

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday 22 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 Céline Gittens

The Prince Yasiel Hodelín Bello

Drosselmeyer Lachlan Monaghan
a Magician

Clara Sofia Liñares
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Louis Andreasen

Clara's Mother Samara Downs
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Dominic Antonucci

Fritz Lawson Hateley
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Javier Rojas

Grandmother Laëticia Lo Sardo

Grandfather August Generalli

Butler Rafael Bejarano Vidal

Harlequin Enrique Bejarano Vidal

Columbine Rosanna Ely

Jack-in-the-Box Ryan Felix

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 Gabriel Anderson

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Amelia Thompson

Her Attendants Olivia Chang-Clarke, Rosanna Ely,
Maïlène Katoch, Yuki Sugiura

Winds Haoliang Feng, Tom Hazelby,
Riku Ito, Mason King

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,
Louis Andreasen, Rafael Bejarano Vidal
Arabian Dance Maïlène Katoch
Mason King, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg,
Julian Pecoraro
Chinese Dance John Fontanini, Alfie Lee-Hall
Russian Dance Oisín Middleton, Luca Mollica,
Javier Rojas
Dance of the Mirlitons Rosana Ely, Yasemin Kayabay,
Yuki Sugaira, Sophie Walters

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Yaoqian Shang
Her Consorts Ryan Felix, Haoliang Feng,
Ixan Llorca Ferrer, Tom Hazelby
Leading Flowers Reina Fuchigami, Frieda Kaden,
Ava May Llewellyn, Lucy Waine

Grand pas de deux Céline Gittens, Yasiel Hodelín Bello

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
Amanda Brown
Deborah Schlenther
Caroline Ferriman
Jennifer Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Jake Rea
Catherine Hamer
Christopher Hughes

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

Alexandre dos Santos
Alexander Verster
Georgia Lloyd
William Puhr

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

Richard Dille
Neil Mitchell
Chris Pointon
Isabella Ward-Ackland

Trumpets

Michael Allen
Steven Walton

Trombones

Andrew White
Toma Scaife
Ed Hilton

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Aidan Hammond
Paul Parker
Iolo Edwards

Harp

Susan Blair
Nicolette Chin

Celeste

Yuria Miki

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