

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday 19 February 2026  
Birmingham Hippodrome

## 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** Beatrice Parma

*His daughter*

**Basilio** Enrique Bejarano Vidal

*A young barber*

**Gamache** Rafael Bejarano Vidal

*A rich nobleman*

**Espada** Ryan Felix

*A famous matador*

**Mercedes** Lucy Waine

*A street dancer*

**Kitri's friends** Alisa Garkavenko, Yuki Sugiura

**Two Matadors** Haoliang Feng, Gabriel Anderson

**Gypsy couple** Frieda Kaden, Javier Rojas

**The Queen of the Dryads** Amelia Thompson

**Amour** Miki Mizutani

**Dulcinea** Samara Downs

**Fandango Couple** Frieda Kaden, Javier Rojas

**Townspeople, Matadors** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

*Gypsies, Dryads*

**On-stage Guitarists** Tom Ellis, Dan Thomas

**Royal Ballet Sinfonia**

*Conductor* Charlotte Politi

### 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

<b>First Violins</b>	<b>Violas</b>	<b>Oboes</b>	<b>Trombones</b>
Joana Valentinaviciute <i>Leader</i>	Errika Collins	Isobel Cheesman	Andrew White
Vanessa David	Lisa Bucknell	Odette Cotton	Hilary Belsey
Amanda Brown	May Bardsley		Guy Berry
Deborah Schlenther	Alex Wakeling		
Philip Aird	Thomas Kirby		
Caroline Ferriman			
Jennifer Thurston	<b>Cellos</b>	<b>Bassoons</b>	<b>Tuba</b>
Timothy Wilford	António Novais	Sara Burnett	David Gordon Shute
Amanda Britton	Jane Rainey	Ruth Rosales <i>Contra</i>	
Catherine Hamer	Maya Kashif		
<b>Second Violins</b>	Deborah Chandler	<b>Horns</b>	<b>Timpani</b>
Kirsty McLeod	Gen Li	Andrew Littlemore	Grahame King
Fiona Robertson		Jo Withers	
Charlotte Dodwell	<b>Doubles Basses</b>	Christopher Pointon	
Paul Barrett	Fabian Galeana	Alexander Hocknull	
Suzannah Quirke	Alexander Verster	Chloe Chang	
Caroline Bodimead	Phoebe Cheng		
Vladimir Naoumov	Georgia Lloyd	<b>Trumpets</b>	<b>Harps</b>
Elizabeth Goble		Christopher Deacon	Deian Rowlands
	<b>Flutes</b>	John Ellwood	
	Anna Wolstenholme		<b>Guitars</b>
	Sandra Skipper <i>Piccolo</i>		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.*