

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday 14 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 **Miki Mizutani**
The Prince **Shuailun Wu**
Drosselmeyer **Louis Andreasen**
a magician
Clara **Rachele Pizzillo**
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant **Enrique Bejarano Vidal**
Clara's Mother **Yvette Knight**
a former ballerina
Clara's Father **Jonathan Payn**
Fritz **Lawson Hatley**
Clara's younger brother
Clara's Dancing Partner **Gus Payne**
Grandmother **Lynsey Sutherland**
Grandfather **Rory Mackay**
Butler **Marlo Kempsey-Fagg**
Harlequin **Riku Ito**
Columbine **Tessa Hogge**
Jack-in-the-Box **Ryan Felix**
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 **Enrique Bejarano Vidal**
The Rat King **Callum Findlay-White**
Soldiers, Rats **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

The Snow Fairy **Isabella Howard**
Her Attendants **Reina Fuchigami, Frieda Kaden, Ava May Llewellyn, Matilde Rodrigues**
Winds **Gabriel Anderson, Mason King**
Miles Gilliver, Gus Payne
Snowflakes **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

INTERVAL

ACT II

<i>Spanish Dance</i>	Olivia Chang Clarke, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Javier Rojas
<i>Arabian Dance</i>	Isabella Howard,
	Jack Easton, Callum Findlay-White, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg
<i>Chinese Dance</i>	Enrique Bejarano Vidal, August Generalli
<i>Russian Dance</i>	Joe Parker, Tom Hazelby, Thomas Kujawa
<i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i>	Tessa Hogge, Frieda Kaden,
	Mailène Katoch, Ellyne Knol,

Waltz of the Flowers

<i>The Rose Fairy</i>	Céline Gittens
<i>Her Consorts</i>	Ryan Felix, Haoliang Feng,
	Miles Gilliver, Mason King
<i>Leading Flowers</i>	Ava May Llewellyn, Matilde Rodrigues,
	Yuki Sugiura, Lynsey Sutherland

<i>Grand pas de deux</i>	Miki Mizutani, Shuailun Wu
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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 8.10pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Yi Wei

First Violins

Robert Gibbs *Leader*
Joana Valentinaviciute
Vanessa David
Deborah Schlenther
Jennifer Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Rosemary Henbest
Catherine Hamer
Daniel Peev
Christopher Hughes

Second Violins

William Hillman
Mary Martin
Charlotte Dodwell
Paul Barrett
Suzannah Quirke
Caroline Bodimead
Ivor McGregor
Vernon Dean

Violas

Jisu Song
James Flannery
Jill Valentine
Wei Wei Tan
Catherine Howe

Cellos

António Novais
Jane Rainey
Alessandro Sanguineti
Francesca Cull
Amy Goodwin

Doubles Basses

Samuel Rice
James Trowbridge
Phoebe Cheng
Nicholas Broughton

Flutes

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

Oboes

Peter Facer
Vanessa Howells
Helen Vigurs *Cor anglais*

Clarinets

Anna Hashimoto
James Maltby
Stephen Morris *Bass*

Bassoons

Alexandra Callan
Elizabeth Trigg

Horns

Nicholas Wolmark
Neil Mitchell
Christopher Pounton
Andrew Sutton
Jonathan Bareham

Trumpets

Michael Allen
Steven Walton

Trombones

Andrew White
Pau Hernandez
Adam Crighton

Tuba

Christopher Barrett

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Kevin Earley
Paul Parker
Tom Edwards

Harps

Susan Blair
Nicolette Chin

Celeste

Yen Lee

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.