningham & Company's *To Be Me* at the Brighton Theatre Royal as part of the company's UK tour in the Spring.

– ENDS –

For further information contact Camilla St Aubyn, Press and Media Manager
020 8630 0612 | camilla.staubyn@rambert.org.uk

Notes for Editors

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NB. More major projects & collaborations to be announced later in the year

UK Tour, February – March 2018

***A Linha Curva* – Itzik Galili, 2007**

Rambert's party piece: a riotous explosion of sexy, colourful, samba-fuelled dance, featuring 28 performers, a massed bank of percussion and dramatic lighting.

***Ghost Dances* – Christopher Bruce, 1981**

One of the most celebrated contemporary dance pieces of its generation. An evocative tribute to the victims of political oppression in South America, set to traditional Latin American folk music.

***Goat* – Ben Duke, 2017**

Darkly funny and deeply moving, rising star Ben Duke's dance-theatre creation dissects the pleasure and pain of performing, inspired by the music and spirit of Nina Simone and with a selection of her best-loved songs performed live onstage.

Rambert presents Julie Cunningham & Company: *To Be Me*, 2017

Julie Cunningham & Company make a guest appearance with Rambert, presenting Cunningham's critically acclaimed work set to Kate Tempest's rhythmic, hip-hop influenced reworking of the ancient Greek myth of Tiresias, whom the gods turned from male to female for seven years.

***Symbiosis* – Andonis Foniadakis, 2017**

A high velocity celebration of the Rambert dancers' skills, by internationally acclaimed dance-maker Andonis Foniadakis, with a new score by Ilan Eshkeri.

***The Days run away like wild horses* – Aletta Collins, 2017**

A witty, vivid portrayal of how different moments combine to form a life, set to Arturo Márquez's pulsating, Cuban-inspired *Danzones 1-3*.

Dates:

Theatre Royal, Newcastle

Tue 6 – Thu 8 Feb

Ghost Dances | *Goat* | *Symbiosis*

theatreroyal.co.uk / 08448 11 21 21

His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen

Thu 15 – Sat 17 Feb

Ghost Dances | *Goat* | *Symbiosis*

aberdeenperformingarts.com / 01224 641122

Theatre Royal Nottingham

Tue 27 Feb – Thu 1 Mar
Symbiosis | *A Linha Curva* | *Goat*
trch.co.uk / 0115 989 5555

Theatr Clwyd, Flintshire

Wed 7 – Sat 10 Mar
A Linha Curva | *Symbiosis* | *The Days run away like wild horses*
theatrclwyd.com / 01352 701521

Waterside Theatre, Aylesbury

Thu 15 – Sat 17 Mar
Ghost Dances | *Goat* | *A Linha Curva*
atgtickets.com / 0844 871 7627

Theatre Royal Brighton

Wed 21 – Sat 24 Mar
Here & Now
Feat. *Goat* | *Symbiosis* | Rambert presents Julie Cunningham & Company: *To Be Me*
atgtickets.com / 0844 871 7650

New Victoria Theatre, Woking

Tue 27 – Thu 29 Mar
Ghost Dances | *A Linha Curva* | *The Days run away like wild horses*
atgtickets.com / 0844 871 7645

Life is a Dream Tour, from May 2018

Following the phenomenal success of *Transfigured Night* (2016), Danish choreographer and two-time Olivier award-winner Kim Brandstrup creates a new work for Rambert.

After a lifetime of incarceration, a man gains a single day of freedom in this retelling of the 17th century play by Pedro Calderón de la Barca. Illusion and reality collide as legendary filmmakers the Quay Brothers place the action in a dream-like world. A full-size symphony orchestra adds to the other-worldly atmosphere with the rich, harmonious music of Witold Lutosławski for this tale of revenge and reconciliation.

Dates:**Sadler's Wells, London**

Tue 22 – Sat 26 May
sadlerswells.com | 020 7863 8000

Bergen International Festival, Norway

Wed 6 Jun
fib.no/en | +47 55 21 06 30

Norwich Theatre Royal

Thu 27 – Fri 28 Sep
theatreroyalnorwich.co.uk | 01603 63 00 00

Venue Cymru, Llandudno

Mon 1 – Tue 2 Oct
venuecymru.co.uk | 01492 872 000

The Lowry, Salford

Wed 10 – Sat 13 Oct

thelowry.com | 0843 208 6000**Festival Theatre, Edinburgh**

Thu 22 – Sat 24 Nov

edtheatres.com | 0131 529 6000**Theatre Royal Plymouth**

Mon 26 – Sat 1 Nov

theatreroyal.com | 01752 267 222**Rambert2 Tour, From October 2018****NEW WORK - Benoit-Swan Pouffer**

The former Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet director and Alvin Ailey Principal Dancer creates Rambert2's first new work.

***E2 7SD* - Rafael Bonachela**

Rambert2 perform the virtuosic duet based on two dancers' personal diaries that attracted international recognition for Bonachela in 2004 and was awarded the prestigious Place Prize.

***Killer Pig* - Sharon Eyal**

Originally created for Norway's Carte Blanche in 2009, Rambert2 revives Sharon Eyal's pulsating, uncompromisingly physical piece.

Dates:**Theatr Clwyd, Flintshire**

Thu 25 – Sat 27 Oct

theatrclwyd.com | 01352 701521**The Lighthouse, Poole**

Tue 30 – Wed 31 Oct

lighthousepoole.co.uk | 01202 280 000**Sadler's Wells, London***Feat. Rambert performing Ghost Dances*

Tue 6 – Sat 10 Nov

sadlerswells.com | 020 7863 8000**Theatre Royal Bath***Feat. Rambert performing Ghost Dances*

Thu 15 – Sat 17 Nov

theatreroyal.org.uk | 01225 448 844***Kamuyot* – Ohad Naharin**

Created for children and adults alike, Rambert2 brings Ohad Naharin's playful and captivating piece for non-theatre spaces to the UK for the first time.

Dates:**Rambert, 99 Upper Ground, SE1 9PP**

Fri 14 – Sat 15 Dec

rambert.org.uk | 020 8630 0600

Fellowships and Associates

2018 Music Fellow – Joseph Howard

Launched in 2010 Rambert's music fellowship is tailored specifically for each fellow. Fellowships can include writing music for Rambert's choreographic development programme or for dance films, arranging and orchestrating music for our national tours, leading workshops with dancers, choreographers and musicians or curating concerts and public events with dance at the Rambert studios. The Rambert Music Fellowship is supported by PRS for Music Foundation and the Harold Hyam Wingate Foundation.

Joseph Howard is a London-based composer originally from North Yorkshire. He writes new music for classical instruments, and his work has been performed across the country and internationally.

His work has been most recently been performed by the Royal Academy of Music Manson Ensemble and at the Aldeburgh Festival, where he attended the Britten-Pears Composition Course, as well as at Cheltenham Festival, Bath International Music Festival, Ryedale Festival and York Late Music Festival. He was the 2013 winner of the National Centre for Early Music's Young Composers Competition. Joseph studied as an undergraduate at the University of Birmingham before attending a masters course at The Royal Academy of Music, graduating with distinction. He was also the Manson Fellow of Composition 2016-17 at the Royal Academy, where he is currently working towards a PhD under the tutelage of Philip Cashian.

2018 Choreography Fellow – Hemabharathy Palani

Supported by a grant from the Leverhulme Trust, the Choreography Fellowship helps professional dancers make the transition to becoming full-time working choreographers.

Hemabharathy Palani is a prominent figure amongst emerging contemporary choreographers in India. Known for her fluidity and musicality, she is a dynamic choreographer and performer, deriving a remarkable grace from her classical training in Kuchipudi under Guru Smt, and further training in ballet, contemporary dance, Kalaripayattu, yoga and capoeira at the Attakkalari Centre for Movement Arts. Palani is the Rehearsal Director at the Attakkalari Centre for Movement Arts, Bengaluru, where she also works as a choreographer, teacher, and performing artist with the Attakkalari Repertory Company.

Rambert Associates

Rambert's Associates are offered support, advice and space as they develop new work and receive an annual grant of £10,000 from the company. This work may differ in scale or location from Rambert's touring programme, but is aligned in ambition, quality and values. Current associates are **Alexander Whitley**, **Julie Cunningham & Company** and **New Movement Collective**.

Choreographer biographies

Aletta Collins

The Days run away like wild horses

Aletta Collins has worked with major dance, theatre and opera companies across Europe including The Royal Opera House, Berlin Philharmonic, Salzburg Festival, Opera North, National Theatre and Bristol Old Vic. Her recent work includes the 2016 production for the Young Vic, *If You Kiss Me, Kiss Me*, a collaboration with actress Jane Horrocks.

Andonis Foniadakis

Symbiosis

Andonis Foniadakis is resident choreographer for Greek National Ballet and director of the Lyon-based Apotosoma Dance Company which he founded in 2003. He has collaborated with ballet companies worldwide as both a dancer and choreographer including, Tanz Luzerner Theatre, Sydney Dance Company, Ballet de Lorraine, Martha Graham Dance Company, Ballet de l'Opera de Lyon and most recently, Royal New Zealand Ballet. He was movement coordinator for Darren Aronofsky's *Noah* and his awards include the Danza e Danza Award for Best Choreography in 2002.

Ben Duke

Goat

Ben Duke is Co-Founder and Artistic Director of dance theatre company Lost Dog. He trained at the Guildford School of Acting, London Contemporary Dance School and has a first class degree in English Literature from Newcastle University. As well as his work for Lost Dog, Ben has directed and choreographed works for companies including Scottish Dance Theatre, Dance Umbrella, The National Theatre of Scotland and the Gate Theatre, London. As a performer he has worked with Probe, Hofesh Shechter Company, Tilted Productions, The Gate Theatre, The National Theatre of Scotland, Glyndebourne Opera and Punchdrunk.

Benoit-Swan Pouffer

Rambert2 – NEW WORK

Benoit-Swan Pouffer was a principal dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for seven years before spending a decade as Artistic Director for the Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet company. Benoit-Swan has since worked on a diverse range of projects, from motion picture *The Adjustment Bureau* to *Ellie Goulding AMEX Unstaged* directed by Scarlett Johansson and *So You Think You Can Dance*. Today Benoit-Swan's work is seen all over the world, from Broadway to the Lido in Paris to Macau, China.

Christopher Bruce

Ghost Dances

Christopher Bruce is one of Britain's leading choreographers and is recognised as the last major choreographer to have been nurtured by Marie Rambert. Bruce is a former dancer and Artistic Director of Rambert (1992 – 2002), who's acclaimed work for the company includes *Cruel Garden* (1977), *Swansong* (1987) and *Rooster* (1991). He has created works for major companies around the world including English National Ballet, Houston Ballet, Nederlands Dans Theater and The Royal Ballet.

Itzik Galili

A Linha Curba

Born in Israel, Itzik Galili moved to the Netherlands in 1991 and was artistic director of NND/Galili Dance (1997-2008) and co-artistic director of Dansgroep Amsterdam (2009-2010). Galili has created for and worked with major companies in the Netherlands and around the world and built a portfolio of pioneering diversity creating over 70 works for companies, including including Stuttgart Ballet, Bayerisches Staatsballett, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, National Dance Company Wales, Batsheva Dance Company, NDT2, Balé da Cidade de São Paulo, Het Nationale Ballet, Finnish National Ballet, and Ballet British Columbia. In 2006, he was made a Knight in the Royal Order of The House of Orange Nassau by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands for his contribution to Dutch Dance.

Julie Cunningham

Julie Cunningham & Company – To Be Me

Julie Cunningham has worked professionally as a dance artist for fifteen years performing both nationally and internationally. After training at the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance Julie worked with Ballett der Stadt Theater Koblenz, the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, and the Michael Clark Company. Julie was Leverhulme Choreography Fellow at Rambert and her company is now a Rambert associate. Julie has created new work that has been performed at The Place, Dance Base Edinburgh, Tramway Glasgow, Siobhan Davies Studios, Wilderness Festival and the National Theatre River Stage. She was nominated for the Critics Circle National Dance Awards 2016 as emerging artist for choreography.

Julie launched her company in 2017 with an expressive double bill about gender and identity at the Barbican. Since then, new works have been presented at the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Southbank Centre and Dance.

Ohad Naharin

Rambert2 – Kamuyot

Ohad Naharin is Artistic Director of Batsheva Dance Company. Naharin has choreographed over 30 works for Batsheva and its junior division, Batsheva Young Ensemble, and his works have been performed by prominent companies around the world. Naharin is the originator of an innovative movement vocabulary, Gaga, which has enriched his extraordinary movement invention, revolutionized the company's training, and emerged as a growing force in the larger field of movement practices for both dancers and non-dancers.

Rafael Bonachela

Rambert2 – E2 7SD

Rafael Bonachela is a choreographer, curator and Artistic Director of Sydney Dance Company. Born in La Garriga near Barcelona, he danced with Rambert from 1992 to 2004 and was associate choreographer from 2003-2005. In 2006 he set up the Bonachela Dance Company and in 2008 was appointed Artistic Director of Sydney Dance Company.

Bonachela has collaborated with artists from across the fields of classical and pop music, fashion, poetry, visual art and film, including Kylie Minogue, Tina Turner, The Kills, Primal Scream, Jaguar Automóviles, Siemens Mobile, Hugo Boss and Lexus. Bonachela has worked with dance companies worldwide including Dresden Frankfurt Dance Company, Danza Contemporanea de Cuba, BalletBoyz,

IT Dansa, Candoco and Dance Works Rotterdam. His work has also been presented by major international galleries, including Whitechapel Art Gallery, Tate and The Art Gallery of NSW.

Sharon Eyal

Rambert2 – Killer Pig

Sharon Eyal danced with the Batsheva Dance Company from 1990-2008 and was their House Choreographer from 2005-2012. In 2013 Eyal launched L-E-V with her long-time collaborator Gai Behar. Eyal has created works for dance companies around the world, including Nederlands Dance Theatre, Royal Swedish Ballet, Carte Blanche Dance in Norway, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and Tanzcompagnie Oldenburg in Germany. Her works for Ballet British Columbia and the National Youth Dance Company will be seen at Sadler's Wells in Spring 2018.

Rambert

Rambert is Britain's leading contemporary dance company. It presents new and historic dance works to audiences in all parts of the country, performed by world-class dancers to live music. Rambert has the most extensive national touring programme of any UK contemporary dance company and, through partnerships with theatres in England, Scotland and Wales, develops new audiences for dance in all parts of the country.

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