

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday 23 November 2023

## 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** Momoko Hirata  
**The Prince** Mathias Dingman  
**Drosselmeyer** Rory Mackay  
*a magician*  
**Clara** Beatrice Parma  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Gus Payne  
**Clara's Mother** Tori Forsyth-Hecken  
*a former ballerina*  
**Clara's Father** Dominic Antonucci  
**Fritz** Uzziah Gray  
*Clara's younger brother*  
**Clara's Dancing Partner** Riku Ito  
**Grandmother** Daria Stanciulescu  
**Grandfather** Kit Holder  
**Butler** Mason King  
  
**Harlequin** Shuailun Wu  
**Columbine** Hannah Martin  
**Jack-in-the-Box** Ryan Felix  
**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** Gus Payne  
**The Rat King** Louis Andreasen  
**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
  
**The Snow Fairy** Eilis Small  
**Her Attendants** Rosanna Ely, Isabella Howard,  
Sofia Liñares, Emma Price  
**Winds** Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Callum Findlay-White,  
Mason King, Lennert Steegen  
**Snowflakes** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL

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***The Nutcracker 2024: Booking open now!***

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## ACT II

<b>Spanish Dance</b>	<b>Rosanna Ely, Jack Easton, August Generalli</b>
<b>Arabian Dance</b>	<b>Isabella Howard, Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Lennert Steegen</b>
<b>Chinese Dance</b>	<b>Tom Hazelby, Eric Pinto Cata</b>
<b>Russian Dance</b>	<b>Louis Andreasen, Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Ryan Felix</b>
<b>Dance of the Mirlitons</b>	<b>Olivia Chang-Clarke, Tessa Hogge, Frieda Kaden, Hannah Martin</b>

### Waltz of the Flowers

<b>The Rose Fairy</b>	<b>Sofia Liñares</b>
<b>Her Consorts</b>	<b>Callum Findlay-White, Gus Payne, Javier Rojas, Shailun Wu</b>
<b>Leading Flowers</b>	<b>Rachele Pizzillo, Matilde Rodrigues, Yuki Sugiura, Amelia Thompson</b>
<b>Grand pas de deux</b>	<b>Momoko Hirata, Mathias Dingman</b>

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

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

## Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* Charlotte Politi; *Leader* Robert Gibbs



### 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 2023

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