

About Miyako Yoshida

Born and trained in Tokyo, Miyako Yoshida joined The Royal Ballet School in 1983 after winning the prestigious Prix de Lausanne. In 1984, she joined Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet (now Birmingham Royal Ballet) and was promoted to Principal in 1988. In 1995 she joined The Royal Ballet until 2010, since then she has enjoyed performing as a freelance dancer.

Her numerous awards include the Global Award in 1989. Best Dancer Award 1991 by popular vote in British dance specialist magazine "Dance & Dancers", as dancer of the year. The Arts Encouragement Prize for Artists of the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture, Japan 2001.

An OBE (Order of the British Empire) from HRH Queen Elizabeth and the Purple Ribbon Medal for artistic developments, improvements and accomplishments from the Emperor of Japan, as well as the British Critics Association UK Best Dancer Award, all in 2007.

The Mainichi Art Award in 2011 and DSC Award in 2012.

Recognized as a Person of Cultural Merit by the Japanese government in 2017.

Appointed UNESCO Artist for Peace in 2004 and UNHCR Artist in 2012.

Miyako Yoshida's farewell performance was held at the National Theatre Opera Palace, in August, 2019.

In 2020 She will be a Artistic Director for the National Ballet of Japan at the Japan National Theater.