

THE PETER DARRELL TRUST NEWS

Updates June 2024



Photo: Eve Mutso in *Five Rückert Songs*; Photo: Kersti Kuuse

Coming Up: Soon: Five Rückert Songs - the final solo is being performed as part of Ballet Nights - 28th & 29th June at the Lanterns Studio Theatre, 3 Millharbour, London E14 9XP, 7.30pm.

Five Rückert Songs is set to the haunting music of Mahler's wonderful song cycle and each song develops the arc of a deeply emotional personal journey. At the centre of everything is a figure simply called 'The Woman'. The first song sets in motion her desire to detach from the whirl of life, but as each one follows we move deeper into her inner world – from the heart-rending loss of a great love and the dark night of the soul which follows, to a courageous recognition of how things must be and a sense of their acceptance. As the final song – *Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen* - ends, she disappears slowly and serenely into a beckoning shaft of light. Dance critic Geoffrey Baskerville has described the work as “a masterpiece, containing some of the most searching and emotionally demanding sequences of solo dance written in recent years”. It is certainly seen as one of Darrell's signature works.

Astonishingly, however, Darrell's work has not been seen in London since 1979, so this performance is a real milestone of great importance – one that the Trust hopes will create a new interest in his outstandingly inventive work. Darrell was a truly great artist, but also a visionary pioneer - and one to whom contemporary ballet owes an enormous debt.

The Woman will be danced by Eve Mutso, former Principal Dancer with Scottish Ballet, Mezzo-soprano Dana Mays from the RCS in Glasgow will sing the final song accompanied by pianist Viktor Emanuel. The solo has been taught from the Benesh Notation by Kristin Johnson. On the programme will also be performances by Mayara Magri and Matthew Ball, Principals of The Royal Ballet and Sangeun Lee and Gareth Haw stars of English National Ballet - an evening not to be missed!

Tickets are on sale: [HERE](#)

For more information on the Peter Darrell Trust: <https://www.peterdarrell.org> or to make a donation to the Trust's work: <https://www.justgiving.com/thePeterdarrelltrust>

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