

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Tuesday 25 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 Tom Hazelby

Clara's Mother Daria Stanculescu
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Dominic Antonucci

Fritz Lawson Hateley
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Enrique Bejarano Vidal

Grandmother Laëtitia Lo Sardo

Grandfather Rory Mackay

Butler Rafael Bejarano Vidal

Harlequin Javier Rojas

Columbine Karla Doorbar

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 Tom Hazelby

The Rat King Haoliang Feng

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Lucy Waine

Her Attendants Reina Fuchigami, Frieda Kaden,
Yuki Sugiura, Amelia Thompson

Winds Gabriel Anderson, Louis Andreasen,
Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Miles Gilliver

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 Olivia Chang-Clarke

Mason King, Miles Gilliver

Arabian Dance Eilis Small

Gabriel Anderson, Rafael Bejarano Vidal

Marlo Kempsey-Fagg

Chinese Dance Ryan Felix, Tom Hazelby

Russian Dance Louis Andreasen, John Fontanini,

Alfie-Lee Hall

Dance of the Mirlitons Frieda Kaden, Maïllène Katoch,

Hannah Martin, Yoli Meurisse

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Yaoqian Shang

Her Consorts Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver,

Riku Ito, Javier Rojas

Leading Flowers Rosanna Ely, Ava May Llewellyn,

Yuki Sugiura, 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 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 9.40pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Thomas Jung

Leader Robert Gibbs

First Violins

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

Second Violins

Thomas Grundy
Mary Martin
Robert Simmons
Suzannah Quirke
Cora-Marina Iordache
Glesni Roberts
Caroline Bodimead
Vladimir Naoumov

Violas

Errika Collins
Carys Barnes
Emily Clarke
Hannah Horton
Wei Wei Tan

Cellos

Jane Rainey
Alessandro Sanguineti
Helen Edgar
Gen Li
Samuel Vincent

Doubles Basses

Georgina McGrath
Alexander Verster
Phoebe Cheng
Ayse Osman

Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme
Jimena de Vicente
Alvarez
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Amy Turner
Odette Cotton
Vanessa Howells
Cor Anglais

Clarinets

Harry Penny
Maria Gomes
James Maltby *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Alexander Davidson

Horns

Andrew Littemore
Jo Withers
Richard Dilley
Richard Stroud
Alex Hocknull

Trumpets

Oscar Whight
Steven Walton

Trombones

Thomas Scaife
Christopher Hickman
Paul Lambert

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Aidan Hammond
Paul Parker
John McCutcheon

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 or by scanning the QR code