The world's biggest Swan Lake

Event - The world's biggest Swan Lake ↻

When	Wed, 16. September 2026
Category	Theatre & Cabaret in Rotterdam



Description

The Shanghai Ballet returns to Rotterdam with The World’s Biggest Swan Lake, a spectacular production of Tchaikovsky’s ballet featuring 48 swans on stage instead of the traditional 24.

Created by British ballet director Derek Deane, this large-scale version transforms Swan Lake through its sheer number of dancers and carefully constructed formations. The famous corps de ballet scenes expand across the stage in shifting patterns, creating an unusually grand interpretation of a work first performed almost 150 years ago.

Shanghai Ballet previously brought the production to Luxor in 2023, when performances sold out. The company now returns to the Nieuwe Luxor Theater for another run, combining classical choreography with the scale and precision of one of China’s leading ballet companies.

At the centre remains Tchaikovsky’s familiar story and score, but the expanded ensemble gives the iconic white acts an added visual impact.

Details

Event: The World’s Biggest Swan Lake
Company: Shanghai Ballet
Dates: Friday 11 to Sunday 20 September 2026
Location: Nieuwe Luxor Theater, Rotterdam
Tickets: €42.50 to €89, excluding service costs
Genre: Ballet and classical dance
Choreography/production: Derek Deane
Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Running time: Approximately 2 hours 35 minutes
Special feature: 48 swans on stage instead of the traditional 24

Venue - Nieuwe Luxor Theater

Location	Nieuwe Luxor Theater
Street	Posthumalaan 1
Postcode	3072 AG
City	Rotterdam

Website	https://www.luxortheater.nl

Description

Opened in 2001, the Nieuwe Luxor Theater is a modern performing arts venue located at the foot of the Erasmus Bridge in Rotterdam. Designed by architect Peter Wilson, this striking red theater is known for its contemporary design and large capacity, seating up to 1,500 guests. It serves as a major hub for musicals, concerts, cabaret, dance performances, and international productions, making it one of the Netherlands' most prestigious theater venues. With its scenic waterfront location, spacious foyers, and state-of-the-art acoustics, the Nieuwe Luxor Theater offers a top-tier cultural experience.