

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Friday 13 February 2026
Birmingham Hippodrome

Don Quixote

Music Original music composed by Ludwig Minkus; **Arrangement (2022)** Hans Vercauteren (Act II Campfire Sequence: original music composed by Hans Vercauteren);
Choreography Carlos Acosta after Marius Petipa; **Production** Carlos Acosta
Set and Costume design Tim Hatley; **Video design** Nina Dunn;
Lighting Peter Mumford; **Staged by** Christopher Saunders

Don Quixote is generously supported by donors to BRB via The Big Give Christmas Challenge. Thanks go to The Reed Foundation, Charles Glanville, Ian and Alison Fisher in memory of Wendy Bevington, GNC Trust, NBB Law, an anonymous donor and all the supporters who doubled their donations through the Christmas Challenge donation window.

Don Quixote **Rory Mackay**

Sancho Panza **Alfie-Lee Hall**

His squire

Lorenzo **Jonathan Payn**

Kitri **Momoko Hirata**

His daughter

Basilio **Max Maslen**

A young barber

Gamache **Rafael Bejarano Vidal**

A rich nobleman

Espada **Ryan Felix**

A famous matador

Mercedes **Lucy Waine**

A street dancer

Kitri's friends **Alisa Garkavenko, Rosanna Ely**

Two Matadors **Haoliang Feng, Gabriel Anderson**

Gypsy couple **Frieda Kaden, Javier Rojas**

The Queen of the Dryads **Amelia Thompson**

Amour **Riku Ito**

Dulcinea **Samara Downs**

Fandango Couple **Frieda Kaden, Javier Rojas**

Townspeople, Matadors **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

Gypsies, Dryads

On-stage Guitarists **Tom Ellis, Daniel Thomas**

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Charlotte Politi

Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes; *Interval* 25 minutes; *Act II* 33 minutes;

Interval 20 minutes; *Act III* 34 minutes.

The performance will end at approximately 10.20pm

First Violins
Robert Gibbs *Leader*
Vanessa David
Amanda Brown
Deborah Schlenther
Philip Aird
Caroline Ferriman
Jennifer Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Amanda Britton
Catherine Hamer

Second Violins
Kirsty McLeod
Mary Martin
Fiona Robertson
Robert Simmons
Charlotte Dodwell
Paul Barrett
Caroline Bodimead
Vladimir Naoumov

Violas
Errika Collins
Lisa Bucknell
May Bardsley
Alex Wakeling
Tom Kirby

Cellos
António Novais
Jane Rainey
Miguel Fernandes
Alessandro Sanguineti
Maya Kashif

Doubles Basses
Fabian Galeana
Alexander Vertser
Phoebe Cheng
Georgia Lloyd

Flutes
Anna Kondrashina
Sandra Skipper
Piccolo

Oboes
Peter Facer
Odette Cotton

Clarinets
Ian Scott
Fresca David

Bassoons
Luke Tucker
Ruth Rosales *Contra*

Horns
Andrew Littlemore
Neil Mitchell
Richard Dilley
Nicholas Ireson
Nicholas Wolmark

Trumpets
Michael Allen
Christopher Deacon

Trombones
Andrew White
Hilary Belsey
Stephen Williams

Tuba
David Gordon Shute

Timpani
Grahame King

Percussion
Kevin Earley
Paul Parker
John McCutcheon

Harps
Susan Blair

Guitars
Tom Ellis
Dan Thomas

The Story

ACT I

Don Quixote reads a book of adventures and becomes deluded, believing that he is the successor of the medieval knights – errant, on a quest to serve his imaginary Lady, Dulcinea. He sets out with Sancho Panza. They meet Kitri, who is in love with Basilio, a poor barber. Her father Lorenzo wishes her to marry the foppish nobleman Gamache. Kitri and Basilio run away together to get married. Lorenzo and Gamache set out in pursuit, followed by Don Quixote and Sancho Panza.

Interval

ACT II

Kitri and Basilio find themselves surrounded by gypsies who suspect they have come to steal from them. Lorenzo and Gamache arrive followed by Don Quixote and Sancho Panza. Don Quixote mistakes a windmill for a monster and goes on the attack with disastrous results. Half unconscious from his injuries, Don Quixote falls into a dream-filled sleep in which he is transported to a magic garden, where he meets the Queen of the Dryads.

Interval

ACT III

Lorenzo and Gamache find Kitri and Basilio in a local tavern. Lorenzo is determined to see Kitri married to Gamache. Basilio pretends to stab himself in jealous despair, while Kitri implores Don Quixote for help. Don Quixote forces Lorenzo to bless the lovers, convinced that Basilio is dying. Basilio makes a miraculous recovery – their scheme has worked. The entire town celebrates the wedding of Kitri and Basilio. Don Quixote realizes that he must continue his quest and sets out once more to perform deeds of chivalry.

A full synopsis is available in the programme book accompanying this production.