



Sadler's Wells in Angel
**Sadler's Wells
Theatre**

Seeta Patel Dance

The Rite of Spring

Monday 13 & Tuesday 14 March

Tickets: £15-£55

Ticket Office: 020 7863 8000 or www.sadlerswells.com

Seeta Patel Dance presents a compelling **bharatanatyam interpretation** of ***The Rite of Spring*** at **Sadler's Wells Theatre** in a London premiere on **Monday 13 & Tuesday 14 March 2023**.

This piece is an **expanded version** of Patel's 2019 work which sees a **first-time collaboration** between **Seeta Patel Dance** and the **full Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO)** to perform Stravinsky's iconic score **live** under the baton of its **Chief Conductor, Kirill Karabits**.

This production **tours later in the year across the south west, including Basingstoke and Poole**. Audiences can also experience Patel's live interpretation, alongside a specially recorded performance from Karabits and the BSO, at **The Lowry in Salford, in November**.

The classical South Indian dance form of bharatanatyam, normally seen in solo presentations, **is danced by an ensemble in this production**, and this version unusually subverts tradition with a male dancer as The Chosen One – elevating him to a deity to whom all sacrifice themselves.

By associating Stravinsky's work and bharatanatyam dance, Patel seeks to bridge the gap between classical Indian dance and Western culture.

Seeta Patel is an award-winning choreographer and dancer from London. She has worked with a range of bharatanatyam and contemporary dance professionals including Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company and Mavin Khoo. She actively supports emerging dance talents through her choreographic and mentoring work.

Talking about this production and the new collaboration with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Patel said: *"I have been developing The Rite of Spring over several years now, and the work has seen various iterations throughout this journey.*

"I am incredibly excited and grateful to be collaborating with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and their incredible Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits to bring the work to its full glory with an ensemble and a full orchestra. It has been a great experience bringing together the powerful art forms of classical music and bharatanatyam dance, and I feel very privileged to be working with such brilliant dancers who are joining us from all over the world.

"Sadler's Wells audiences can expect vibrancy, rhythm and expression in a joyous celebration of music and dance."

Originally from Ukraine, **Kirill Karabits has been the Chief Conductor of the BSO since 2008**. He is known for championing undiscovered symphonic works from former Soviet countries through his acclaimed series, *Voices from the East*. Together with the BSO, he has brought attention to works that fuse Eastern influences with the traditional symphony orchestra.

Kirill Karabits, Chief Conductor of the BSO, brings a fresh perspective to Stravinsky's masterpiece as dancers and musicians unite. He said: "*Stravinsky's mighty score, The Rite of Spring, is a massive thrill to perform and is a work that, thanks to its fusion of traditions and techniques, has continued to ignite ideas and inspire both artists and audiences for over a century.*

"I can't wait to bring it to life and hope this new production, which unites bharatanatyam dance with Stravinsky's original score, will shine a new light on this endlessly fascinating work."

The Rite of Spring is co-commissioned by Sadler's Wells.

British Sign Language Interpreted Post-Show Talk on Monday 13 March.

Press Night: Monday 13 March at 7:30 pm

Press contact: Lucy Colomb on lucycolomb@sadlerswells.com or 0207 863 8122

Press images can be downloaded from [Sadler's Wells Media Library \(sadlerswells.com\)](https://www.sadlerswells.com/media-library) – please sign up to log in

NOTES TO EDITORS

Listings information:

Show dates: Monday 13 & Tuesday 14 March

Press Night: Monday 13 March at 7:30 pm

No under 5's.

Live music by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Chief conductor Kirill Karabits

About Seeta Patel

The award-winning choreographer and dancer Seeta Patel was born in London and began her training under the guidance of Kiran Ratna in 1990. She has since worked with a range of Bharatanatyam and contemporary dance professionals, and has choreographed, performed and toured internationally with a number of prestigious dance companies.

Since 2005, Patel has presented solo and ensemble performances to sold out audiences at renowned venues such as Southbank Centre Purcell Room, Royal Opera House, ROH2, Sadler's Wells and Edinburgh Fringe. In tandem with her choreographic and performing work Seeta has worked in film, TV and theatre and has received multiple awards and bursaries for her creative and professional development.

The constantly evolving world of South Asian Dance is developing as an integral part of the international dance landscape and Seeta Patel is a vital part of this growing business; she mentors and supports up-and-coming dancers and produces high quality work which entertains and engages an increasing audience both in the UK and abroad.

About Seeta Patel Dance

Seeta Patel Dance contributes something vital, political, beautiful and urgent to the world through dance and performance.

Spearheaded by award-winning choreographer and dancer Seeta Patel, the Company creates live stage performances which focus on classical Indian and contemporary dance and dance theatre. Performance is supported by Audience Development, Outreach, Advocacy and Talent Development, which is a cornerstone of Seeta Patel Dance's vision.

Seeta Patel Dance is an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation and enjoys an international presence and a strong reputation within the dance community. The Company plans to continue to extend its reach worldwide and its mission to introduce new audiences to classical and contemporary Indian dance.

About Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra 2022/23

Championing the role of culture in people's lives

Chief Conductor – Kirill Karabits | Artist-in-Residence — Felix Klieser
Principal Guest Conductor — Mark Wigglesworth | Associate Guest Conductor – David Hill
Conductor Emeritus – Marin Alsop | Conductor Laureate – Andrew Litton
Assistant Conductor — Tom Fetherstonhaugh

One of the UK's best-loved orchestras, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is a professional ensemble known for championing the role of culture in people's lives. With residencies in Bournemouth, Bristol, Exeter, Poole, Portsmouth and Yeovil, it is the largest cultural provider in the South West of England, serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions in the UK.

The Orchestra, under its **Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits**, is known for pushing artistic boundaries, and its ongoing series of music from former Soviet states, **Voices from the East**, continues to gain praise. Boasting an enviable list of principal conductors, including Marin Alsop, the first female principal conductor of a major UK orchestra, the BSO has given memorable performances worldwide and with regular live broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM.

The Orchestra's livestreamed broadcasts have cemented its reputation for presenting live symphonic music of the highest quality, and remain popular around the globe following its inaugural season in 2020.

In 2022/23, the series features artists Dame Sarah Connolly, James Ehnes, Laura van der Heijden, and a host of the UK's leading music broadcasters. Described by The Times as *"one of the most inspiring figures on the concert scene today"*, **Horn player Felix Klieser also returns — as the Orchestra's Artist-in-Residence** — following a memorable UK concerto debut with the BSO in 2021.

Committed to new music, the BSO has presented premiere performances of works by Carmen Ho, Franghiz Ali-Zadeh, Magnus Lindberg, Elizabeth Ogonek and Shirley J. Thompson OBE in recent years. It celebrates the work of composer **Anna Korsun**, who becomes its Composer-in-Residence in 2023.

The Orchestra also marks a landmark moment when inclusive ensembles BSO Resound and RNS Moves join forces for a new commission by **Kate Whitley**, with performances in Poole and Gateshead in early 2023. Winner of the 2019 Royal Philharmonic Society's Impact Award, **BSO Resound** — the world's first professional disabled-led ensemble at the core of a major orchestra — continues to receive international attention for igniting change.

Challenging barriers to high-quality music for all, the BSO leads hundreds of events each year, from award-winning work in health and care settings to partnerships with schools and music education hubs, and in 2022, the Orchestra welcomed its first community-based Young Associate musicians.

bsolive.com

About Sadler's Wells

Sadler's Wells is a world-leading dance organisation. We strive to make and share dance that inspires us all. Our acclaimed year-round programme spans dance of every kind, from contemporary to flamenco, Bollywood to ballet, salsa to street dance and tango to tap. We commission, produce and present more dance than any other organisation in the world. Since 2005, we have helped to bring close to 200 new dance works to the stage, embracing both the popular and the unknown.

Each year, over half a million people visit our three London theatres - Sadler's Wells Theatre, Lilian Baylis Studio and Peacock Theatre. Millions more attend our touring productions nationally and internationally or explore our digital platforms, including Sadler's Wells Digital Stage. In 2023 we're opening a fourth London venue in Stratford's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Sadler's Wells East will house a 550-seat mid-scale theatre, as well as facilities for the Choreographic School and Hip Hop Theatre Academy.

Supporting artists is at the heart of our work. We have associate artists and companies, which nurture some of the most exciting talent working in dance today. We host the National Youth Dance Company, which draws together some of the brightest young dancers from across the country. Sadler's Wells Breakin' Convention runs professional development programmes to champion and develop the world's best hip hop artists, as well as producing, programming and touring groundbreaking hip hop performances.

Around 30,000 people take part in our learning and engagement programmes every year. We support schools local to our theatres in Islington and Stratford, designing experiences for children and young people to watch, explore and critically engage with the arts. We also run Company of Elders, a resident performance company of dancers aged over 60 who rehearse with renowned artists to make new work for public performances locally, nationally and internationally.

Sadler's Wells is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

www.sadlerswells.com

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