

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Tuesday matinee 2 December 2025, Birmingham Hippodrome

RELAXED PERFORMANCE

The Nutcracker

Music Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky;

Choreography Peter Wright, Lev Ivanov, Vincent Redmon;

Production Peter Wright; **Designs** John Macfarlane; **Lighting** David Finn

*These performances are dedicated to the memory of Derek Purnell,
BRB's Chief Executive (1995 – 2005).*

The Sugar Plum Fairy Beatrice Parma

The Prince Tzu-Chao Chou

Drosselmeyer Max Maslen
a Magician

Clara Rosanna Ely
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Louis Andreasen

Clara's Mother Daria Stanciulescu
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Jonathan Payn

Fritz Lawson Hateley
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Javier Rojas

Grandmother Lynsey Sutherland

Grandfather August Generalli

Butler Rafael Bejarano Vidal

Harlequin Riku Ito

Columbine Karla Doorbar

Jack-in-the-Box Enrique Bejarano Vidal

Ballet students, Cadets, Guests, Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Children Students of Elmhurst Ballet School and
The Royal Ballet School

The Nutcracker Doll Louis Andreasen

The Rat King Haoliang Feng

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Lucy Waine

Her Attendants Reina Fuchigami, Ava May Llewellyn
Yuki Sugiura, Amelia Thompson

Winds Gabriel Anderson, Mason King,
John Fontanini, Miles Gilliver

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



THE BIG GIVE

CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE

2 – 9 December

brb.org.uk/BigGive

Your support will
help Carlos Acosta's
Don Quixote shine for
generations to come!



ACT II

Spanish Dance Olivia Chang-Clarke

Ixan Llorca Ferrer, Mason King

Arabian Dance Eilis Small

Gabriel Anderson, Enrique Bejarano Vidal,

Marlo Kempsey-Fagg

Chinese Dance Alfie-Lee Hall, Tom Hazelby

Russian Dance Louis Andreasen, John Fontanini,

Oisín Middleton

Dance of the Mirlitons Airi Kobayshi, Maïléne Katoch,

Hannah Martin, Yoli Meurisse

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Yuki Sugiura

Her Consorts Haoliang Feng, Riku Ito,

Miles Gilliver, Javier Rojas

Leading Flowers Alisa Garkavenko, Karla Doorbar,

Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine

Grand pas de deux Beatrice Parma, Tzu-Chao Chou

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

The choristers in Act I are members of Ex Cathedral's Academies of Vocal Music,
Artistic Director Jeffrey Skidmore.

Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes; *Interval* 25 minutes; *Act II* 50 minutes.

The performance will end at approximately 2.40pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Thomas Jung

Leader Robert Gibbs

First Violins

Joana Valentinaviciute
Vanessa David
Deborah Schlenther
Philip Aird
Caroline Ferriman
Jennifer Thurston
Timothy Wilford

Second Violins

Thomas Grundy
Mary Martin
Robert Simmons
Suzannah Quirke
Cora-Marina Iordache
Glesni Roberts

Violas

Errika Collins
Carys Barnes
Emily Clarke
Hannah Horton

Cellos

Jane Rainey
Miriam Lowbury
Gen Li
Anna Joubert

Doubles Bases

Georgina McGrath
Phoebe Cheng

Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme
Jimena de Vicente
Alvarez
Sandra Skipper
Piccolo

Oboes

Hannah Condliffe
Odette Cotton
Vanessa Howells
Cor Anglais

Clarinets

Maria Gomes
Nathan Isaac
James Maltby *Bass*

Bassoons

Alexandra Callanan
Alexandra Davidson

Horns

Joanna Withers
Alec Hicknull
Richard Dilley
Richard Stroud
Millie Lihoreau

Trumpets

Gideon Brooks
Jon Shepperd

Trombones

Thomas Scaife
Christopher Hickman
Paul Lambert

Tuba

Ian Foster

Timpani

Ewan Millar

Percussion

John McCutcheon
Aidan Hammond
Paul Parker

Harps

Susan Blair
Aisha Palmer

Celeste

Jeanette Wong

The Nutcracker 2026 – Booking open now!

Birmingham Hippodrome

The Story

Sir Peter Wright

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.

Nutcracker-themed merchandise including Programmes, Mugs, Tote bags and T-shirts is available in the foyer.



Programme £8



Mug £12



Also available from brb.org.uk/Shop or by scanning the QR code