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KŌHA FOR VOYAGES



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## Royal New Zealand Ballet Voyages

The choreographers and performers would like to thank the members of the artistic, costume and production teams who have supported the delivery of these new works.

*rnzb*

# Royal New Zealand Ballet

Winter Season

In association with Viking

16 Jul–1 Aug

Wellington, Auckland  
and Christchurch



Three timeless ballets

Aotearoa's dance legacy

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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National touring partner

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WORLDWIDE 2024-2028

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*rnzb*

27–29 May  
Hannah Playhouse

# Royal New Zealand Ballet Voyages



New choreographic works



Supported by



National touring partner



Supported by

CHOREOGRAPHERS / Shaun James Kelly,  
Katherine Minor, Branden Reiners, Gretchen  
Steimle, Joshua Douglas, Breyah Takitimu  
and Guest Choreographer Jeremy Beck.

PHOTO: Jenna Bramble. Dancer: Soloist Katherine Minor.

Our **2026 Voyages season** sees us setting forth once more to explore uncharted waters and break through into new creative terrain. In this spirit, we are delighted to be taking Voyages out of the studio and into the theatre for the first time, and look forward with great anticipation to the opportunities this endeavour with The Hannah Playhouse opens up. We also warmly welcome Jeremy Beck into the RNZB whānau and onto the Voyages team, choreographing alongside our brilliant RNZB dancers. I hope you enjoy joining us for the rewards of this latest foray!



**TY KING-WALL**

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
ROYAL NEW ZEALAND BALLET

## MARGA'S DANCE

**Choreographer** Katherine Minor

**Dancers** Lyn Lin, Charlotte Willis, Dane Head, Laurynas Vėjalis

Four friends stop their work, meeting a dance to fill the air.

## SOMEWHERE

**Choreographer** Branden Reiners

**Dancers** Timothy Ching, Jake Gisby

This work is a memory of brotherhood and love.

## WHO CAME TO BE

**Choreographer** Gretchen Steimle

**Dancers** Ana Gallardo Lobaina, Cadence Barrack, Joshua Guillemot-Rodgerson, Katherine Minor, Zacharie Dun

**Passersby** Emma Gavan, Tessa Karle, Olivia Platt, Branden Reiners, Kihiro Kusakami

Nature and nurture quietly sculpt every relationship we carry. Some of us grow into the spaces others leave behind, while others carve relationships to reflect who they are. Do you lean toward nature or nurture? Does that bias shape not only your connections, but who you become?

Thanks to the dancers who shaped the work.  
For Mary and all my loved ones.

## PHASE II

**Choreographer** Breyah Takitimu

**Dancers** Catarina Estévez Collins, Rose Xu, Hannah Thomson, Ema Takahashi, Jordan Sawtell, Joshua Douglas, Padraic Lum, Lyn Lin

*Phase II* explores the tension between the desire for control and the inevitability of change. Performed by eight dancers, the work uses dynamic shifts to trace a psychological journey as resistance gradually dissolves into acceptance. Drawing on the recurring nature of the music, it considers how the need for control can become limiting, narrowing what is possible. *Phase II* suggests letting go – allowing change to unfold.

## WEATHERED

**Choreographer** Joshua Douglas

**Dancers** Gretchen Steimle, Tessa Karle, Emma Gavan, Cadence Barrack, Ema Takahashi, Charlotte Willis

*Weathered* explores emotional endurance – the quiet experience of feeling that does not fully resolve but persists over time. Performed by six women on pointe, the work follows the gradual process of learning how to live within emotional weight rather than overcome it. Like constant rain, emotion seeps into the body, shaping the way it moves, balances, and continues forward. *Weathered* finds strength not through resistance, but through continuation.

## SWAN SONG

**Choreographer** Shaun James Kelly

**Dancers** Mayu Tanigaito & Laurynas Vėjalis, or Catarina Estévez Collins & Joshua Guillemot-Rodgerson

In the reimagined “Adagio” pas de deux from Act II of *Swan Lake*, the Prince daydreams that he’s as free as a swan. Unburdened by royal duties in his fantasy, he falls in love with the beautiful swan, Odette – they dance intertwined, finding one another as their souls binding together.

2026 marks 10 years since winning the Harry Haythorne Choreographic Award – I want to thank the dancers for their constant inspiration and expressive artistry.

## SOFT RESET

**Choreographer** Jeremy Beck

**Dancers** Ana Gallardo Lobaina, Breyah Takitimu, Olivia Platt, Kihiro Kusakami, Dane Head, Zacharie Dun, Jordan Sawtell

On this particular occasion, I invite the work to speak for itself.  
Thank you to the Royal New Zealand Ballet for having me.



PHOTO: Jenna Bramble.  
Dancer: Soloist Katherine Minor.