

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday 10 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** Yaoqian Shang  
**The Prince** Tyrone Singleton  
**Drosselmeyer** Gabriel Anderson  
*a magician*  
**Clara** Reina Fuchigami  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Ryan Felix  
**Clara's Mother** Daria Stanciulescu  
*a former ballerina*  
**Clara's Father** Rory Mackay  
**Fritz** Joshua McKenzie  
*Clara's younger brother*  
**Clara's Dancing Partner** Max Maslen  
**Grandmother** Lynsey Sutherland  
**Grandfather** Michael O'Hare  
**Butler** Oscar Kempsey-Fagg  
**Harlequin** Gus Payne  
**Columbine** Rachele Pizzillo  
**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** Ryan Felix  
**The Rat King** Mason King  
**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
**The Snow Fairy** Alys Shee  
**Her Attendants** Rosanna Ely, Regan Hutsell, Matilde Rodrigues, Lucy Waine  
**Winds** Louis Andreasen, Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Callum Findlay-White, Miles Gilliver  
**Snowflakes** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL

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***The Nutcracker 2023: Booking open now!***

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## ACT II

<b>Spanish Dance</b>	<b>Rachele Pizzillo, Kit Holder, Javier Rojas</b>
<b>Arabian Dance</b>	<b>Yijing Zhang, Haoliang Feng</b>
<b>Chinese Dance</b>	<b>Thomas Hazelby, Riku Ito</b>
<b>Russian Dance</b>	<b>Louis Andreassen, Ryan Felix, Gus Payne</b>
<b>Dance of the Mirlitons</b>	<b>Olivia Chang Clarke, Tessa Hogge, Matilde Rodrigues, Yuki Sugiura</b>

### Waltz of the Flowers

<b>The Rose Fairy</b>	<b>Karla Doorbar</b>
<b>Her Consorts</b>	<b>Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Callum Findlay-White, Miles Gilliver, Lennert Streegen</b>
<b>Leading Flowers</b>	<b>Rosanna Ely, Alys Shee, Lynsey Sutherland, Daria Stanciulescu</b>
<b>Grand pas de deux</b>	<b>Yaoqian Shang, Tyrone Singleton</b>

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

Ex Cathedra was founded in Birmingham by its Artistic Director, Jeffrey Skidmore OBE in 1969. Ex Cathedra is delighted their Academy of Vocal Music are performing in *The Nutcracker* again this year, under the leadership of Rebecca Ledgard, Director of Education. Email [education@excathedra.co.uk](mailto:education@excathedra.co.uk) to find out more and join the choir.

### Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Charlotte Politi; Leader Robert Gibbs



#### Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes

Interval 30 minutes

Act II 50 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 8.10pm

## 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.