ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

COVENT GARDEN

BALLET SEASON

1950
HAUNTED MAN

"I say, Gerald, have you a ghost in the West Wing?"
"They say that the First Banquet is observed from time to time, dead in a suit of mail and drinking from his helmet."
"No good. My sheep was disturbed by a man in a blue serge suit and brown boots. Somehow I got the impression he was an income tax collector."
"Clear as lamp-light, my dear fellow. I insist tells me that a night-cap of gin and Rose's Lime Juice, in the correct psychic proportion, would have exorcised the phantom."

ROSE'S

ROSE'S LIME JUICE IS STOCKED IN THE BAR OF THIS THEATRE

THOUGHTS ON OPERA BY ABDULLA...

The Magic Flute
Is a beast.
But Carmen
Is more charming!

And on Abdu16 No. 7
Is just heaven!

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
COVENT GARDEN

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COVENT GARDEN

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present

THE

SADLER'S WELLS BALLET

THE COVENT GARDEN OPERA TRUST WORKS IN FULL ASSOCIATION
WITH THE ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN
THE SADLER'S WELLS BALLET
Under the Direction of
NINETTE DE VALOIS
Principal Choreographer: FREDERICK ASHTON
Musical Director: ROBERT IRVING
Artistic Direction: NINETTE DE VALOIS FREDERICK ASHTON CONSTANT LAMBERT
Guest Conductor:_CONSTANT LAMBERT

THE FOLLOWING ARTISTES WILL BE APPEARING DURING THE SEASON:
MARGOT FONTEYN ROBERT HELPMANN
MOIRA SHEARER PAMELA MAY BERYL GREY VIOLETTA ELVIN
ALEXIS RASSINE: MICHAEL SOMES HAROLD TURNER JOHN HART
MARGARET DALE PAULINE CLAYDEN JULIA FARRON GERO LARSEN
JUNE BRAE ANNE NEGUS GILLIAN LINNE AVRIEL NAVARRE
ROSEMARY LINDSEY LORNA MOSSFORD PALMA NYE
NADIA NERINA ANNE HEATON
ALEXANDER GRANT JOHN FIELD BRIAN SHAW
LESLIE EDWARDS RICHARD ELLIS RAY POWELL
FRANKLIN WHITE HENRY LEGERTON KENNETH MACMILLAN
PHILIP CHATFIELD KENNETH MELVILLE GILBERT VERNON
ALFRED RODRIGUES

With THE COVENT GARDEN ORCHESTRA
Leader: CHARLES MCKEOWN

Saturday, 18th March, 1950 (EVENING)
LE LAC DES CYGNES
BALLET IN FOUR ACTS
Music by Piotr Illich Tchaikovsky
Choreography by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov
Produced by Nikolai Sergueieff
Scenery and costumes designed by Leslie Hurry
THE ACTION TAKES PLACE IN LEGENDARY GERMANY

ACT I
THE GARDEN OF PRINCE SIGFRIED'S CASTLE
It is Prince Siegfried's birthday and his friends, led by Benno, have planned celebrations. The Princess-Mother enters and upbraids her son for the company he keeps and reminds him that to-morrow he must choose a wife at the Court Ball. Meanwhile, the Prince's tutor, who has been drinking too much, grows quarrelsome. He expresses his disapproval of the peasants' dances and himself gives a clumsy imitation of them. Evening falls and everyone joins in a Polonaise while the Prince sits plunged in melancholy. Suddenly a flight of swans cross the sky and, seeing them, he determines to join the chase.

Interlude

ACT II
À LAKESIDE,
The hunters enter a glade by the lakeside followed by the Prince who, desiring to be alone, commands his companions to leave him. Looking into the distance he sees the swans alighting on the lake. Suddenly, where he had glimpsed a swan's curled crest, he now sees a human face. He hides. A beautiful young woman enters—Siegfried advances and asks her name. She replies Odette and explains that she has been put under a spell by the wicked magician Rothbart, who has ordained that she must remain a swan except during the hours between midnight and dawn, unless she meets a man whose
love for her is as great as hers for him and who would make her his wife. They leave arm in arm—pledging their troth. A huntsman runs in and, seeing a cluster of white figures (Odette’s followers, dancing and rejoicing in their brief period of human likeness), mistakes them for swans, and calls the others. They prepare to shoot and are only prevented by the return of Siegfried.

INTERVAL

ACT III

THE GREAT HALL OF SIEGFRIED’S CASTLE.

The Princess-Mother and her son enter, followed by a group of prospective brides and various foreign emissaries. The Brides do a ceremonial dance to submit themselves for the Prince’s approval. Siegfried meanwhile gazes listlessly into the distance; then, recollecting himself, dances with each of them in turn and, finally, goes back to his throne. Suddenly a fanfare announces the arrival of another guest. It is the magician Rothenr with his daughter Odile, whom he has caused to assume the likeness of Odette. Siegfried, overjoyed, greets her and dances with her. Every minute more enraptured he asks her hand in marriage. At this moment the real Odette, in the guise of a swan, appears at the window vainly endeavouring to attract Siegfried’s attention and to warn him. Siegfried obtains Rothenr’s consent to the marriage and the hall is at once plunged into darkness. Siegfried realises he has been duped.

INTERVAL

ACT IV

THE LAKESIDE.

The swans await their Queen. Odette appears and tells them that all is lost—the Prince has unwittingly betrayed her. Then Siegfried enters, searching for Odette and, seeing her, implores her forgiveness—which she gives but adds that it will be of no avail for she is doomed to die. Rothenr in the guise of an owl appears and Siegfried attacks him and drives him off. Odette meanwhile has thrown herself into the lake and Siegfried, seeing no future happiness in life, drowns himself also. This supreme sacrifice breaks the spell and, as the curtain falls, the Prince and Odette are seen sailing away reunited in another kingdom.

CAST

ACT I

Prince Siegfried ... Michael Somes
The Princess-Mother ... June Braid
Wolfgang, the Prince’s tutor ... Ray Powell
Benno, the Prince’s friend ... Leslie Edwards
Peasants ... Alexei Rabin, Anne Negus, Alastair Naish
A Peasant Girl ... Anne Heaton
Peasants and Huntsmen ... Peter Clegg, John Cranke, Henry Legerton, Charles Linnet, Gilbert Vernon, Kenneth Melville, Kenneth Macmillan, Philip Chatfield, Alexander Grant, Michael Bolton, Franklin White, Bryan Ashbridge
Peasants ... Valerie Taylor, Wendy Winn, Rowena Jackson, Sheila Nelson, Greta Habry, Fiorella Keane, Anne Heaton, Margaret Sear, Christine du Boulay, Thekla Russell, Dorothea Zaymer, Pauline Wadsworth
Court Ladies ... Shirley Bishop, Jerry Laraman, Brenda Taylor, June Laverick

ACT II

Odette, the Swan Queen ... Margot Fonteyn
Prince Siegfried ... Michael Somes
Brides ... Leslie Edwards
Cygnet ... Nadia Nerva, Margaret Dale, Dorothea Zaymer, Pauline Clayton
Four Swans ... Gillian Lynne, Rosemary Lindsay, Pamela Mat, Leona Mendolf
Swans ... Margaret Sear, Palma Nye, June Laraman, Rosemary Valerie, Wendy Winn, Yvonne Barnes, Greta Habry, Shirley Bishop, Rowena Jackson, June Laverick, Brenda Taylor, Fiorella Keane, Sheila Nelson, Thekla Russell, Valerie Taylor, Christine du Boulay, Pauline Wadsworth
ACT III
Prince Siegfried............ Michael Somes
The Princess-Mother............ June Brae
Von Rothbart, a wicked magician............ Alfred Robineau
Odile, his daughter............ Margot Fonteyn
Fiancese............ Anne Henton, Shirley Bishop, Rowena Jackson, Valerie Taylor, Nadia Nerina, Greta Hanych
Spanish Dance............ Richard Ellis, Gilbert Vernon, Geri Laren, Julia Farron
Czardas............ Palma Nye, Alexander Grant, Pauline Waddington, Dorothy Zawis, Margaret Sear, Fiorella Keane
Ray Powell, Michael Boultton, Henry Legerton, Paul Reymond
Mazurka............ Wendy Winn, Thelma Russell, Rosemary Lindsay, Christine de Boulay, Frances White, Philip Cuthfield, Kenneth Melville, Kenneth MacMillan
Court Ladies............ Martha Glick, Doran Wyman, Judy Laramie, Doris Brown
Pages............ Doris Tempest, Annette Paige, Brenda Taylor, Angela Wallington, Anya Elinton

ACT IV
Two Swans............ Pamela May, Gillian Lynne
Black Cypresses............ Margaret Dale, Nadia Nerina, Anne Nagel, Dorothy Zawis, Pauline Clavien, Evelyn Naylor
Odette............ Margot Fonteyn
Prince Siegfried............ Michael Somes
Von Rothbart............ Alfred Robineau
Swans............ Margaret Sear, Palma Nye, Judy Laramie, Rosemary Valabry, Wendy Winn, Yvonne Barnes, Greta Hanych, Shirley Bishop, Rowena Jackson, June Laverick, April Olrich, Brenda Taylor, Fiorella Keane, Sheila Nelson, Thelma Russell, Valerie Taylor, Christine de Boulay, Pauline Waddington
Conductor: John Hollingsworth

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Postcards and Photographs.—Patrons in the Amphitheatre and Gallery are notified that postcards and photographs of the Sadler's Wells Ballet are on sale in the room behind the main Gallery Bar.

Notice.—In response to general request the doors will be closed at the beginning of each performance. Late-comers will be unable to take their seats until the first interval.

Refreshments are served before the performance and during the intervals in the main Crush Bar, on the Grand Tier level, Pit Lobby, and in the Gallery Bar.

Lost Property.—The Management cannot undertake the custody of any property left on these premises and unclaimed for a period of more than three months.

Smoking is not permitted. Ladies are requested to remove their hats.

In accordance with the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain.—

1. The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exit doors and only doors open as the time be seen. 2. All property, paper and lithographs must be kept entirely free from charters or any other obstructions. 3. No persons under age of 16 years or unaccompanied by a parent or guardian will be permitted to stand or sit in any of the dress circle or boxes irrespective of the witnessing or not of the performance. 4. The safety curtains must be lowered and raised in the presence of each audience.

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