

QUEENSLAND BALLET SEASON 2022 SHOW SYNOPSIS

(In chronological order)

***The Sleeping Beauty* | 25 – 26 February | Theatre 1, HOTA**

Experience a special night under the starry skies as we tour our exquisite box office-breaking fairytale *The Sleeping Beauty* to Gold Coast's Home of the Arts (HOTA). Queensland Ballet's most successful ballet of all time visits HOTA for the first time in 2022, weaving the magic of true love's kiss throughout this incredible outdoor theatre after a hugely popular 2021 Brisbane season. Intertwined with Marius Petipa's renowned original 1890s choreography and accompanied by the exquisite Tchaikovsky score, Greg Horsman's two-act retelling will sweep you away to a land of enchanted forests, kings and queens, and charismatic creatures that creep, crawl, flit and flutter.

***Giselle* | 3-16 March 2022 | Regional Tour**

***Giselle* | 14 – 23 April 2022 | Playhouse, QPAC**

Experience love, envy, betrayal, and tragic redemption in the quintessential Romantic ballet, *Giselle*. First performed in Paris, France in 1841, this Romantic-era masterpiece is set in an ethereal realm where vengeful spirits dance in the darkness, and love triangles can be deadly. Follow the story of the young peasant girl Giselle, and her death by a broken heart. In the twilight world of the Wilis, will she follow the dark path of revenge or save her true love from certain death? With exquisite choreography, luminous costumes, and an enchanting score, *Giselle* has held audiences spellbound since its Parisian première more than 150 years ago.

***Li's Choice* | 10 – 25 June 2022 | Playhouse, QPAC**

Be captivated by this trio of extraordinary works by Natalie Weir, Greg Horsman, and Sir Kenneth MacMillan, hand-selected by Li Cunxin. Acclaimed Australian choreographer Natalie Weir, known internationally for her highly physical partner work and organic movement style, showcases her deeply emotive war-themed work *We Who Are Left*. *Glass Concerto*, by renowned international choreographer Greg Horsman, captures the pulse and escalating intensity of the brilliant music of Philip Glass in this neo-classical masterpiece. And in a fervour of dazzling colour and high energy, ragtime ballet *Elite Syncopations* by Sir Kenneth MacMillan is, quite simply, entertainment at its best.

***Peter and the Wolf* | 24 June – 2 July 2022 | Thomas Dixon Centre**

Follow the courageous young scout Peter on an adventure to the zoo in this symphonic fairytale ballet designed for families. Children of all ages, along with parents and grandparents, will enjoy a lesson in musical appreciation, as orchestral instruments accompany the dancers in a much-loved story about Peter, a rascally wolf, an unlucky duck, and a graceful bird. Composed as an introduction to the orchestra for children, the lively production fits perfectly with Queensland Ballet's *My First Ballet Series*, inspiring the littlest of ballet lovers.

***Bespoke* | 20 – 30 July 2022 | Thomas Dixon Centre**

Explore the vibrant world of contemporary dance in a thrilling new season of Queensland Ballet's *Bespoke*. Now in its fourth year, this striking triple bill of modern dance offers audiences an opportunity to witness elite ballet dancers in dynamic contemporary spaces. In celebration of the opening of our new theatre at the heritage-listed Thomas Dixon Centre, for this year's *Bespoke*, renowned Australian choreographers Greg Horsman, Petros Treklis, and Stephanie Lake have collaborated with dancers and artists to create three compelling new pieces of innovative storytelling, using visual art, music, and the depths of human emotion as elements of inspiration.

***Queensland Ballet Academy Gala* | 12 – 14 August 2022 | Thomas Dixon Centre**

Don't miss the rising stars of dance in this compelling showcase of outstanding talent by Queensland Ballet's esteemed Academy. Demonstrating technical finesse and exquisite artistry, the annual *Queensland Ballet Academy Gala* features our professionally-trained young dancers as they master performance and passion in a dazzling display of classical and contemporary dance. Audiences will enjoy a program of inspiring classical pieces and dynamic contemporary works by renowned international and local choreographers. Performed by dancers at the beginning of their bright careers, this exciting program will be presented for the first time at Queensland Ballet's heritage home, the newly-redeveloped Thomas Dixon Centre.

***Manon* | 28 Sept – 8 Oct 2022 | Lyric Theatre, QPAC**

Li Cunxin AO and Mary Li performance dates | 29 September, 4 and 6 October 2022

Journey from decadent 18th century Paris to sultry New Orleans with this blockbuster classical ballet about possession, desire, and the allure of wealth. Renowned as one of Sir Kenneth MacMillan's most iconic works, *Manon* is a quintessential romantic tragedy, following the tale of a young French peasant girl conflicted by love and a yearning to be free from poverty. From seduction, ambition, and greed to the persuasive power of love, this sumptuous story has been captivating audiences for more than two centuries. Queensland Ballet is one of only a handful of ballet companies across the world with permission to perform Sir Kenneth MacMillan's version of *Manon* – don't miss it!

***Rooster & B-Sides* | 10 – 12 November 2022 | Outdoor Stage, HOTA**

Travel back to the joyous fun of the 60s with this celebration of energetic choreography and hit pop and rock music in Christopher Bruce's *Rooster* and Jack Lister's *B-Sides*. Full of humour, infectious energy and toe-tapping tunes - including music by the Rolling Stones Christopher Bruce's *Rooster* is an ironic look at male chauvinism, with strutting dancers in vibrant period-era costumes that will have audiences bopping in their seats. The swinging 60s theme continues in *B-Sides* by Jack Lister with its fusion of colourful kitsch and seamless contemporary choreography. An exploration of relationships and identity to a recording of hit 60s pop songs, this piece will captivate audiences with its engaging effervescence.

***The Nutcracker* | 2 – 23 December 2022 | Playhouse, QPAC**

Whisk the entire family away this festive season to a magical Christmas Eve party where snowflakes flutter, fireplaces crackle, and enchanted toys come alive to frolic and play in *The Nutcracker*. It's Christmas Eve and when the clock strikes twelve, nothing is as it seems! Follow Clara and the Nutcracker Prince as they journey across a Lemonade Sea to the Kingdom of Sweets, for a midnight rendezvous of delectable delights and enchanting entertainment. This cherished Queensland Ballet holiday tradition returns to Brisbane for its ninth spell-binding season. Wonderfully whimsical, *The Nutcracker* is perfect for the whole family.