

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Tuesday 3 December 2024, Birmingham Hippodrome  
RELAXED PERFORMANCE

## 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** Reina Fuchigami  
**The Prince** Haoliang Feng  
**Drosselmeyer** Lachlan Monaghan  
*a magician*  
**Clara** Tessa Hogge  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Gus Payne  
**Clara's Mother** Tori Forsyth-Hecken  
*a former ballerina*  
**Clara's Father** Jonathan Payn  
**Fritz** Lars Hetherington-Howell  
*Clara's younger brother*  
**Clara's Dancing Partner** Ryan Felix  
**Grandmother** Yvette Knight  
**Grandfather** Rory Mackay  
**Butler** Marlo Kempsey-Fagg  
**Harlequin** Javier Rojas  
**Columbine** Lynsey Sutherland  
**Jack-in-the-Box** Enrique Bejarano Vidal  
**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** Gus Payne  
**The Rat King** Callum Findlay-White  
**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
**The Snow Fairy** Eilis Small  
**Her Attendants** Rosanna Ely, Mailène Katoch, Sofia Liñares, Rachele Pizzillo  
**Winds** Jack Easton, Ryan Felix, Yasiel Hodelín Bello, 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

<b>Spanish Dance</b>	<b>Sofia Linñares, Gabriel Anderson, Miles Gilliver</b>
<b>Arabian Dance</b>	<b>Daria Stanciulescu,</b> <b>Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Mason King</b>
<b>Chinese Dance</b>	<b>Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Shuailun Wu</b>
<b>Russian Dance</b>	<b>Louis Andreassen, Alfie-Lee Hall, Tom Hazelby</b>
<b>Dance of the Mirlitons</b>	<b>Alisa Garkavenko, Matilde Rodriguez,</b> <b>Ellyne Knol, Matilde Rodrigues</b>
<b>Leading Flowers</b>	<b>Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Ava May Llewellyn,</b> <b>Yuki Sugiura, Amelia Thompson</b>
<b>Grand pas de deux</b>	<b>Reina Fuchigami, Haoliang Feng</b>

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

*Introduction* 15 minutes;

*Act I* 40 minutes;

*Interval* 25 minutes;

*Act II* 37 minutes.

The performance will end at approximately 2.45pm

## Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* Martin Georgiev

### First Violins

Joana Valentinaviciute  
*Leader*  
Deborah Schlenther  
Caroline Ferriman  
Jenny Thurston  
Timothy Wilford  
Rosemary Henbest  
Cathy Hamer

### Second Violins

Fiona Robertson  
Suzannah Quirke  
Caroline Bodimead  
Risa Sekine  
Chris Hughes  
Ivor McGregor

### Violas

Jisu Song  
Jill Valentine  
Catherine Howe  
Liz Fryer

### Cellos

Alessandro Sanguineti  
Leonie Adams  
Amy Goodwin  
Anna Joubert

### Doubles Basses

Emma Prince  
Alex Verster

### Flutes

Anna Kondrashina  
Jimena de Vicente Alvarez  
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

### Oboes

Amy Turner  
Louise Hayter  
Victoria Brown *Cor anglais*

### Clarinets

Harry Penny  
Nathan Isaac  
Will White *Bass clarinet*

### Bassoons

Alex Callanan  
Ruth Rosales

### Horns

Joanna Withers  
Jenny Cox  
Christopher Pointon  
Alexander Hocknull  
Alex Willett

### Trumpets

Mike Allen  
Jon Sheppard

### Trombones

Chris Hickman  
David Pitts  
Paul Lambert

### Tuba

Adam Collins

### Timpani

Grahame King

### Percussion

Kevin Earley  
Paul Parker  
John McCutcheon

### Harps

Elin Samuel  
Nicholette Chin

### Celeste

Jeanette Wong

## 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