

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday 18 November 2023

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 Yu Kurihara
The Prince Tyrone Singleton
Drosselmeyer Max Maslen
a magician
Clara Sofia Liñares
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Enrique Bejarano Vidal
Clara's Mother Tori Forsyth-Hecken
a former ballerina
Clara's Father Miles Gilliver
Fritz Matthew Titley
Clara's younger brother
Clara's Dancing Partner Ryan Felix
Grandmother Daria Stanciulescu
Grandfather Michael O'Hare
Butler Hamish Scott

Harlequin Gus Payne
Columbine Yuki Sugiura
Jack-in-the-Box Riku Ito
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 Enrique Bejarano Vidal
The Rat King Callum Findlay-White
Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Isabella Howard
Her Attendants Emma Price, Matilde Rodrigues,
Ellis Small, Lucy Waine
Winds Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Mason King,
Javier Rojas, Shuailun Wu
Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

The Nutcracker 2024: Booking open now!

H BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME

ACT II

Spanish Dance	Rosanna Ely, August Generalli, Javier Rojas
Arabian Dance	Eilis Small, Louis Andreassen, Miles Gilliver, Lennert Steegen
Chinese Dance	Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Eric Pinto Cata
Russian Dance	Jack Easton, Tom Hazelby, Gus Payne
Dance of the Mirlitons	Olivia Chang Clarke, Frieda Kaden, Maïlène Katoch, Hannah Martin

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy	Céline Gittens
Her Consorts	Haoliang Feng, Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Mason King
Leading Flowers	Isabella Howard, Rachele Pizzillo, Emma Price, Daria Stanciulescu

Grand pas de deux	Yu Kurihara, Tyrone Singleton
--------------------------	--------------------------------------

Students appear by kind permission of 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.

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Thomas Jung; *Leader* Robert Gibbs



Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes

Interval 30 minutes

Act II 50 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 9.40pm

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.

The Big Give Christmas Challenge 2023

28 November – 5 December

Help preserve the heritage of Sir Peter Wright's beautiful production of *The Sleeping Beauty* ahead of our performances next year.

Visit brb.org.uk/BigGive for details