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The Sleeping Beauty



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Photograph: Nicole Ferreira-Dill - Sleeping Beauty - Joburg Ballet 2024
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The Sleeping Beauty

Joburg Ballet
Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra

A Ballet in a Prologue and Three Acts



Choreography after **Marius Petipa**
(1818-1910)
Production and Staging **Sophie Sarrote**
Music **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**
(1840-1893)
Conductor **Chad Hendricks**
Set Design **Anthony Farmer**
Adapted by **Vanessa Nicolau**
Costumes **Joburg Ballet**
Lighting Design **Simon King**

Joburg Theatre
28 June, 5, 6 July at 19h00;
29, 30 June, 6, 7 July at 14h00;
3*, 4* July at 11h00 | 2024
*Performance to recorded music

Cover **Monike Cristina and Guillaume Diop**
This page **Shannon Glover**
Programme photography **Lauge Sorensen**



From Elroy Fillis-Bell | CEO

For ballet aficionados, *The Sleeping Beauty* is known to be a technical and demanding beast. It's a big production, requiring a keen eye for detail and skill. Our guest producer Sophie Sarrote's decades of experience at La Scala and across Europe was readily available to bring this *Sleeping Beauty* by Joburg Ballet to new heights. With months of rigorous rehearsals, I am excited for audiences to see the impact and standard of our company's hard work. I am especially thankful to our ballet mistress, Kim Vieira and rehearsal coach, Thabang Mabaso for their work throughout this process.

As always, this ballet company could not stand as it is now without the support of the City of Johannesburg and our hosts, the Joburg Theatre. I would like to thank the Michel Tesson Trust for their contribution to this season, allowing us to perform this epic ballet with the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Chad Hendricks.

This season sees us host a number of guest artists from around the world, all working together to elevate the process and cultural product before us. Thanks to support from Institut Francais, we welcome danseur étoile from the Paris Opera Ballet, Guillaume Diop, on his first international guest appearance since ascending to this prestigious rank in 2023. Cuban-born Nelson Peña Nuñez returns to Joburg Ballet after twelve years, now as a principal dancer with the National Opera and Ballet Theatre of Kazakhstan. Japanese-born Ryoko Yagyu, a principal dancer with Ballet Ireland, also joins us for the season and remains with us until we perform *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* in October. None of these international guests would be possible without the longstanding partnership we have with Air France who continue to demonstrate their global support of the arts.

There are also a number of familiar faces guesting for this season, including Kitty Phetla as the elegantly evil Carabosse. Our thanks to South African ballet favourites Anya Carstens and Nigel Hannah who join the cast along with other guests listed in the programme. We are grateful to create a platform for younger and older ballet dancers to perform as we welcome the Joburg Ballet Academy, Carstens Ireland Ballet Studio and Johannesburg Youth Ballet.

Joburg Ballet is only able to produce work of this scale through collaboration and partnerships. Should you be interested in building a shared-value partnership, don't hesitate to contact me. You are also welcome to contribute in your individual capacity on our donor page in the programme.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Teatro Montecasino for our 5-performance season of Veronica Paeper's *La Traviata–The Ballet* from 2 to 4 August. Tickets are available on Webtickets now. Bookings for our October world premiere of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Ballet* are set to open soon so don't miss out.



Sophie Sarrote | Producer

This is my first time in South Africa and for me it has been an incredible experience to work with Joburg Ballet and bring my European and, specifically, Italian background to a South African ballet company. The mix has been interesting, contributing to a beautiful production of *The Sleeping Beauty* and to a marriage of globalisation and tradition. These have been two exciting months working with the company and I am grateful to Elroy Fillis-Bell for inviting me to produce the ballet. I have been happy to work with the dancers of the company and also with Guillaume Diop, the incredible étoile from the Paris Opera Ballet, and Nelson Peña Nuñez, Principal Dancer at the National Opera and Ballet Theatre of Kazakhstan who twelve years ago danced with Nicole Ferreira-Dill at the beginning of her career. Working with Joburg Ballet on this production has been an intense and powerful experience and I hope that the audience will appreciate the performance and enjoy the magnificent moment of art that *The Sleeping Beauty* is.

The Story | Die Verhaal | Udaba

The Sleeping Beauty

PROLOGUE The Christening

King Florestan XXIII and his Queen have invited all the fairies to be present as godmothers at the christening of their infant daughter, Princess Aurora. Cattalabutte, the Master of Ceremonies, has omitted to invite the wicked fairy Carabosse who arrives late, insulted and enraged. As her christening gift she vows that one day the princess will prick her finger on the point of a spindle and die. Happily, however, the Lilac Fairy has still to bestow her gift and confounds Carabosse with the promise that Aurora will not die but, instead, fall into a deep sleep from which she will be awakened by a Prince's kiss.

ACT I The Spell

In the garden of the royal palace courtiers have assembled to celebrate Princess Aurora's sixteenth birthday. Four princes have come to seek the hand of Aurora in marriage. In the midst of the festivities an old nurse gives her a posy of flowers in which is hidden a spindle. As the princess pricks her finger the old woman reveals herself as the wicked Carabosse and vanishes. The Lilac Fairy enters to fulfil her promise, casting a spell of sleep over the whole scene. She conjures up a thick forest which conceals the palace.

INTERVAL

ACT II The Vision

A hundred years have passed. The young Prince Désiré is on a hunting expedition in the forest. His courtiers follow the hunt while he remains alone, dreaming of a different life.

The Lilac Fairy appears and shows the prince a vision of Aurora. Enchanted, they dance. The vision disappears and the prince implores the Lilac Fairy to take him to the Sleeping Beauty. She guides him through the forest to the hidden palace where Princess Aurora lies asleep. On his way, the prince encounters a furious Carabosse. They fight but just as Prince Désiré appears to be vanquished, the Lilac Fairy intercedes and saves him. She reveals Aurora to him and the prince awakens her with a kiss. They fall in love and the Lilac Fairy blesses their engagement.

ACT III The Wedding

Fairy-tale characters dance at the wedding celebrations of Princess Aurora and Prince Désiré, with courtiers joining in for the final mazurka and joyful apotheosis.

Die Slapende Skoonheid

PROLOGUE Die Doop

Koning Florestan XXIII en sy Koningin nooi al die feë om as peetmoeders teenwoordig te wees by die doop van hulle babadogtertjie, Prinses Aurora. Die Seremoniemeester, Cattalabutte, het egter nagelaat om die aaklige fee, Carabosse, te nooi. Carabosse arriveer laat, voel beledig en is woedend. As doopgeskenk is Carabosse se wens dat Prinses Aurora eendag haar vinger aan 'n spinwiel sal prik en sterf. Die Lila Fee moet egter nog haar wens uitspreek en maak Carabosse se wens ongedaan met die belofte dat Prinses Aurora nie sal sterf nie, maar eerder in 'n diep slaap sal verval, waaruit 'n Prins se kus haar sal ontwaak.

BEDRYF I Die Betowering

In die tuin van die koninklike paleis het die howelinge byeengekom om Prinses Aurora se sestiende verjaarsdag te vier. Vier prinse daag op en vra Prinses Aurora om haar hand. Midde in die feesvieringe gee 'n ou verpleegster vir Prinses Aurora 'n ruiker blomme waarin 'n naald versteek is. Tydens die prik van haar vinger onthul die ou verpleegster haarself aan Prinses Aurora as die aaklige Carabosse en verdwyn. Die Lila Fee daag op om haar belofte na te kom en omtower die toneel in 'n slaap. Sy skep 'n digte woud waarin die paleis versteek word.

POUSE

BEDRYF II Die Droombeeld

'n Honderd jaar verloop. Die jong Prins Désiré is op 'n jagekspedisie in die woud. Sy howelinge is aan die jag terwyl Prins Désiré alleen verkeer en van 'n ander lewe droom.

Die Lila Fee verskyn en wys vir die prins 'n visioen van Aurora. In betowering is hulle besig om te dans. Die droombeeld verdwyn en Prins Désiré smeek die Lila Fee om hom na die Slapende Skoonheid te neem. Sy lei hom deur die woud na die versteekte paleis waar die slapende Prinses Aurora haar bevind. Op pad daarheen loop Prins Désiré 'n woedende Carabosse raak. Hulle begin baklei en net toe dit lyk asof Prins Désiré die geveg gaan verloor, tree die Lila Fee tussenbeide en red hom. Sy onthul Prinses Aurora aan hom en hy ontwaak haar met 'n kus. Hulle raak verlief en die Lila Fee seën hulle verlowing.

BEDRYF III Die Troue

Sprokiesagtige karakters dans by die bruiloffees van Prinses Aurora en Prins Désiré met die howelinge wat deelneem aan die finale mazurka en vreugdevolle verheerliking.

UNobuhle Olele

PROLOGUE Ubhahhadiso

Inkosi uFlorestan XXIII kanye neNdlovukazi yakhe bameme wonke ama-fairies ukuthi abekhona njengonkulunkulukazi ekubhabhathisweni kwendodakazi yabo ewusana, uPrincess Aurora. u Cattalabutte, Umphathi Wemicimbi, uyekile ukumema inganekwane embi uCarabosse ofika sekwephuzile, ethukwa futhi ethukuthele. Njengesiphosakhe sokubhabhathiswa uyafunga ukuthi ngelinye ilanga inkosazana iyozihlaba umunwe ngothi lokuphotha futhi ife. Nokho, ngokujabulisayo, i-Lilac Fairy kusafanele inikeze isiphosayo futhi idide uCarabosse ngesithembiso sokuthi u-Aurora ngeke afe kodwa, esikhundleni salokho, alale ubuthongo obunzima lapho ezovuswa khona ngokuqabula kweNkosana.

ACT I Umlingo

Engadini yesigodlo izikhulu zihlangene ukuze zigubhe usuku lokuzalwa lukaPrincess Aurora lweshumi nesithupha. Izikhulu ezine zize zizofuna isandla sika-Aurora emshadweni. Phakathi nemikhosi umhlengikazi osekhulile umnika iphoyizi lezimballi lapho kufihlwe khona intonga yokuphotha. Njengoba inkosazana ihlaba umunwe isalukazi siziveza njengeCarabosse ekhohlakele futhi sinyamalale. I-Lilac Fairy ingena ukuze igcwalise isithembiso sayo, yenza isipelingi sokulala phezu kwendawo yonke. Uvusa ihlathi eliwugqinsi elisithe isigodlo.

INTERVAL

ACT II Umbono

Sekudlule iminyaka eyikhulu. UPrince Désiré osemncane usohambweni lokuzingela ehlahini. Izikhulu zakhe zilandela ukuzingela ngenkathi esala yedwa, ephupha ngempilo ehlukile. I-Lilac Fairy ivela futhi ikhombisa inkosana umbono we-Aurora. Bajabulile, bayadansa. Umbono uyanyamalala futhi inkosana inxusa i-Lilac Fairy ukuthi imyise Ebuhleni Bobuthongo. Uyamqondisa ehlahini, aye esigodlweni esicashile lapho uPrincess Aurora elele khona. Endleleni, inkosana ihlangana neCarabosse ethukuthele. Bayalwa kodwa njengoba nje uPrince Désiré ebonakala enqotshiwe, i-Lilac Fairy iyamlamulela futhi imsindise. Wembula u-Aurora kuye futhi inkosana imvusa ngokumanga. Bathandana futhi i-Lilac Fairy ibusisa ukuhlanganyela kwabo.

ACT III Umshado

Abalingiswa bezinganekwane bayadansa emikhosini yomshado ka-Princess Aurora kanye no-Prince Désiré, kanye nezikhonzi ezihlanganyela ku-mazurka yokugcina kanye ne-apotheosis ejabulisayo.

The Cast

Princess Aurora	Monike Cristina / Nicole Ferreira-Dill / Shannon Glover / Tammy Higgins / Ryoko Yagyu
Prince Désiré	Guillaume Diop / Nelson Peña Nuñez / Ruan Galdino / Revil Yon / Ivan Domiciano
King Florestan XXIII	Nigel Hannah
His Queen	Anya Carstens
Catalabutte, Master of Ceremonies	Chase Bosch
Carrabosse, The Wicked Fairy	Kitty Phetla / Tammy Higgins
The Lilac Fairy	Shannon Glover / Nicole Ferreira-Dill / Monike Cristina / Cristina Nakos
Fairy of the Crystal Fountain	Cristina Nakos / Darragh Hourrides
Fairy of the Enchanted Garden	Savannah Jacobson / Latoya Mokoena
Fairy of the Woodland Glade	Chloé Blair / Kayleigh Smith
Fairy of the Songbirds	Ryoko Yagyu / Chloé Blair
Fairy of the Golden Vine	Darragh Hourrides / Savannah Jacobson
The Fairies' Cavaliers	Bruno Miranda / Ivan Domiciano / Gabriel Fernandes / Marlon Sales / Ruan Galdino / Miguel Franco-Green / Mario Gaglione / Revil Yon / Tumelo Lekana
The Four Princes	Ivan Domiciano / Marlon Sales / Gabriel Fernandes / Bruno Miranda / Revil Yon / Ruan Galdino / Mario Gaglione
The Duchess	Tammy Higgins / Cristina Nakos / Katelyn Van Herk / Savannah Ireland
Pas de Trois	Cristina Nakos / Chloé Blair / Latoya Mokoena Darragh Hourrides / Savannah Jacobson Ivan Domiciano / Revil Yon / Bruno Miranda / Marlon Sales
Puss-in-Boots and the White Cat	Mario Gaglione / Gabriel Fernandes / Thabani Ntuli Chloé Blair / Cristina Nakos / Latoya Mokoena
The Blue Bird and Princess Florine	Revil Yon / Ruan Galdino / Marlon Sales / Monike Cristina / Darragh Hourrides
Lilac Fairy Attendants, Princess Aurora's Friends, Courtiers, Monsters, Guards, Nursemaids, Scribe, Garland Dancers, Huntsmen, Nymphs	Artists of Joburg Ballet



Monike Cristina | Guillaume Diop



Nicole Ferreira-Dill | Nelson Peña Nuñez



Shannon Glover | Ruan Galdino

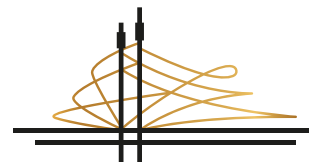




Ryoko Yagyū | Ivan Domiciano

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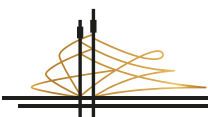
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FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME:

Pendo Masote, violinist: studying at the Royal College of Music, London, UK
Kamogelo Maraba, cellist: studying at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham, England
Liam Slabbert, bassoonist: studying at the Royal College of Music, London, UK
Daniel Spies, flautist: studying at Hochschule für Musik und Theater München, Germany





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SOLOISTS



Bruno Miranda



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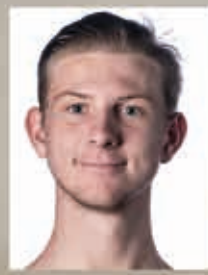


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Mbongeni Moyake

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Einon Doubell



Danielle Fletcher



Thando Mgobhozi



Kayleigh Smith



Katelyn Van Herk

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Chase Bosch



Anya Carstens



Guillaume Diop
(Photo: James Bort OnP)



Nigel Hannah



Nelson Peña Nuñez



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Timothy Soal

Guest Artists

Guillaume Diop

Guillaume Diop was born in Paris in 2000 and started dancing at the age of four. He joined the Paris Opera Dance School in 2012 and the Paris Opera Ballet in 2018.

A man of convictions and determined to evolve his discipline towards greater openness, Guillaume Diop co-wrote in 2020 a manifesto that opened a conversation on the lack of diversity, inclusion and representation at the Paris Opera.

In 2021, he was awarded the Carpeaux Dance Prize and Arop Dance Prize, awards annually given by the patron circles of the Paris Opera to the most promising young artists of the company. In 2023, in Seoul, while performing the role of Albrecht in *Giselle* during a company tour to Korea, he was appointed to the rank of Étoile.

Acclaimed by audiences and drawing the attention of the media in France and worldwide, Guillaume Diop has become one of the most prominent public figures in France. He has earned several distinctions such as GQ France Men of the Year (2023), ADAMI's Artist of the Year (2023) and was included in Forbes Africa (2023) and Forbes France (2024) 30 under 30 rankings.

Guillaume Diop's repertoire at the Paris Opera Ballet includes leading roles in Rudolf Nureyev's *Romeo and Juliet*, *Don Quixote*, *La Bayadère*, *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*, Harald Lander's *Études*, John Neumeier's *Vaslav*, Jean Coralli and Jules Perrot's *Giselle*, Maurice Béjart's *Songs of a Wayfarer*, Wayne McGregor's *The Dante Project*, Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon*, Jerome Robbins' *In the Night* and Frederick Ashton's *La Fille mal gardée*.

Guillaume Diop makes his debut as the Prince in Joburg Ballet's *The Sleeping Beauty* which also marks his first guest engagement outside the Paris Opera Ballet since his elevation to Étoile.

Nelson Peña Nuñez

Nelson Peña Nuñez was born in Cuba and trained at the Cuban National Ballet School in Havana where he graduated in 2009.

Soon afterwards he was invited to South Africa where he danced with Mzansi Productions and subsequently with South African Mzansi Ballet where he had the opportunity to perform leading and soloist roles in *Giselle*, *The Nutcracker* and *Le Corsaire*.

In 2013 he joined the National Opera and Ballet Theatre of Kazakhstan. He was elevated to principal dancer status in 2021.

Other companies Nelson Peña Nuñez has appeared with include the Russian National Ballet, Astana Ballet and Saint Petersburg Classical Ballet. He has danced extensively in Europe, England, Canada, Russia and the United States.

His repertoire includes leading roles in *Swan Lake*, *Cinderella*, *Spartacus*, *Don Quixote*, *Carmen Suite*, *Les Sylphides*, *Scheherazade*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Legend of Love*, *Red Giselle*, *Bolero* and *Carmina Burana*.

He danced the Prince in *The Sleeping Beauty* for the first time earlier in 2024 and repeats this role in his guest engagement with Joburg Ballet in June and July 2024.

Ryoko Yagyu

Ryoko Yagyu was born in Japan. She began dancing at the age of three and completed her training at the Viennese Conservatory in Austria. During her training, she was invited to perform at the International Festival of World Ballet Stars in the Ukraine.

Performances with other companies include principal roles in *La Sylphide*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake* with Vienna Festival Ballet. She has made guest appearances in principal roles with the Irish National Youth Ballet and Pasodos Dance Company in Mallorca. She has also worked with New English Ballet Theatre, London, performing a mixed repertoire of new works, and with Peter Schaufuss Ballet where she performed soloist roles in Frederick Ashton's *Romeo and Juliet*. She has also performed as a guest artist with the Ballet Festival of Indonesia.

Her competition credits include the Kobe Dance Junior and Senior Competitions, the Prix de Lausanne and the Premio Roma.

Ryoko Yagyu is a principal dancer with Ballet Ireland where she has performed in *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Giselle* and *Bold Moves*.

Ryoko Yagyu is spending six months with Joburg Ballet through to mid-October 2024.

JOBURG THEATRE PRESENTS



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Production Manager: Vanessa Nicolau • **Stage Manager:** Christopher Montague • **Props:** Riaan Dreyer • **Followspotters:** Gugu Xabu, Jo Sathegke, Donald Gololo, Puleng Matlala • **Stage Technicians:** Caiphus Motena, Simon Legodi, Mike Mokwena, Edwin Hadebe, Marlon Mothwa, Lawrence Lebubu, Froas Masseur, Philani Masoed



JOBURG CITY THEATRES

Chief Executive Officer: Xoliswa Nnduneni Ngema • **Chief Financial Officer:** Vukani Magubane • **Chief Operating Officer:** Bridget Mashika • **Company Secretary:** Nare Mokgobi • **Artistic Director:** James Ngcobo • **Senior Technical Manager:** Enos Ramoroko • **Resident Company Manager:** Timothy le Roux • **General Manager: Catering and Hospitality:** Branden Karim • **General Manager: Building and Security:** Pierre Pretorius • **Occupational Health & Safety Manager:** Lieb Venter • **Senior Customer Services Manager:** Justine Lipson • **Theatre Manager:** Mogapi Mokgautsi • **General Manager: Financial Accounting & Reporting:** Phumlani Nkomo • **General Manager: Supply Chain Management:** Graham Momphe • **General Manager: Human Resources:** Thomas Sadiki • **General Manager: Strategic Support:** Wendy Adams • **General Manager: Marketing and Communications:** Ntombi Mashaba • **General Manager: Strategic Relations and Projects:** Lindiwe Lekasapa

A Municipal Entity of the City of Joburg

Board of Directors: Godfrey Katsana (Chairperson), Thapelo Chokobane, Bonga Kweyama, Delisiwe Mabena, Johanna Mapeko, Thembinkosi Mbede, Ziyanda Mncanca, Ben Mothupi, Pamela Ndlovu, Orapeleng Ramagaga, Sbusiso Francisco Xaba, Vukani Magubane (CFO), Xoliswa Nnduneni-Ngema (CEO)

THANK YOU

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Join the Joburg Ballet Mailing List and be kept up to date with all the company's productions, news and activities.

Send an email requesting to be added to the Mailing List to: info@joburgballet.com

Programme compiled by Jonathan Hurwitz

Latecomers will not be seated until a suitable break in the performance. Please ensure your cellphone is on silent.

Smoking is not permitted on the theatre premises except in designated areas. No recording equipment may be used, including cellphones, without arrangement with the Management. At the end of the performance please remain seated until the house lights are on.

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LA TRAVIATA THE BALLET

JOBURG
BALLET



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Joburg

Shannon Glover and
Marlon Sales
La Traviata-The Ballet
Photo: Lauge Sorensen

