

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday matinee 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** Yu Kurihara  
**The Prince** Lachlan Monaghan  
**Drosselmeyer** Miles Gilliver  
*a magician*  
**Clara** Reina Fuchigami  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Shuailun Wu  
**Clara's Mother** Yvette Knight  
*a former ballerina*  
**Clara's Father** Mason King  
**Fritz** Lars Hetherington-Howell  
*Clara's younger brother*  
**Clara's Dancing Partner** Enrique Bejarano Vidal  
**Grandmother** Yvette Regueiro  
**Grandfather** August Generalli  
**Butler** Oscar Kempsey-Fagg  
**Harlequin** Gus Payne  
**Columbine** Tessa Hogge  
**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** Shuailun Wu  
**The Rat King** Callum Findlay-White  
**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
**The Snow Fairy** Yuki Sugiura  
**Her Attendants** Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Isabella Howard, Frieda Kaden, Sofia Liñares  
**Winds** Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng, Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Javier Rojas  
**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** Tessa Hogge, Gabriel Anderson, August Generalli  
**Arabian Dance** Maïléne Katoch,  
Ixañ Llorca Ferrer, Callum Findlay-White, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg  
**Chinese Dance** Tom Hazelby, Shuailun Wu  
**Russian Dance** Louis Andreasen, Gus Payne, Joe Parker  
**Dance of the Mirlitons** Alisa Garkavenko, Frieda Kaden,  
Ellyne Knol, Yuki Sugiura

## Waltz of the Flowers

**The Rose Fairy** Rosanna Ely  
**Her Consorts** Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Jack Easton,  
Riku Ito, Javier Rojas  
**Leading Flowers** Isabella Howard, Matilde Rodrigues,  
Eilis Small, Lynsey Sutherland  
**Grand pas de deux** Yu Kurihara, Lachlan Monaghan

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 4.10pm

## Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* Martin Georgiev

### First Violins

Joana Valentiniaviciute  
*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