

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday matinee 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 Momoko Hirata

The Prince Mathias Dingman

Drosselmeyer Louis Andreasen
a Magician

Clara Katherine Ochoa
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Tom Hazelby

Clara's Mother Eilis Small
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Rory Mackay

Fritz Albert Newton-Smith
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Javier Rojas

Grandmother Laëtitia Lo Sardo

Grandfather Jonathan Payn

Butler Rafael Bejarano Vidal

Harlequin Riku Ito

Columbine Karla Doorbar

Jack-in-the-Box Enrique Bejarano Vidal

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 Miles Gilliver

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Yuki Sugiura

Her Attendants Ava May Llewellyn, Maïlène Katoch,
Sofia Liñares, Alisa Garkavenko

Winds Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng,
Mason King, Javier Rojas

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



THE BIG GIVE
CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE
2 – 9 December
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Your support will
help Carlos Acosta's
Don Quixote shine for
generations to come!



ACT II

Spanish Dance Hannah Martin

Gabriel Anderson, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg

Arabian Dance Ellis Small

Rafael Bejarano Vidal, Killian Rudd

Yasiel Hodelín Bello

Chinese Dance Thomas Kujawa, Javier Rojas

Russian Dance Tom Hazelby, Oisín Middleton,

Luca Mollica

Dance of the Mirlitons Yuki Suguirra, Yasemin Kayabay

Yoli Meurisse, Sophie Walters

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Amelia Thompson

Her Consorts Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Haoliang Feng,

Ixan Llorca Ferrer, Mason King

Leading Flowers Karla Doorbar, Alisa Garkavenko,

Ava May Llewellyn, Lucy Waine

Grand pas de deux Momoko Hirata, Mathias Dingman

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 Cathedral'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 4.40pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Jean-Claude Picard

Leader Robert Gibbs

First Violins

Joana Valentinaviute
Amanda Brown
Deborah Schlenther
Philip Aird
Caroline Ferriman
Jennifer Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Jake Rea
Catherine Hamer

Second Violins

Thomas Grundy
Fiona Robertson
Charlotte Dodwell
Suzannah Quirke
Cora-Marina Iordache
Glesni Roberts
Vladimir Naoumov
Chris Hughes

Violas

Errika Collins
Carys Barnes
Emily Clarke
Hannah Horton
Wei Wei Tan

Cellos

António Novais
Miguel Fernandes
Helen Edgar
Gen Li
Samuel Vincent

Doubles Basses

Vera Pereira
Georgina McGrath
Alexander Verster
William Puhr

Flutes

Frederico Paixao
Jimena de Vicente
Alvarez
Sandra Skipper
Piccolo

Oboes

Amy Turner
Odette Cotton
Vanessa Howells
Cor Anglais

Clarinets

Ian Scott
Maria Gomes
James Maltby *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Ruth Rosales

Horns

Andrew Littemore
Jo Withers
Christopher Pointon
Richard Stroud
Richard Dille

Trumpets

Julie Ryan
Jon Holland

Trombones

Andrew White
Christopher Hickman
Ed Hilton

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Kevin Earley
Paul Parker
John McCutcheon

Harps

Susan Blair
Elin Samuel

Celeste

Yen Li

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