

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Friday 21 November 2025, Birmingham Hippodrome

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 Miki Mizutani

The Prince Max Maslen

Drosselmeyer Lachlan Monaghan
a Magician

Clara Reina Fuchigami
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Ryan Felix

Clara's Mother Daria Stanciulescu
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Jonathan Payn

Fritz Lawson Hateley
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Enrique Bejarano Vidal

Grandmother Laëticia Lo Sardo

Grandfather Rory Mackay

Butler Marlo Kempsey-Fagg

Harlequin Javier Rojas

Columbine Rosanna Ely

Jack-in-the-Box Riku Ito

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

Children Students of Elmhurst Ballet School and
The Royal Ballet School

The Nutcracker Doll Ryan Felix

The Rat King Mason King

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Yuki Sugiura

Her Attendants Frieda Kaden, Sofia Liñares,
Eilis Small, Lucy Waine

Winds Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng,
Miles Gilliver, Yasiel Hodelín Bello

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



THE BIG GIVE

CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE

2 – 9 December

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Don Quixote shine for
generations to come!



ACT II

Spanish Dance Sofia Liñares, Miles Gilliver, Javier Rojas
Arabian Dance Eilis Small
Gabriel Anderson, Rafael Bejarano Vidal,
Ixañ Llorca Ferrer
Chinese Dance Ryan Felix, Tom Hazelby
Russian Dance John Fontanini, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg,
Thomas Kujawa
Dance of the Mirlitons Olivia Chang-Clarke, Alisa Garkavenko,
Frieda Kaden, Sophie Walters

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Beatrice Parma
Her Consorts Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Haoliang Feng,
Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Mason King
Leading Flowers Rosanna Ely, Yuki Sugiura,
Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine

Grand pas de deux Miki Mizutani, Max Maslen

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 9.40pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Jean-Claude Picard
Leader Robert Gibbs

First Violins

Joana Valentinaviciute
Vanessa David
Deborah Schlenther
Philip Aird
Caroline Ferriman
Jennifer Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Catherine Hamer
Risa Sekine

Second Violins

Thomas Grundy
Mary Martin
Fiona Robertson
Robert Simmons
Charlotte Dodwell
Paul Barrett
Suzannah Quirke
Cora-Marina Iordache

Violas

Errika Collins
Carys Barnes
Emily Clarke
Hannah Horton
Elizabeth Fryer

Cellos

António Novais
Jane Rainey
Alessandro Sanguineti
Gen Li
Samuel Vincent

Doubles Basses

Vera Pereira
Alexandre dos Santos
Alexander Verster
Georgia Lloyd

Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme
Daniel Parkin
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Rachael Clegg
Odette Cotton
Vanessa Howells
Cor Anglais

Clarinets

Ian Scott
Maria Gomes
Harry Penny *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Ruth Rosales *Contra*

Horns

Jo Withers
Neil Mitchell
Chris Pounton
Isabella Ward-Ackland
Alastair Rycroft

Trumpets

Michael Allen
Steven Walton

Trombones

Amos Miller
Andrew White
Ed Hilton

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Aidan Hammond
Paul Parker
Iolo Edwards

Harps

Susan Blair
Nicolette Chin

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