



ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Emerging Choreographer

Reports to: Senior Producer, The Royal Ballet

Main purpose of the job

To undertake a part time, twenty-three month programme of learning, development, collaboration and practical experience as a choreographer with The Royal Ballet

To take up opportunities provided, to experience creating and developing new work on classically trained dancers, working in a supportive and non-competitive environment

To learn from the expertise at The Royal Ballet, with access to the Resident Choreographer and/or Artistic Associate, and to gain insight and experience of the multifaceted and complex workings of a major resident dance company

To develop a range of skills, tools and experience to support a successful choreographic career

To make a positive contribution as a team player and an ambassador for the role of Emerging Choreographer

Main Responsibilities

Creating New Work

- Create one short work (up to ten minutes) for The Royal Ballet's annual *Draft Works*, to be performed in the Clore Studio on Royal Ballet dancers
- Create at least one short work (up to ten minutes) for the ROH's Learning and Participation Family Sunday Festivals in the Paul Hamlyn Hall

Note: the number of dancers and size of casts will be subject to availability and at the discretion of the Director of The Royal Ballet.

Learning through Observation, Participation, Collaboration and Experience

The Creative Process:

- Participate in The Royal Opera House's Insight 'Taking Shape' – a public event which explores the process of creating new work
- Participate in The Royal Ballet's Summer Choreographic Intensive
- Observe rehearsals of one new creation by a Royal Ballet resident choreographer, with opportunities to discuss processes

- Observe and if appropriate assist with the choreography and/or movement rehearsals during one Linbury Theatre opera production
- Collaborate with the ROH's Audience Labs to explore choreographic opportunities within a digital remit

From Project Brief to the Stage: Working in a Theatre

- Engage with the Linbury production team to gain insight in to this theatre's programming and producing practices
- Participate in workshops offered around Draft Works and International Draft Works, these include lighting and costume design and working with a dramaturge
- Experience working to a project brief including understanding both artistic and financial parameters
- Learn how to collaborate with the production and wardrobe departments in connection with project planning – including an insight into basic stage techniques and the design potential of a standard lighting rig
- Work alongside and observe stage management both in rehearsals and during performances
- Engage with ballet staff to gain insight into the complexities of soloist and corps de ballet casting for major ballet productions
- Engage with ballet staff to gain insight into the complexities of daily rehearsal scheduling for a major repertoire company such as The Royal Ballet
- Work alongside The Royal Ballet's Music Director, rehearsal pianists and the resident Jette Parker Young Artist Conductor to gain an insight in to how to collaborate with composers, conductors and accompanists
- Learn how to collaborate effectively with Audiences and Media and Development and Enterprise departments
- Engage with The Royal Ballet's healthcare team to observe how choreography and dancer care can be sport science and medically informed
- Undertake a minimum two-week placement with an alternative dance company, to extend perspectives and knowledge of working practices

Teamwork and Networking

- Build relationships and networks within the sector and The Royal Ballet
- Maintain the highest standards of attendance, reliability, teamwork and professionalism in all aspects of the work
- Make a positive contribution as an ambassador for the role

Continuous Improvement

- Manage own learning and continuous professional development
- Work to fulfil all objectives and development goals set within the 23 month programme, including taking up opportunities:
 - For access to choreographic feedback via The Royal Ballet staff or workshops
 - To observe working practices
 - To support next steps in career development via Linbury Producing team
- Contribute to a culture of innovation and continuous improvement

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Knowledge/Skills and Experience

Choreography

- Experience as a professional dancer and performer, in ballet or contemporary dance
- Experience of creating choreographic work that has been performed in a professional context
- Ability to develop original choreographic ideas
- An interest in classical ballet and choreography for classical ballet dancers
- An interest in ballet language
- Ability to make work for a variety of spaces and collaborate with artists from across art forms, demonstrating ambition and confidence
- Openness and curiosity to learn and grow from this opportunity
- Demonstrated capacity for effective teamwork and harmonious working relationships at all levels
- Ability to respond in a positive way to mentoring, feedback and direction

Continuous Improvement

- Ability to work to and support a culture of continuous improvement
- Commitment to managing own learning and continuous professional development
- Ability to understand and respond to the opportunity provided at this stage of your career

Job Requirements

- Flexibility to be available for scheduled events, rehearsals and performances as required, including evenings and weekends
- The highest standards of attendance, reliability and professionalism across all aspects of the work

Note: This Job Description reflects the current situation. It does not preclude change or development that might be required in the future.

