

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday 18 September 2025

Birmingham Hippodrome

We are proud to dedicate this evening's performance of Black Sabbath – The Ballet to the memory of Ozzy Osbourne, one of our home city's greatest sons, without whom this ballet simply wouldn't exist.

Black Sabbath – The Ballet

Director Carlos Acosta; **Original Music** Black Sabbath; **Music Consultant** Tony Iommi;
Lead Composer, Project Music Supervisor Christopher Austin;
Lead Choreographer and Artistic Director Pontus Lidberg;
Dramaturg Richard Thomas; **Designer** Alexandre Arrechea; **Lighting Designer** K.J;
Sound Production and Design Joshua Blair; **Metal Curator** Lisa Meyer

Black Sabbath – The Ballet is a Ballet Now commission. Ballet Now is generously supported by Oak Foundation's Special Interest Programme. We are also grateful to the John S Cohen Foundation, the John Feeney Charitable Trust, the Wood and Steven Charitable Trust, the Oakley Charitable Trust and The Owen Family Trust for their support of *Black Sabbath – The Ballet*.

Thanks also go to Alan and Caroline Howard, and Arts Council England for supporting our international touring of the production to date.

This performance includes occasional use of dry ice, smoke, flashing lights and loud music. It features archival voiceovers from the band and others; these include some bleeped-out swearing and references to drug use.

Act I: Heavy Metal Ballet

Composers Marko Nyberg, Christopher Austin;
Orchestrators Joshua Hickin, Christopher Austin;
Choreographer Raúl Reinoso;
Black Sabbath Arrangement Marko Nyberg, Joshua Hickin, Christopher Austin

Featuring: *War Pigs, Iron Man, Solitude, Paranoid*

Olivia Chang Clarke Maïlène Katoch Alexandra Manuel Yaoqian Shang
Ellis Small Yuki Sugiura Lucy Waine Sophie Walters

Louis Andreasen Rafael Bejarano Vidal Ryan Felix John Fontanini
Miles Gilliver Mason King Oisin Middleton Javier Rojas

Yaoqian Shang Javier Rojas

Tzu-Chao Chou

Yaoqian Shang Javier Rojas
Maïlène Katoch Miles Gilliver

Guitarist Marc Hayward

INTERVAL

Act II: The Band

Composer Sun Keting; **Orchestrators** Sun Keting, Christopher Austin;
Choreographer Cassi Abranches; **Black Sabbath Arrangement** Sun Keting

Featuring: *Black Sabbath, Orchid, Planet Caravan, Sabbath Bloody Sabbath*

**Olivia Chang Clarke Rosanna Ely Tori Forsyth-Hecken
Frieda Kaden Ava May Llewellyn Gillian Whittall**

**Gabriel Anderson Louis Andreasen Ryan Felix
Tom Hazelby Marlo Kempsey-Fagg Mason King**

**Gabriel Anderson
Ava May Llewellyn
Céline Gittens Haoliang Feng**

Singer **Lachlan Monaghan**

INTERVAL

Act III: Everybody is a Fan

Composer & Orchestrator Christopher Austin; **Choreographer** Pontus Lidberg;
Black Sabbath Arrangement Christopher Austin

**Featuring: *Iron Man, Black Sabbath, Sabbath Bloody Sabbath,
War Pigs, Paranoid, Laguna Sunrise***

**Céline Gittens Momoko Hirata Miki Mizutani
Eilis Small Lucy Waine
Tzu-Chao Chou Haoliang Feng Riku Ito
Max Maslen Lachlan Monaghan**

**Momoko Hirata Tzu-Chao Chou
Riku Ito**

The full cast

Guitarist **Marc Hayward**

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Christopher Austin
Leader Robert Gibbs

First Violins

Robert Gibbs *Leader*
Joana Valentinaviciute
Vanessa David
Amanda Brown
Deborah Schlenther
Philip Aird
Catherine Hamer
Jennifer Thurston

Second Violins

Thomas Grundy
Mary Martin
Fiona Robertson
Charlotte Dodwell
Paul Barrett
Amanda Britton

Violas

Errika Collins
Jamie Howe
Emily Clark
Hannah Horton

Cellos

Antonio Novais
Jane Rainey
Maya Kashif
Francesca Cull

Doubles Basses

Vera Pereira
Joana Subira

Flutes

Anna Kondrashina
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Peter Facer
Vanessa Howells *Cor anglais*

Clarinets

Ian Scott
James Maltby *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Ruth Rosales *Contra*

Horns

Richard Dilley
Jonathan Bareham
Jo Withers
David Horwich
Alex Hocknull

Trumpets

Michael Allen
Alex Cromwell

Trombones

Amos Miller
Andrew White
Edward Hilton

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Kevin Earley
Aidan Hammond

Drums

Ian Whitehead

Guitars

Thomas Ellis
Marcus Pritchard

Harp

Elin Samuel

Piano / Celeste

Yen Lee

Approximate timings

Act I 30 minutes
Interval 20 minutes
Act II 30 minutes
Interval 20 minutes
Act III 30 minutes.

This performance will finish at approximately 9.45pm

***Please do not take photographs or film during the performance.
You are welcome to take photographs or film during the curtain calls.***

Don't miss our

Black Sabbath – The Ballet
merchandise

T-shirts | Hoodies | Tote Bags | Keyrings

Available now in the main foyer or via our online shop

[**brb.org.uk/Shop**](http://brb.org.uk/Shop)

Marc Hayward's recently released debut solo EP, *Distant Calls*, can be purchased via his [**website**](#) or through [**Bandcamp**](#) or [**Spotify**](#)