

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Friday 2 December 2022

## 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** Céline Gittens  
**The Prince** Brandon Lawrence  
**Drosselmeyer** Kit Holder  
*a magician*  
**Clara** Karla Doorbar  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Ryan Felix  
**Clara's Mother** Daria Stanciulescu  
*a former ballerina*  
**Clara's Father** Dominic Antonucci  
**Fritz** Joshua McKenzie  
*Clara's younger brother*  
**Clara's Dancing Partner** Gus Payne  
**Grandmother** Yvette Knight  
**Grandfather** Jonathan Payn  
**Butler** Oscar Kempsey-Fagg  
**Harlequin** Riku Ito  
**Columbine** Rachele Pizzillo  
**Jack-in-the-Box** Eric Pinto Cata  
**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** Ryan Felix  
**The Rat King** Gabriel Anderson  
**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
**The Snow Fairy** Lucy Waine  
**Her Attendants** Reina Fuchigami, Regan Hutsell, Matilde Rodrigues, Lynsey Sutherland  
**Winds** Louis Andreasen, Jack Easton, Gus Payne, Javier Rojas  
**Snowflakes** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL

---

***The Nutcracker 2023: Booking open now!***

**H** BIRMINGHAM  
HIPPODROME

## ACT II

<b>Spanish Dance</b>	<b>Sofia Liñares, Gabriel Anderson, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg</b>
<b>Arabian Dance</b>	<b>Alys Shee, Miles Gilliver</b>
<b>Chinese Dance</b>	<b>Guillem Cabrera, Gus Payne</b>
<b>Russian Dance</b>	<b>Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Jack Easton, Thomas Hazelby</b>
<b>Dance of the Mirlitons</b>	<b>Olivia Chang Clarke, Tessa Hogge, Matilde Rodrigues, Lynsey Sutherland</b>

### Waltz of the Flowers

<b>The Rose Fairy</b>	<b>Reina Fuchigami</b>
<b>Her Consorts</b>	<b>Haoliang Feng, Lachlan Monaghan, Eric Pinto Cata, Javier Rojas</b>
<b>Leading Flowers</b>	<b>Rosanna Ely, Daria Stanciulescu, Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine</b>

**Grand pas de deux** Céline Gittens, Brandon Lawrence

Students appear by kind permission of the Principal of The Royal Ballet School.

Ex Cathedra was founded in Birmingham by its Artistic Director, Jeffrey Skidmore OBE in 1969. Ex Cathedra is delighted their Academy of Vocal Music are performing in *The Nutcracker* again this year, under the leadership of Rebecca Ledgard, Director of Education. Email [education@excathedra.co.uk](mailto:education@excathedra.co.uk) to find out more and join the choir.

### Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Philip Ellis; Leader Thomas Grundy



#### 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 2022

Help our trail-blazing Freefall Dance Company, a company of talented adults with learning difficulties, expand their work.

**29 November – 6 December**

Visit [brb.org.uk/biggive](http://brb.org.uk/biggive) for details