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FREDERICK **ASHTON**

LA VALSE 'MÉDITATION' FROM THAÏS VOICES OF SPRING MONOTONES I AND II MARGUERITE AND ARMAND

Frederick Ashton, Founder Choreographer of The Royal Ballet, was one of the 20th century's most influential choreographers, whose musical, subtle and graceful style and extraordinary gift for storytelling had a profound impact on the development of British ballet. This special programme, performed at the Royal Opera House to mark the 25th anniversary of Ashton's death, presents five works that demonstrate his astonishing versatility, from compelling abstract ballets – such as the exuberant *Voices of Spring* and the radically modernist *Monotones* – to the tragic love story *Marguerite and Armand*, brought to life with 'performances of heart-wrenching intensity' (*The Observer*) by Tamara Rojo and Sergei Polunin. Filmed in High Definition and recorded in true Surround Sound.

BONUS FEATURES

Introduction to Frederick Ashton Introductions to the ballets The Ashton Foundation

DIRECTED FOR THE SCREEN BY Margaret Williams A Royal Opera House production

BALLET

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SUBTITLES: ENGLISH, FRANÇAIS, DEUTSCH ITALIANO (BONUS FEATURES ONLY)

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The Royal Ballet CHOREOGRAPHY Frederick Ashton

Orchestra of the Royal Opera House CONDUCTOR Emmanuel Plasson CONCERT MASTER Vasko Vassilev

LA VALSE

MUSIC Maurice Ravel Hikaru Kobayashi, Ryoichi Hirano, Samantha Raine, Bennet Gartside, Helen Crawford, Brian Maloney Artists of The Royal Ballet

'MÉDITATION' FROM THAÏS MUSIC Jules Massenet

Leanne Benjamin, Valeri Hristov SOLO VIOLIN Vasko Vassilev

VOICES OF SPRING MUSIC Johann Strauss II Yuhui Choe, Alexander Campbell

MONOTONES I AND II MUSIC Erik Satie

Emma Maguire, Akane Takada, Dawid Trzensimiech, Nehemiah Kish, Edward Watson, Marianela Nuñez

MARGUERITE AND ARMAND MUSIC Franz Liszt

Tamara Rojo, Sergei Polunin, Christopher Saunders, Gary Avis Artists of The Royal Ballet SOLO PIANO Robert Clark

> MUSIC 16:9 ANAMORPHIC (FOR DVD) RUNNING TIME APPROX 84 MINUTES (BALLETS) + 15 MINUTES (FEATURE) 8 09478 01116 3

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THE ROYAL BALLET

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