

NYB

National Youth Ballet



9 March 2022

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

NATIONAL YOUTH BALLET AND CITY OF SHEFFIELD YOUTH ORCHESTRA JOIN FORCES

National Youth Ballet (NYB) and the City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra (CSYO) are delighted to be joining forces in a **thrilling and energetic showcase** of young dancers, choreographers, and musicians, conducted by **Christopher Gayford**.

The performance will feature an imaginative and contemporary re-telling of **Kurt Weill's *The Seven Deadly Sins***, followed by **Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5***. It will take place at **The Octagon, Sheffield** on **Thursday 14 April** at **7.30pm**.

The Seven Deadly Sins is a ballet chanté (sung ballet) composed by Kurt Weill, with words by Bertolt Brecht. For this project the piece will be choreographed by **Alice O'Brien** and **Bianca Mikahil** for a small company of NYB dancers, with the score performed by CSYO. The dancers and orchestra will be joined by mezzo-soprano, **Clover Kayne**.

Alice O'Brien and Bianca Mikahil are part of NYB's Beyond Ballet programme, an unparalleled initiative that supports emerging creative artists from all areas of the theatre industry in the early stages of their professional careers. This project will enable both the choreographers and dancers to learn the vital skills of working with live music, musicians and a conductor.

Alongside this project CSYO and NYB will also visit local schools, in partnership with South Yorkshire Dance Hub, to lead **dance and music workshops for Key Stage 3 classes**. A **Creative Ballet Workshop** will also be held on **Monday 28 March** for Sheffield-based young dancers, led by NYB Creative Director Jo Meredith and NYB young artist Tierney Lawlor. The workshop will give dancers the chance to develop their classical technique, explore their creativity and imagination, and build confidence.

Tickets for the performance on Thursday 14 April are priced £17 (£8.50 for under 21's) and are now available via https://bit.ly/csyo_nyb

ENDS

For further information, images, interview requests or press tickets contact claire.bowdler@nationalyouthballet.org / 07801 538053

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Creative Dance Workshop

Date: Monday 28 March

Time: 6pm-8pm

Venue: Heeley Hall, Birkdale School, Endcliffe Cres, Sheffield S10 3EB

Workshop Ticket: £10

Online booking: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/creative-ballet-workshop-tickets-292227368927>

Suitable for ages: 13-18 yrs old

Kurt Weill's Seven Deadly Sins

Date: Thursday 14 April

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: The Octagon Centre, Clarkson Street, Broomhall, Sheffield, S10 2TQ

Tickets: £17 (£8.50 concs)

Online booking: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/csyo-and-nyb-present-kurt-weills-the-seven-deadly-sins-and-shostakovich-5-tickets-265797967877>

City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra

National Youth Ballet

Conductor: Christopher Gayford

Mezzo-soprano: Clover Kayne

Choreographers: Alice O'Brien and Bianca Mikahil

Programme:

Kurt Weill Seven Deadly Sins

Shostakovich Symphony No. 5

EDITOR'S NOTES

National Youth Ballet

National Youth Ballet (NYB) cultivates and nurtures talent in young people, who will create the ballet of the future.

For over 30 years NYB has provided transformational opportunities for young people to participate in, create and perform classical and contemporary ballet, enabling young people from all backgrounds to explore and develop their creativity.

The NYB annual Performance Company is a unique, intensive programme that replicates the experience of working in a professional company and provides a key stepping-stone to a future career in the performing arts. NYB's alumni make up 10% of the dancers and choreographers in major British ballet companies including The Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet, English National Ballet, Northern Ballet, Scottish Ballet, Rambert and Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, and many more have gone on to work in dance and related industries worldwide.

NYB's Learning and Participation programme encompasses two strands of activity: **Beyond Ballet®**, an unparalleled initiative that supports emerging creative artists from all areas of the theatre industry in the early stages of their professional careers, and **Moving Minds** which offers health and wellbeing workshops focusing on building physical and mental resilience and confidence in young people.

For further information visit www.nationalyouthballet.org

City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra

The City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra is one of the UK's leading independent youth orchestras, recently celebrating its 40th Anniversary. CSYO provides valuable orchestral and musical training, develops vital skills such as communication, critical thinking and self-confidence and has helped many members take a first step into a wide range of professions.

CSYO is a unique youth orchestra, offering membership to students up to the age of 21, with currently around 80 members aged between 13 and 21. Many of members are at college or university, training to be professional musicians.

Each Summer CSYO goes on tour, alternating between touring the UK and abroad. Previous tours have taken the ensemble to Belgium, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Spain, France, Italy, Norway and the Netherlands. CSYO have performed with internationally renowned soloists such as Nigel Kennedy, Peter Cropper, Matthew Barley and Natalie Clein.

Further information – www.csyo.org.uk