# National Theatre

Thursday 20 February 2025

### NATIONAL THEATRE'S CELEBRATED FAMILY HIT RETURNS TO THE OLIVIER THEATRE IN WINTER 2025

### BALLET SHOES ANNOUNCED AS PART OF INCOMING DIRECTOR AND CO-CEO INDHU RUBASINGHAM'S INAUGURAL SEASON



IMAGES OF 2024 PRODUCTION (C) BY MANUEL HARLAN CAN BE FOUND HERE

Ahead of the last performance on Saturday, the National Theatre is delighted to announce that **Kendall Feaver**'s celebrated and acclaimed adaptation of **Noel Streatfeild**'s best-selling book **Ballet Shoes** will return for the festive season. **Ballet Shoes**' return forms part of incoming Director and Co-CEO **Indhu Rubasingham**'s inaugural season and will run in the Olivier theatre from winter 2025. Further programming to be announced soon.

Directed by **Katy Rudd**, this 'playful, graceful adaptation' ( $\star\star\star\star\star$  *Financial Times*) 'never puts a foot wrong' ( $\star\star\star\star\star$  *London Standard*). Delighting audiences both old and young, the production 'springs from page to stage with panache' ( $\star\star\star\star\star$  *WhatsonStage*).

## Speaking about the return of Ballet Shoes, incoming Director and Co-Chief Executive of the National Theatre Indhu Rubasingham, said:

"I am proud that Ballet Shoes will be returning to the Olivier this Christmas. It is a celebration of what the NT does best – when all the teams, departments and the widest range of expertise come together to create a family show for all audiences full of theatrical magic. I want more people to see this beautiful show made by wonderful artists, developed and built by this brilliant organisation."

In a crumbling house full of dinosaur bones and fossils, three adopted sisters – Pauline, Petrova and Posy – are learning who they are and what they want to be. Under the watchful eyes and guidance of their guardian Sylvia, Nana, and some unlikely lodgers, they fight to pursue their individual passions. But in a world that wasn't built for women with big ambitions, can they forge a future, keep their family together, and even learn a dance or two along the way?

Directed by Katy Rudd with set designer Frankie Bradshaw, costume designer Samuel Wyer, choreographer Ellen Kane, composer Asaf Zohar, dance arrangements and orchestrations Gavin Sutherland, lighting designer Paule Constable, sound designer Ian Dickinson for Autograph, video designer Ash J Woodward, illusions Chris Fisher, casting director Bryony Jarvis-Taylor, dialect coach Penny Dyer and voice coach Cathleen McCarron.

**Ballet Shoes** will play in the Olivier theatre this winter 2025. Recommended for ages 7 to 107! Casting and dates to be announced.

Tickets are on general sale from 20 March 2025, nationaltheatre.org.uk.

#### **ENDS**

For images, click here.

Production	Theatre	Dates	Press Night	Publicist
Ballet Shoes	Olivier theatre	From winter 2025	TBC	Emily Ritchie

#### With thanks:

This is an Edgerton New Plays Commission. New Play Commissions are also supported by the Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation.

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The National Theatre makes theatre that entertains and inspires using its creativity, expertise and unique reach. The National Theatre shares unforgettable stories with millions of audience members across the UK and around the world – on its own stages, on tour, in schools, on cinema screens and streaming at home.

World-leading artists make their best work at the National Theatre with the widest possible audience and impact. The National Theatre invests in talent and innovation on stage and off, taking seriously its role as the nation's theatre. Of the new productions developed each year with a wide range of theatre companies, a third of that research and development resource is dedicated to shows staged at theatres outside London.

Through touring our work to local theatres and schools and nationwide education and community programmes, we are active in every local authority in the UK. A registered charity with deeply embedded social purpose, the National Theatre works with hundreds of schools and communities across the UK to fire imagination and inspire creativity, and to develop skills and pathways for careers in theatre.

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