

P R E S S R E L E A S E

**NEW YORK PREMIERES OF A NEW WORK BY ALONZO KING
AND ALEXEI RATMANSKY'S
OF LOVE AND RAGE TO HIGHLIGHT
AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE'S SUMMER SEASON
AT THE METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE, JUNE 13–JULY 16, 2022**

**SEASON TO INCLUDE 75TH ANNIVERSARY PERFORMANCES OF
GEORGE BALANCHINE'S
*THEME AND VARIATIONS***

**OPENING NIGHT GALA PERFORMANCE TO FEATURE
THREE LEAD CASTS IN *DON QUIXOTE***



Scene from *Of Love and Rage*. Photo: Gene Schiavone.

American Ballet Theatre will return to the Metropolitan Opera House for the first time in three years for its Summer season, June 13–July 16, 2022. The season will be highlighted by the New York

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ABT 2022 SUMMER SEASON AT THE MET ANNOUNCED – Page 2

Premieres of a new work by Alonzo King and Alexei Ratmansky's *Of Love and Rage*. ABT's Summer season was announced today by Artistic Director Kevin McKenzie.

Principal Dancers for the 2022 Metropolitan Opera House season include Joo Won Ahn, Aran Bell, Isabella Boylston, Skylar Brandt, Herman Cornejo, Thomas Forster, Gillian Murphy, Calvin Royal III, Hee Seo, Christine Shevchenko, Cory Stearns, Devon Teuscher, Cassandra Trenary, and James Whiteside.

New York Premieres

The New York Premiere of Alexei Ratmansky's *Of Love and Rage* is set for Monday evening, June 20, 2022 with Catherine Hurlin and Aran Bell in the leading roles. Based on the first century historical romance novel *Callirhoe* by Chariton, *Of Love and Rage* tells the story of star-crossed lovers Callirhoe and Chaereas in ancient Greece. The two-act ballet is set to music by Aram Khachaturian, arranged by Philip Feeney, with sets and costumes by Jean-Marc Puissant and lighting by Duane Schuler. *Of Love and Rage*, Ratmansky's 17th work for American Ballet Theatre, was given its World Premiere on March 5, 2020 at Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, California. The ballet will be given eight performances at the Metropolitan Opera House through Saturday, June 25.

A new work by Alonzo King will have its New York Premiere on Thursday evening, July 7. Set to music by jazz pianist and composer Jason Moran, King's new work features sets and costumes by Robert Rosenwasser and lighting by Jim French. The new work, King's first for ABT, will receive its World Premiere on March 15, 2022 at Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, California. King's new work, part of a mixed repertory program, will be given four performances July 7-9.

Full-Length Works

American Ballet Theatre's Summer season will include three additional full-length ballets. The season will open on Monday evening, June 13 with a special Gala performance of *Don Quixote* featuring a different leading cast in each act. Dancing the roles of Kitri and Basilio will be Christine Shevchenko and Cory Stearns in Act I, Hee Seo and James Whiteside in Act II, and Catherine Hurlin and Aran Bell in Act III. *Don Quixote* is staged by Kevin McKenzie and Susan Jones, with choreography after Marius Petipa and Alexander Gorsky. The ballet is set to music by Ludwig Minkus and features scenery and costumes by Santo Loquasto, and lighting by Natasha Katz. The McKenzie/Jones staging of the current

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production was first performed by ABT on June 12, 1995. *Don Quixote* will be given eight performances through June 18.

Twelve performances of *Swan Lake* will begin Monday, June 27 with Devon Teuscher as Odette-Odile and Cory Stearns as Prince Siegfried. Set to music by Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky, *Swan Lake* is choreographed by Kevin McKenzie after Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov and features scenery and costumes by Zack Brown, and lighting by Duane Schuler. This production of *Swan Lake* premiered on March 24, 2000 at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. with Julie Kent (Odette-Odile) and Angel Corella (Prince Siegfried).

Kenneth MacMillan's *Romeo and Juliet* will be given eight performances beginning Monday evening, July 11 with Hee Seo and Cory Stearns in the title roles. Set to the score by Sergei Prokofiev, *Romeo and Juliet* features scenery and costumes by Nicholas Georgiadis, and lighting by Thomas Skelton. *Romeo and Juliet* received its World Premiere by The Royal Ballet in London on February 9, 1965 and was given its ABT Company Premiere at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. on January 3, 1985 with Leslie Browne and Robert La Fosse in the leading roles.

Returning Repertory

The Summer season will include four performances of mixed repertory, July 7–9. In addition to the New York Premiere of King's new work, the program will include George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations* and Jessica Lang's *ZigZag*.

Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*, set to a score of the same name by Tchaikovsky from Suite No. 3 for Orchestra, was created for Ballet Theatre in 1947. A neo-classical masterpiece, *Theme and Variations* features scenery and costumes by Zack Brown, and lighting by Brad Fields. ABT's 2022 performances of *Theme and Variations* will mark the 75th Anniversary of this seminal work's premiere.

Jessica Lang's *ZigZag*, set to songs recorded by Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga, received its World Premiere on October 26, 2021 at the David H. Koch Theater in New York City. The ballet features scenery by Derek McLane, costumes by Wes Gordon, and lighting by Nicole Pearce. A work for 14 dancers, *ZigZag* is set to 11 American standard songs by Bennett including a duet with Lady Gaga.

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ABTKids

ABTKids, American Ballet Theatre's annual one-hour introduction to ballet for families, is scheduled for Saturday morning, June 18 at 11:00 A.M. All tickets for *ABTKids* are \$25.

Subscriptions On Sale Now

Subscriptions for American Ballet Theatre's 2022 Summer season at the Metropolitan Opera House, on sale beginning Monday, December 20, 2021, are available by phone at 212-362-6000, or online at ABT's website www.abt.org. For the 2022 Summer season at the Metropolitan Opera House, ticket holders may exchange or refund tickets up until Noon the day of the performance at no extra charge, minus any difference in ticket price. ABT requires the following protocol for all audience members attending its performances.

- All audience members must be fully vaccinated. You are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving a second dose in a two-dose vaccine series or two weeks after receiving a single dose vaccine.
- All audience members must provide in-person proof of vaccination against COVID-19, with a vaccine approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or by the World Health Organization (WHO), and a valid state or government issued photo ID.
- Beginning January 17, 2022, the Metropolitan Opera House will require proof of a COVID-19 booster shot for all those eligible to receive it.
- Vaccines are now available for children ages 5-11. Fully vaccinated children are welcome to attend performances beginning two weeks after receiving their final dose. Photo ID for children under 12 will not be required if accompanied by a parent or guardian with valid photo ID.
- Negative COVID-19 tests for audience members, including children, will **not** be accepted as an alternative to vaccination proof.

Audiences will be required to maintain appropriate face coverings in accordance with current CDC guidelines when attending performances. Additional safety measures include an update of the ventilation systems, rigorous cleaning and sanitation protocols, and a contactless entrance experience for ticket holders. Specific health and safety protocols are determined by the Metropolitan Opera House and American Ballet Theatre and are subject to change. ABT will strive to communicate substantial changes to health and safety protocols in advance of performances. For more information, please visit www.abt.org.

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Leading support for *Of Love and Rage*, part of The Ratmansky Project, has been generously provided by Elizabeth Segerstrom, and John Rallis and Mary Lynn Bergman-Rallis. Leadership for The Ratmansky Project has been provided by Avery and Andrew F. Barth, the Blavatnik Family Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton E. James, and The Ted and Mary Jo Shen Charitable Gift Fund.

This production of *Don Quixote* is generously supported through an endowed gift from Anka Palitz, in memory of Clarence J. Palitz, Jr.

American Ballet Theatre's performances of *Romeo and Juliet* are generously underwritten through an endowed gift from Ali and Monica Wambold.

Swan Lake has been generously underwritten by R. Chemers Neustein.

ZigZag is co-commissioned by Abu Dhabi Festival.

Commissions and presentations of new works by women choreographers are supported by the ABT Women's Movement. Champion support for the ABT Women's Movement is provided by Jenna Segal. Additional leadership support is provided by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

ABT's Choreographic Innovation and Inspiration and Inclusion programs are generously supported by the Blavatnik Family Foundation. Additional major support is provided by Mark Casey and Carrie Gaiser Casey, the Ford Foundation, The Ted and Mary Jo Shen Charitable Gift Fund and through an endowed gift from the Toni and Martin Sosnoff New Works Fund.

Special thanks to Denise Littlefield Sobel for her leadership gifts to: ABT's Media Fund, advancing the Company's digital endeavors; and *ABT RISE*, fueling the Company's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Lead Sponsor support for *ABTKids* is generously provided by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

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ABT is supported, in part, with public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of The Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

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Thursday, December 16, 2021

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AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

Metropolitan Opera House 2022

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY MAT.	WEDNESDAY EVE.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY MAT.	SATURDAY EVE.
Week 1	13-Jun GALA DON QUIXOTE Act I - Shevchenko/Stearns Act II - Seo/Whiteside Act III - Hurlin/Bell	14-Jun DON QUIXOTE Brandt Cornejo	15-Jun DON QUIXOTE Boylston Ahn	15-Jun DON QUIXOTE Hurlin Bell	16-Jun DON QUIXOTE Shevchenko Stearns	17-Jun DON QUIXOTE Seo Whiteside	18-Jun DON QUIXOTE Brandt Cornejo	18-Jun DON QUIXOTE Boylston Ahn
Week 2	20-Jun OF LOVE AND RAGE Hurlin Bell	21-Jun OF LOVE AND RAGE Shevchenko Forster	22-Jun OF LOVE AND RAGE Seo Royal	22-Jun OF LOVE AND RAGE TBA	23-Jun OF LOVE AND RAGE Shevchenko Forster	24-Jun OF LOVE AND RAGE Seo Royal	25-Jun OF LOVE AND RAGE Hurlin Bell	25-Jun OF LOVE AND RAGE TBA
Week 3	27-Jun SWAN LAKE Teuscher Stearns	28-Jun SWAN LAKE Boylston Whiteside	29-Jun SWAN LAKE Shevchenko Royal	29-Jun SWAN LAKE Brandt Cornejo	30-Jun SWAN LAKE Murphy Forster	1-Jul SWAN LAKE Teuscher Stearns	2-Jul SWAN LAKE Boylston Whiteside	2-Jul SWAN LAKE Seo Bell
Week 4	MONDAY MAT. 2:00 PM <i>INDEPENDENCE DAY</i> 4-Jul	5-Jul SWAN LAKE Seo Bell	6-Jul SWAN LAKE Hurlin Ahn	6-Jul SWAN LAKE Murphy Forster	7-Jul Theme and Variations New Alonzo King ZigZag	8-Jul Theme and Variations New Alonzo King ZigZag	9-Jul Theme and Variations New Alonzo King ZigZag	9-Jul Theme and Variations New Alonzo King ZigZag
Week 5	11-Jul ROMEO and JULIET Seo Stearns	12-Jul ROMEO and JULIET Teuscher Bell	13-Jul ROMEO and JULIET Shevchenko Royal	13-Jul ROMEO and JULIET Boylston Whiteside	14-Jul ROMEO and JULIET Murphy Forster	15-Jul ROMEO and JULIET Seo Stearns	16-Jul ROMEO and JULIET Trenary Cornejo	16-Jul ROMEO and JULIET Teuscher Bell

Casting and programs subject to change.

Gala @ 6:30 PM
Monday through Friday evenings @ 7:30 PM
Wednesday and Saturday matinees @ 2:00 PM
Saturday evenings @ 8:00 PM