

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday 18 April 2026
Mayflower Theatre, Southampton

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 Jonathan Payn

Sancho Panza Tom Hazelby
His squire

Lorenzo Rory Mackay
The innkeeper

Kitri Miki Mizutani
His daughter

Basilio Riku Ito
A young barber

Gamache August Generalli
A rich nobleman

Espada Max Maslen
A famous matador

Mercedes Frieda Kaden
A street dancer

Kitri's friends Alisa Garkavenko, Yuki Sugiura

Two Matadors Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng

Gypsy couple Andrea Riolo, Ixan Ferrer

The Queen of the Dryads Amelia Thompson

Amour Olivia Chang-Clarke

Dulcinea Daria Stanciulescu

Fandango Couple Andrea Riolo, Ixan Ferrer

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
 Amanda Brown
 Deborah Schlenther
 Philip Aird
 Caroline Ferriman
 Jennifer Thurston
 Timothy Wilford

Second Violins

Emily Davis
 Mary Martin
 Fiona Robertson
 Charlotte Dodwell
 Suzannah Quirke
 Paul Barrett

Violas

Errika Collins
 James Flannery
 Amy Swain
 Hannah Horton

Cellos

António Novais
 Jane Rainey
 Alessandro Sanguineti
 Francesca Cull

Doubles Basses

Vera Pereira
 Samuel Rice

Flutes

Anna Kondrashina
 Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Isobel Cheesman
 Odette Cotton

Clarinets

Ian Scott
 Maria Gomes

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
 Ruth Rosales

Horns

Andrew Littlemore
 Neil Mitchell
 Christopher Pointon
 Richard Stroud
 Richard Dilley

Trumpets

Michael Allen
 Gideon Brooks

Trombones

Andrew White
 Thomas Scaife
 Ed Hilton

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.