BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday matinee 1 December 2022

The Nutcracker

Music Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky; **Choreography** Peter Wright, Lev Ivanov, Vincent Redmon; **Production** Peter Wright; **Designs** John Macfarlane; **Lighting** David Finn

The Sugar Plum Fairy Miki Mizutani

The Prince Lachlan Monaghan

Drosselmeyer Jonathan Payn

a magician

Clara Sofia Liñares

a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Enrique Bejarano Vidal

Clara's Mother Daria Stanciulescu

a former ballerina

Clara's Father Rory Mackay

Fritz Matthew Titley

Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Ryan Felix

Grandmother Yvette Knight

Grandfather Kit Holder

Butler Hamish Scott

Harlequin Gus Payne

Columbine Lynsey Sutherland

Jack-in-the-Box Eric Pinto Cata

Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Children Members of Birmingham Royal Ballet's Dance Track and

Elmhurst Ballet School's Young Dancer programmes; students of Elmhurst Ballet School and Royal Ballet

Junior Associates

The Nutcracker Doll Enrique Bejarano Vidal

The Rat King Gabriel Anderson

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Alys Shee

Her Attendants Rosanna Ely, Rachele Pizzillo,

Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine

Winds Jack Easton, Ryan Felix

Callum Findlay-White, Lennert Steegen

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



ACT II

Spanish Dance Tessa Hogge, Jack Easton, Mason King

Arabian Dance Alys Shee, Lennert Steegen

Chinese Dance Thomas Hazelby, Eric Pinto Cata

Russian Dance Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Theo Greenfield, Javier Rojas

Dance of the Mirlitons Olivia Chang Clarke, Mäilène Katoch,

Matilde Rodrigues, Lynsey Sutherland

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Céline Gittens

Her Consorts Gabriel Anderson, Ryan Felix

Callum Findlay-White, Max Maslen

Leading Flowers Rosanna Ely, Daria Stanciulescu,

Amelia Thomson, Lucy Waine

Grand pas de deux Miki Mizutani, Lachlan Monaghan

Students appear by kind permission of the Principal of The Royal Ballet School.

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Phillip Ellis; Leader Robert Gibbs

Approximate timings



Act I 50 minutes Interval 30 minutes Act II 50 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 4.10pm

THE STORY

ACT I

It is Christmas Eve and Dr Stahlbaum and his wife are giving a party. They have two children, Clara, a ballet student, and her younger brother, Fritz. As well as some of Clara's friends, Mrs Stahlbaum has invited a magician, Drosselmeyer. He brings gifts for the children and gives a Nutcracker doll to Clara.

When the guests have departed, Clara creeps downstairs looking for the Nutcracker. As the clock strikes midnight, the room seems to grow and giant rats, led by their King, attack Clara. The Nutcracker springs to life and, summoning the toy soldiers, defends her.

Realising that the Nutcracker is about to be overpowered, Clara hits the Rat King with her shoe. The Nutcracker falls to the ground, seemingly lifeless and Clara tries to revive him. As he comes back to life, to her amazement, he has turned into a handsome Prince. He dances with her, then leads her to the Land of Snow where the winds transport her into the night sky.

ACT II

Clara flies through the clouds and arrives in a strange place where a fantastic world is conjured up by Drosselmeyer. He shows her the sun, the moon, flowers and dancers from many different lands. The Rat King bursts in, but the Nutcracker Prince and Drosselmeyer banish him forever.

Drosselmeyer now puts on a grand entertainment in Clara's honour as a reward for her bravery. She joins in many of the dances and is finally transformed into the Sugar Plum Fairy, the ballerina of her dreams. The Nutcracker Prince reappears and dances with her. As the dancing reaches its climax the dream-world vanishes and Clara awakens at the foot of the Christmas tree.

The Big Give Christmas Challenge 2022

Help our trail-blazing Freefall Dance Company, a company of talented adults with learning difficulties, expand their work.

Visit brb.org.uk/biggive for details