

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Tuesday matinee 29 November 2022

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 César Morales
Drosselmeyer Rory Mackay
a magician
Clara Rachele Pizzillo
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Gus Payne
Clara's Mother Samara Downs
a former ballerina
Clara's Father Jonathan Payn
Fritz Matthew Titley
Clara's younger brother
Clara's Dancing Partner Ryan Felix
Grandmother Laura Day
Grandfather Michael O'Hare
Butler Hamish Scott

Harlequin Riku Ito
Columbine Lynsey Sutherland
Jack-in-the-Box Enrique Bejarano Vidal
Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
Children Members of Birmingham Royal Ballet'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 Louis Andreasen
Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Isabella Howard
Her Attendants Rosanna Ely, Alys Shee,
Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine
Winds Jack Easton, Ryan Felix,
Haoliang Feng, Lennert Steegen
Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

The Nutcracker 2023: Booking open now!

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ACT II

<i>Spanish Dance</i>	Beatrice Parma, Jack Easton, Kit Holder
<i>Arabian Dance</i>	Yaoqian Shang, Gabriel Anderson
<i>Chinese Dance</i>	Riku Ito, Gus Payne
<i>Russian Dance</i>	Louis Andreasen, Ryan Felix, Callum Findlay-White
<i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i>	Rosanna Ely, Tessa Hogge, Matilde Rodrigues, Lynsey Sutherland

Waltz of the Flowers

<i>The Rose Fairy</i>	Reina Fuchigami
<i>Her Consorts</i>	Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Haoliang Feng, Javier Rojas, Lennert Steegen
<i>Leading Flowers</i>	Isabella Howard, Alys Shee, Daria Stanciulescu, Amelia Thompson

<i>Grand pas de deux</i>	Miki Mizutani, César Morales
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Students appear by kind permission of the Principal of The Royal Ballet School.

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Paul Murphy; *Leader* Robert Gibbs



Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes

Interval 30 minutes

Act II 50 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 4.10pm

THE STORY

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 Big Give Christmas Challenge 2022

Help our trail-blazing Freefall Dance Company, a company of talented adults with learning difficulties, expand their work.

Visit brb.org.uk/biggive for details