



Press Release

31 March 2026

The Royal Ballet presents *Wayne McGregor: Alchemies*
featuring a world premiere and revivals of
Yugen and *Untitled, 2023*

18 April – 6 May 2026

- World premiere of a brand-new work by McGregor
- First revival of McGregor's *Untitled, 2023*, and *Yugen*
- Tickets from £7, at rbo.org.uk

The Royal Ballet presents the world premiere of a new work by Resident Choreographer **Wayne McGregor** as part of *Wayne McGregor: Alchemies*. An evening of pure poetry and power, *Alchemies* features the anticipated premiere alongside the Company's first revivals of *Yugen* and *Untitled, 2023*.

Following the announcement that McGregor will receive the **Outstanding Contribution to Dance Award** as part of this year's **Olivier Awards**, this programme is a perfectly timed testament to the choreographer's boundless imagination and collaborative spirit.

The world premiere comprises McGregor's latest work for The Royal Ballet following *MADDADDAM* in 2024. It will be set to music by composer **Bushra El-Turk**, a mixture of brand-new composition and some of her existing work. El-Turk's work has featured previously at the Royal Opera House with her multimedia opera *Woman at Point Zero* in the Linbury Theatre. The music for the new work will include live performance from musician **Beibei Wang**, the dynamic percussionist who has previously performed as a soloist with the BBC Concert Orchestra and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. The new work will also feature designs by acclaimed designer **Saul Nash**, whose work oscillates

between the world of fashion and dance. Opening night casts features talent from across the Company, including **William Bracewell**, **Melissa Hamilton** and **Joseph Sissens**.

Yugen premiered in 2018 as part of The Royal Ballet's Leonard Bernstein Centenary celebrations, created in response to the composer's haunting **Chichester Psalms**. He collaborated with ceramicist and author **Edmund de Waal** on the set design. **Shirin Guild**, a fashion designer with a minimal and cross-cultural style, created the costumes for the work, which also featured lighting design by McGregor's long-time collaborator **Lucy Carter**. This is the first revival of *Yugen* by The Royal Ballet with two casts led by Principal dancers **Matthew Ball** and **Sarah Lamb**, and **Lauren Cuthbertson** and **Ryoichi Hirano** respectively.

Also receiving its first revival is McGregor's *Untitled, 2023*, a work inspired by the late artist **Carmen Herrera** and her dynamic yet sparing use of form, colour and perspective. McGregor collaborated with Herrera to create her first and only designs for the stage. *Untitled, 2023* is set to a score of ferocity and desolation by **Anna Thorvaldsdottir**, with costumes created by **Burberry** under **Daniel Lee**, and lighting design by **Lucy Carter**. Casting includes **Fumi Kaneko**, **Anna Rose O'Sullivan** and **Calvin Richardson**.

New Wayne McGregor is a co-production between The Royal Ballet and San Francisco Ballet.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

[Images can be downloaded here.](#)

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The Royal Ballet

WAYNE MCGREGOR: ALCHEMIES

Main Stage
18 April – 6 May 2026

Tickets: £7 - £143

For more information, and to book, visit: [Wayne McGregor: Alchemies](#)

Choreography **Wayne McGregor**

Yugen

Music **Leonard Bernstein**

Set Designer **Edmund De Waal**

Costume Designer **Shirin Guild**

Lighting Designer **Lucy Carter**

Members of The Royal Opera Chorus and Extra Chorus

A co-production between The Royal Ballet and **Dutch National Ballet & Opera**

Untitled, 2023

Music **Anna Thorvaldsdottir**

Set Designer **Carmen Herrera**

Costume Designer **Burberry**

Lighting Designer **Lucy Carter**

New Wayne McGregor

World Premiere

Concept, choreography, design [Wayne McGregor](#)

Music [Bushra El-Turk](#)

Costume Designer [Saul Nash](#)

Lighting Designer [Lucy Carter](#)

A co-production between The Royal Ballet and San Francisco Ballet

Conductor **Koen Kessels**

Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

About The Royal Ballet

Under the directorship of Kevin O'Hare, The Royal Ballet unites tradition and innovation in world-class performances and is a driving force in the development of ballet as an art form. Based at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, it brings together today's most dynamic and versatile dancers with a world-class orchestra and leading choreographers, composers, conductors, directors and creative teams to share awe-inspiring theatrical experiences with diverse audiences worldwide. The Company's extensive repertory embraces 19th-century classics, the singular legacy of works by Founder Choreographer Frederick Ashton and Principal Choreographer Kenneth MacMillan, a compelling new canon of work by choreographers today including Resident Choreographer Wayne McGregor and Artistic

Associate Christopher Wheeldon, and the bold and complementary programming in the Linbury Theatre. Guest choreographers Kyle Abraham, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Cathy Marston, Arthur Pita, Crystal Pite, Hofesh Shechter, Pam Tanowitz, Mthuthuzeli November, Jessica Lang, Gemma Bond and Twyla Tharp have also created work for the Company.

About the Royal Ballet and Opera

The Royal Ballet and Opera is the home of world-class opera and ballet. We are a cultural powerhouse, bringing together two world-class performing companies in one of the UK's leading arts institutions, supported by a cast of more than 3,000 employees including technical staff, creatives, and freelancers. Based primarily at the Royal Opera House in the heart of London's Covent Garden, with production and logistics sites in Thurrock and Aberdare, our work is enjoyed by audiences in our two theatres and globally through our streaming platform, cinema Season and company tours. Our work in schools and communities up and down the country is driven by our curriculum linked programmes, specially designed to inspire creativity, widen access to the arts and diversify the future of opera and ballet. These sit alongside industry-leading talent development projects, regional partnerships, our Young RBO scheme, and a raft of daytime events, family activities, tours, exhibitions, and concerts in our Covent Garden home. We are committed to reducing our impact on the environment and aim to achieve net zero emissions by 2035.