

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Sunday matinee 23 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 Miles Gilliver
a Magician

Clara Reina Fuchigami
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Ryan Felix

Clara's Mother Tori Forsyth-Hecken
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Gabriel Anderson

Fritz Albert Newton-Smith
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Enrique Bejarano Vidal

Grandmother Daria Stanciulescu

Grandfather August Generalli

Butler Marlo Kempsey-Fagg

Harlequin Tom Hazelby

Columbine Hannah Martin

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, Eilis Small,
Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine

Winds Louis Andreasen, Enrique Bejarano Vidal,
John Fontanini, Javier Rojas

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



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CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE
2 – 9 December
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Don Quixote shine for
generations to come!



ACT II

Spanish Dance Hannah Martin,
Marlo Kempsey-Fagg, Javier Rojas

Arabian Dance Eilis Small
Gabriel Anderson, Rafael Bejarano Vidal,
Louis Andreasen

Chinese Dance Ryan Felix, Tom Hazelby

Russian Dance John Fontanini, Alfie-Lee Hall,
Thomas Kujawa

Dance of the Mirlitons Olivia Chang-Clarke, Frieda Kaden,
Maïlène Katoch, Yoli Meurisse

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Beatrice Parma

Her Consorts Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Haoliang Feng,
Ixañ Llorca Ferrer, Mason King

Leading Flowers Alisa Garkavenko, 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 Cathedra'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 3.10pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Thomas Jung

Leader Robert Gibbs

First Violins

Joana Valentinaviciute
Amanda Brown
Deborah Schlenther
Philip Aird
Caroline Ferriman
Jennifer Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Jake Rea
Catherine Hamer

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
Christopher Pitsillides
Hannah Horton

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
James Maltby *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Ruth Rosales *Contra*

Horns

Richard Dilley
Jonathan Farey
Chris Pointon
Isabella Ward-Ackland
Alex Hocknull

Trumpets

Christopher Deacon
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
Elin Samuel

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
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