

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Sunday matinee 24 November 2024, Birmingham Hippodrome

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 Céline Gittens
The Prince Yasiel Hodelín Bello
Drosselmeyer Max Maslen
a magician
Clara Sofia Liñares
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Gus Payne
Clara's Mother Tori Forsyth-Hecken
a former ballerina
Clara's Father Jonathan Payn
Fritz Lawson Hately
Clara's younger brother
Clara's Dancing Partner Enrique Bejarano Vidal
Grandmother Yvette Knight
Grandfather August Generalli
Butler Marlo Kempsey-Fagg
Harlequin Shuailun Wu
Columbine Rachele Pizzillo
Jack-in-the-Box Riku Ito
Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
Children Members of BRB'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 Gabriel Anderson
Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
The Snow Fairy Isabella Howard
Her Attendants Rosanna Ely, Tessa Hogge, Maïlène Katoch, Eilis Small
Winds Ryan Felix, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Mason King
Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



THE BIG GIVE
CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE
3 – 10 December
brb.org.uk/BigGive

**Help us raise £70,000 this Christmas
to whisk Cinderella to the ball**

Your support will help Sir David Bintley's
Cinderella to sparkle for generations to come!



ACT II

Spanish Dance Rachele Pizzillo, Gabriel Anderson, Miles Gilliver
Arabian Dance Eilis Small,
Jack Easton, August Generalli, Mason King
Chinese Dance Ryan Felix, Gus Payne
Russian Dance Callum Findlay-White, Thomas Kujawa, Javier Rojas
Dance of the Mirlitons Rosanna Ely, Alisa Garkavenko,
Frieda Kaden, Yuki Sugiura

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Miki Mizutani
Her Consorts Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Riku Ito,
Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Shuailun Wu
Leading Flowers Isabella Howard, Ava May Llewellyn
Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Tessa Hogge

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 Cathedra's Academies of Vocal Music, Artistic Director Jeffrey Skidmore.

Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes; *Interval* 30 minutes; *Act II* 50 minutes.
The performance will end at approximately 3.10pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Martin Georgiev

First Violins

Robert Gibbs *Leader*
Joana Valentinaviciute
Vanessa David
Amanda Brown
Deborah Schlenther
Caroline Ferriman
Jennifer Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Rosemary Henbest
Catherine Hamer

Second Violins

William Hillman
Mary Martin
Robert Simmons
Charlotte Dodwell
Paul Barratt
Suzannah Quirke
Rosie Tompsett
Caroline Bodimead

Violas

Errika Collins
Jisu Song
Amy Swain
James Flannery
Wei Wei Tan

Cellos

António Novais
Abigail Hyde-Smith
Jane Rainey

Alessandro Sanguineti
Miguel Fernandes

Doubles Basses

Emma Prince
Alex Verster
William Pühr
Phoebe Cheng

Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme
Jimena de Vicente Alvarez
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Peter Facer
Louise Hayter
Helen Vigurs *Cor anglais*

Clarinets

Ian Scott
Christoper Goodman
Harry Penny *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Elizabeth Trigg

Horns

Richard Dilley
Neil Mitchell
Chris Pointon
Alex Hocknull
Alex Willett

Trumpets

Timothy Hawes
Steven Walton

Trombones

Andrew White
Christopher Hickman
Edward Hilton

Tuba

Callum Davis

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Paul Parker
Aidan Hammond
John McCutcheon

Harp

Susan Blair
Elin Samuel

Celeste

Jeanette Wong

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.

The Nutcracker 2025 – Booking open now!
Birmingham Hippodrome