

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday 28 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** Miki Mizutani  
**The Prince** Max Maslen  
**Drosselmeyer** August Generalli  
*a magician*  
**Clara** Rachele Pizzillo  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Enrique Bejarano Vidal  
**Clara's Mother** Lynsey Sutherland  
*a former ballerina*  
**Clara's Father** Rory Mackay  
**Fritz** Lawson Hatley  
*Clara's younger brother*  
**Clara's Dancing Partner** Shuailun Wu  
**Grandmother** Daria Stanciulescu  
**Grandfather** Jonathan Payn  
**Butler** Oscar Kempsey-Fagg  
**Harlequin** Gus Payne  
**Columbine** Frieda Kaden  
**Jack-in-the-Box** Ryan Felix  
**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** Enrique Bejarano Vidal  
**The Rat King** Gabriel Anderson  
**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
**The Snow Fairy** Eilis Small  
**Her Attendants** Rosanna Ely, Maïlène Katoch,  
Sofia Liñares, Ava May Llewellyn  
**Winds** Louis Andreasen, Miles Gilliver,  
Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Shuailun Wu  
**Snowflakes** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL



**THE BIG GIVE**  
CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE  
3 – 10 December  
[brb.org.uk/BigGive](http://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** Rosanna Ely, Jack Easton, Miles Gilliver  
**Arabian Dance** Isabella Howard,  
Louis Andreassen, Ixan Llorca Ferrer, Mason King  
**Chinese Dance** Ryan Felix, Gus Payne  
**Russian Dance** Callum Findlay-White, Thomas Kujawa, Javier Rojas  
**Dance of the Mirlitons** Tessa Hogge, Maïlène Katoch,  
Rachele Pizzillo, Matilde Rodrigues

### Waltz of the Flowers

**The Rose Fairy** Sofia Liñares  
**Her Consorts** Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Haoliang Feng,  
Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Shuailun Wu  
**Leading Flowers** Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Ava May Llewellyn,  
Yuki Sugiura, Amelia Thompson

**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 9.40pm

## Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* Thomas Jung

### First Violins

Joana Valentinaviciute  
*Leader*

Vanessa David  
Amanda Brown  
Deborah Schlenther  
Caroline Ferriman  
Jennifer Thurston  
Timothy Wilford  
Rosemary Henbest  
Catherine Hamer  
Zhivko Georgiev

### Second Violins

Tom Aldren  
Fiona Robertson  
Robert Simmons  
Paul Barratt  
Suzannah Quirke  
Rosie Tompsett  
Caroline Bodimead  
Daniel Peev

### Violas

Errika Collins  
Jisu Song  
Jill Valentine  
Hannah Horton  
Catherine Howe

### Cellos

António Novais  
Alessandro Sanguineti

Amy Goodwin

Anna Joubert  
Miguel Fernandez

### Doubles Basses

Emma Prince  
Alex Verster  
Phoebe Cheng  
Thomas Neil

### Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme  
Jimena de Vicente Alvarez  
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

### Oboes

Peter Facer  
Louise Hayter  
Luiz de Campos *Cor anglais*

### Clarinets

Harry Penny  
James Maltby  
William White *Bass*

### Bassoons

Luke Tucker  
Ruth Rosales

### Horns

Joanna Withers  
Alastair Rycroft  
Christopher Pointon  
Alexander Hocknull  
Alexander Willett

### Trumpets

Michael Allen  
Christopher Deacon

### Trombones

Andrew White  
Christopher Hickman  
Paul Lambert

### Tuba

David Gordon Shute

### Timpani

Grahame King

### Percussion

Kevin Earley  
Paul Parker  
John McCutcheon

### Harp

Susan Blair  
Elin Samuel

### Celeste

Yen Lee

## 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