

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Wednesday 18 March 2026

Theatre Royal Plymouth

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 Dominic Antonucci

Sancho Panza Olivia Chang-Clarke

His squire

Lorenzo Jonathan Payn

The innkeeper

Kitri Beatrice Parma

His daughter

Basilio Max Maslen

A young barber

Gamache Rory Mackay

A rich nobleman

Espada Haoliang Feng

A famous matador

Mercedes Amelia Thompson

A street dancer

Kitri's friends Rosanna Ely, Katherine Ochoa

Two Matadors Gabriel Anderson, Ryan Felix

Gypsy couple Javier Rojas, Frieda Kaden

The Queen of the Dryads Samara Downs

Amour Tzu-Chao Chou

Dulcinea Daria Stanciulescu

Fandango Couple Javier Rojas, Frieda Kaden

Townspeople, Matadors Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Gypsies, Dryads

On-stage Guitarists Tom Ellis, Dan Thomas

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Paul Murphy

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*
 Joana Valentinaviciute
 Vanessa David
 Amanda Brown
 Deborah Schlenther
 Philip Aird
 Caroline Ferriman
 Jennifer Thurston

Second Violins

Kirsty MacLeod
 Fiona Robertson
 Robert Simmons
 Charlotte Dodwell
 Amanda Britton
 Paul Barrett

Violas

Errika Collins
 James Flannery
 Natalia Solis Paredes
 Alexandra Wakeling

Cellos

António Novais
 Jane Rainey
 Maya Kashif
 Francesca Cull

Doubles Basses

Vera Pereira
 Fabian Galeana

Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme
 Jimena de Vicente
Alvarez Piccolo

Oboes

Isobel Cheesman
 Odette Cotton

Clarinets

Ian Scott
 Fresca David

Bassoons

Alexandra Callanan
 Ruth Rosales

Horns

Nicholas Wolmark
 Neil Mitchell
 Christopher Pointon
 Nicholas Ireson
 Joanna Withers

Trumpets

Timothy Hawes
 Alexander Cromwell

Trombones

Andrew White
 Thomas Scaife
 Ed Hilton

Tuba

Edward Leech

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.