

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Tuesday matinee 10 December 2024  
Birmingham Hippodrome

## 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* **Rachele Pizzillo**  
*The Prince* **Riku Ito**  
*Drosselmeyer* **Louis Andreasen**  
*a magician*  
*Clara* **Reina Fuchigami**  
*a ballet student*

ACT I

*The Magician's Assistant* **Ryan Felix**  
*Clara's Mother* **Tori Forsyth-Hecken**  
*a former ballerina*  
*Clara's Father* **Rory Mackay**  
*Fritz* **Lars Hetherington-Howell**  
*Clara's younger brother*  
*Clara's Dancing Partner* **Gus Payne**  
*Grandmother* **Yvette Regueiro**  
*Grandfather* **Jonathan Payn**  
*Butler* **Marlo Kempsey-Fagg**  
*Harlequin* **August Generalli**  
*Columbine* **Tessa Hogge**  
*Jack-in-the-Box* **Shuailun Wu**  
*Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants* **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**  
*Children* **Members of BRB'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* **Gabriel Anderson**  
*Soldiers, Rats* **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**  
*The Snow Fairy* **Yuki Sugiura**  
*Her Attendants* **Isabella Howard, Frieda Kaden, Ava May Llewellyn, Amelia Thompson**  
*Winds* **Callum Findlay-White, Miles Gilliver, Tom Hazelby, Mason King**  
*Snowflakes* **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

INTERVAL

## ACT II

<b><i>Spanish Dance</i></b>	<b>Tessa Hogge, August Generalli, Javier Rojas</b>
<b><i>Arabian Dance</i></b>	<b>Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Jack Easton, Miles Gilliver, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg</b>
<b><i>Chinese Dance</i></b>	<b>Ryan Felix, Gus Payne</b>
<b><i>Russian Dance</i></b>	<b>Callum Findlay-White, Thomas Kujawa, Joe Parker</b>
<b><i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i></b>	<b>Olivia Chang Clarke, Frieda Kaden, Maïléne Katoch, Yuki Sugiura</b>

### Waltz of the Flowers

<b><i>The Rose Fairy</i></b>	<b>Yu Kurihara</b>
<b><i>Her Consorts</i></b>	<b>Haoliang Feng, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Mason King, Shuailun Wu</b>
<b><i>Leading Flowers</i></b>	<b>Matilde Rodrigues, Daria Stanciulescu, Lynsey Sutherland, Amelia Thompson</b>

<b><i>Grand pas de deux</i></b>	<b>Rachele Pizzillo, Riku Ito</b>
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Students appear by kind permission of the Principal of Elmhurst Ballet School and the Principal of The Royal Ballet School.  
The choristers in Act I are members of Ex Cathedra's Academies of Vocal Music, Artistic Director Jeffrey Skidmore.

## Approximate timings

*Act I* 50 minutes; *Interval* 25 minutes; *Act II* 50 minutes.  
The performance will end at approximately 4.10pm

## Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* Paul Murphy

### First Violins

Robert Gibbs *Leader*  
Joana Valentinaviciute  
Vanessa David  
Amanda Brown  
Deborah Schlenther  
Philip Aird  
Caroline Ferriman  
Timothy Wilford  
Rosemary Henbest  
Catherine Hamer

### Second Violins

William Hillman  
Fiona Robertson  
Robert Simmons  
Charlotte Dodwell  
Paul Barrett  
Caroline Bodimead  
Zhivko Georgiev  
Risa Sekine

### Violas

Errika Collins  
Jisu Song  
James Flannery  
Wei Wei Tan  
Elizabeth Fryer

### Cellos

António Novais  
Jane Rainey  
Alessandro Sanguineti  
Francesca Cull  
Anna Joubert

### Doubles Basses

Emma Prince  
James Trowbridge  
Phoebe Cheng  
Nicholas Broughton

### Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme  
Jimena de Vicente  
D'Alvarez  
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

### Oboes

Amy Turner  
Vanessa Howells  
Helen Vigurs *Cor anglais*

### Clarinets

Anna Hashimoto  
James Maltby  
Stephen Morris *Bass*

### Bassoons

Luke Tucker  
Elizabeth Trigg

### Horns

Nicholas Wolmark  
Jennifer Cox  
Christopher Pointon  
Andrew Sutton  
Alexander Willett

### Trumpets

Michael Allen  
Christopher Deacon

### Trombones

Amos Miller  
Christopher Hickman  
Adam Crighton

### Tuba

Christoper Barrett

### Timpani

Grahame King

### Percussion

Paul Parker  
John McCutcheon  
Aidan Hammond

### Harps

Susan Blair  
Elin Samuel

### Celeste

Jeanette Wong

## The Story

Sir Peter Wright

### 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.