

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday 12 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* **August Generalli**  
*a magician*  
*Clara* **Reina Fuchigami**  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

*The Magician's Assistant* **Tom Hazelby**  
*Clara's Mother* **Tori Forsyth-Hecken**  
*a former ballerina*  
*Clara's Father* **Gabriel Anderson**  
*Fritz* **Lars Hetherington-Howell**  
*Clara's younger brother*  
*Clara's Dancing Partner* **Shuailun Wu**  
*Grandmother* **Daria Stanciulescu**  
*Grandfather* **Jonathan Payn**  
*Butler* **Oscar Kempsey-Fagg**  
*Harlequin* **Javier Rojas**  
*Columbine* **Tessa Hogge**  
*Jack-in-the-Box* **Gus Payne**  
*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* **Tom Hazelby**  
*The Rat King* **Mason King**  
*Soldiers, Rats* **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**  
*The Snow Fairy* **Yuki Sugiura**  
*Her Attendants* **Isabella Howard, Ava May Llewellyn, Frieda Kaden, Amelia Thompson**  
*Winds* **Gabriel Anderson, Jack Easton, Haoliang Feng, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg**  
*Snowflakes* **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

### INTERVAL

## ACT II

<b><i>Spanish Dance</i></b>	<b>Tessa Hogge, Jack Easton, Miles Gilliver</b>
<b><i>Arabian Dance</i></b>	<b>Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Louis Andreasen, Haoliang Feng, Ixan Llorca Ferrer</b>
<b><i>Chinese Dance</i></b>	<b>Ryan Felix, Shuailun Wu</b>
<b><i>Russian Dance</i></b>	<b>Alfie-Lee Hall, Tom Hazelby, Gus Payne</b>
<b><i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i></b>	<b>Yuki Sugiura, Frieda Kaden, Maïléne Katoch, Ellyne Knol</b>

### Waltz of the Flowers

<b><i>The Rose Fairy</i></b>	<b>Miki Mizutani</b>
<b><i>Her Consorts</i></b>	<b>Callum Findlay-White, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Mason King, Javier Rojas</b>
<b><i>Leading Flowers</i></b>	<b>Isabella Howard, Ava May Llewellyn, Daria Stanciulescu, 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 9.40pm

## Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* Paul Murphy

### First Violins

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

### Second Violins

William Hillman  
Mary Martin  
Fiona Robertson  
Charlotte Dodwell  
Paul Barrett  
Caroline Bodimead  
Christopher Hughes  
Elizabeth Goble

### Violas

Errika Collins  
Jisu Song  
James Flannery  
Jill Valentine  
Wei Wei Tan

### Cellos

António Novais  
Jane Rainey  
Alessandro Sanguineti  
Francesca Cull  
Amy Goodwin

### Doubles Basses

Samuel Rice  
James Trowbridge  
Phoebe Cheng  
Nicholas Broughton

### Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme  
Daniel Parkin  
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  
Alexander Hocknull  
Alexander Willett

### Trumpets

Michael Allen  
Christopher Deacon

### Trombones

Amos Miller  
Pau Hernandez  
Adam Crighton

### Tuba

Christopher Barrett

### Timpani

John McCutcheon

### Percussion

Kevin Earley  
Paul Parker  
Tom Edwards

### 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.