

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday matinee 25 April 2026

Sadler's Wells Theatre, London

Don Quixote

Music Original music composed by Ludwig Minkus; **Arrangement (2022)** Hans Vercauteren

(Act II Campfire Sequence: original music composed by Hans Vercauteren);

Choreography Carlos Acosta after Marius Petipa; **Production** Carlos Acosta

Set and Costume design Tim Hatley; **Video design** Nina Dunn;

Lighting Peter Mumford; **Staged by** Christopher Saunders

Don Quixote is generously supported by donors to BRB via The Big Give Christmas Challenge. Thanks go to The Reed Foundation, Charles Glanville, Ian and Alison Fisher in memory of Wendy Bevington, GNC Trust, NBB Law, an anonymous donor and all the supporters who doubled their donations through the Christmas Challenge donation window.

Don Quixote Jonathan Payn

Sancho Panza Alfie-Lee Hall

His squire

Lorenzo Rory Mackay

The innkeeper

Kitri Yu Kurihara

His daughter

Basilio Enrique Bejarano Vidal

A young barber

Gamache August Generalli

A rich nobleman

Espada Max Maslen

A famous matador

Mercedes Yaoqian Shang

A street dancer

Kitri's friends Frieda Kaden, Yuki Sugiura

Two Matadors Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng

Gypsy couple Eilis Small, Ryan Felix

The Queen of the Dryads Samara Downs

Amour Reina Fuchigami

Dulcinea Tori Forsyth-Hecken

Fandango Couple Eilis Small, Ryan Felix

Townspeople, Matadors Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Gypsies, Dryads

On-stage Guitarists Tom Ellis, Alexander Crawford

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Charlotte Politi

Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes; *Interval* 25 minutes; *Act II* 33 minutes;

Interval 20 minutes; *Act III* 34 minutes.

The performance will end at approximately 5.20pm

First Violins

Joana Valentinaviciute
Leader
 Vanessa David
 Amanda Brown
 Philip Aird
 Caroline Ferriman
 Jennifer Thurston
 Tim Wilford
 Amanda Britton
 Jake Rea

Second Violins

Millie Ashton
 Mary Martin
 Fiona Robertson
 Robert Simmons
 Charlotte Dodwell
 Paul Barrett
 Suzannah Quirke

Violas

Errika Collins
 Jamie Howe
 Amy Swain
 Hannah Horton
 Hannah Roberts

Cellos

António Novais
 Abi Hyde-Smith
 Jane Rainey
 Francesca Cull
 Sophie Gledhill

Doubles Basses

Vera Pereira
 Georgina McGrath
 William Puhr
 Phoebe Cheng

Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme
 Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Amy Turner
 Vanessa Howells

Clarinets

Ian Scott
 Harry Penny

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
 Ruth Rosales

Horns

Nicholas Wolmark
 Joana Withers
 Christopher Pointon
 Richard Stroud
 Richard Dilley

Trumpets

Michael Allen
 Christopher Deacon

Trombones

Andrew White
 Thomas Scaife
 Ed Hilton

Tuba

Edward Leech

Timpani

John McCutcheon

Percussion

Kevin Earley
 Paul Parker
 Tim Gunnell

Harp

Susan Blair

Guitars

Tom Ellis
 Alexander Crawford

The Story

ACT I

Don Quixote reads a book of adventures and becomes deluded, believing that he is the successor of the medieval knights – errant, on a quest to serve his imaginary Lady, Dulcinea. He sets out with Sancho Panza. They meet Kitri, who is in love with Basilio, a poor barber. Her father Lorenzo wishes her to marry the foppish nobleman Gamache. Kitri and Basilio run away together to get married. Lorenzo and Gamache set out in pursuit, followed by Don Quixote and Sancho Panza.

Interval**ACT II**

Kitri and Basilio find themselves surrounded by gypsies who suspect they have come to steal from them. Lorenzo and Gamache arrive followed by Don Quixote and Sancho Panza. Don Quixote mistakes a windmill for a monster and goes on the attack with disastrous results. Half unconscious from his injuries, Don Quixote falls into a dream-filled sleep in which he is transported to a magic garden, where he meets the Queen of the Dryads.

Interval**ACT III**

Lorenzo and Gamache find Kitri and Basilio in a local tavern. Lorenzo is determined to see Kitri married to Gamache. Basilio pretends to stab himself in jealous despair, while Kitri implores Don Quixote for help. Don Quixote forces Lorenzo to bless the lovers, convinced that Basilio is dying. Basilio makes a miraculous recovery – their scheme has worked. The entire town celebrates the wedding of Kitri and Basilio. Don Quixote realizes that he must continue his quest and sets out once more to perform deeds of chivalry.

A full synopsis is available in the programme book accompanying this production.