

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Friday 30 October 2026, Sadler’s Wells Theatre

## Swan Lake

**Music** Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky; **Choreography** Marius Petipa, Lev Ivanov and Peter Wright;  
**Production** Peter Wright and Galina Samsova; **Designs** Philip Prowse;  
**Lighting** Peter Teigen (adapted by Johnny Westall-Eyre)

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Odette/Odile</i>              | Miki Mizutani   |
| <i>Prince Siegfried</i>          | Max Maslen      |
| <i>The Queen Mother</i>          | Eilis Small     |
| <i>Baron von Rothbart</i>        | Louis Andreasen |
| <i>Benno</i>                     | Riku Ito        |
| <i>Prince Siegfried’s Friend</i> |                 |

ACT I

|                                                       |                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>The Prince’s Companions</i>                        | Olivia Chang-Clarke, Alisa Garkavenko,<br>Frieda Kaden, Matilde Rodrigues,<br>Noah Campbell, Ryan Felix,<br>Ixan Ferrer, Luciano Ghidoli |
| <i>Two Courtesans</i>                                 | Rachele Pizzillo, Yuki Sugiura                                                                                                           |
| <i>Court Ladies, Courtiers,<br/>Ladies in Waiting</i> | Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet                                                                                                       |

*Three-minute pause: please remain seated*

ACT II

|                         |                                                                  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Cygnets</i>          | Frieda Kaden, Yasemin Kayabay,<br>Airi Kobayashi, Sophie Walters |
| <i>Two Swan Maidens</i> | Alisa Garkavenko, Amelia Thompson                                |

INTERVAL

ACT III

|                                                                 |                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Master of Ceremonies</i>                                     | Rory Mackay                                                             |
| <i>Hungarian Princess</i>                                       | Alisa Garkavenko                                                        |
| <i>Polish Princess</i>                                          | Alexandra Manuel                                                        |
| <i>Italian Princess</i>                                         | Olivia Chang-Clarke                                                     |
| <i>Czárdás</i>                                                  | Ava May Llewellyn, Ryan Felix<br>and Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet |
| <i>Mazurka</i>                                                  | Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet                                      |
| <i>Neapolitan Dance</i>                                         | Rachele Pizzillo, Sophie Walters,<br>Mikel Arzak, Alfie-Lee Hall        |
| <i>Spanish Dance</i>                                            | Matilde Rodrigues, Yuki Sugiura,<br>Gabriel Anderson, Miles Gilliver    |
| <i>Ambassadors, Pages, Guards,<br/>Attendants and Courtiers</i> | Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet                                      |

INTERVAL

## ACT IV

### Swan Maidens, Cygnets Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

#### Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Thomas Jung

#### Approximate timings

*Act I* 34 minutes; *pause* 3 minutes; *Act II* 33 minutes

*Interval* 20 minutes; *Act III* 38 minutes;

*Interval* 15 minutes; *Act IV* 20 minutes.

The performance will end at approximately 10.20pm

##### First Violins

Robert Gibbs *Leader*  
Joana Valentiniaviciute  
Vanessa David  
Philip Aird  
Caroline Ferriman  
Jennifer Thurston  
Timothy Wilford  
Amanda Britton  
Anne Martin

##### Second Violins

Elise Scheurer  
Mary Martin  
Fiona Robertson  
Robert Simmons  
Charlotte Dodwell  
Paul Barrett  
Shelley Deacon

##### Violas

Errika Collins  
Emily Clark  
Hannah Horton  
Hannah Roberts  
Sheila Holdsworth

##### Cellos

António Novais  
Abi Hyde-Smith  
Jane Rainey  
Alessandro Sanguineti  
Tiago Silva

##### Doubles Basses

Fabian Galeana  
Georgia Lloyd  
Katy Furmanski  
Levi Andreassen  
Alex Verster

##### Flutes

Anna Wolstenholme  
Jane Dixon-Wayne  
Sandra Skipper  
*Piccolo*

##### Oboes

Rachel Harwood  
White  
Sarah Harper

##### Clarinets

Ian Scott  
Harry Penny

##### Bassoons

Luke Tucker  
Ruth Rosales

##### Horns

Andrew Littlemore  
Richard Stroud  
Richard Dilley  
Alastair Rycroft  
Nicholas Ireson

##### Cornets

Michael Allen  
Julie Ryan

##### Trumpets

Christopher Deacon  
Steve Walton

##### Trombones

Andrew White  
David Pitts  
Keith McNicoll

##### Tuba

David Gordon Shute

##### Timpani

Grahame King

##### Percussion

Kevin Early  
Jonathan Raper  
John McCutcheon  
Austin Beattie

##### Harp

Susan Blair

## THE STORY

### Act I *A courtyard in the castle*

Following his father's death, Prince Siegfried will be crowned king and must marry. He dreads the loss of his freedom and has no wish to marry. It is his 21st birthday and his equerry, Benno, has arranged an entertainment to divert him. His friends present him with a crossbow, but in the middle of these celebrations the Dowager Queen arrives. She is shocked at the revelry while the court is in mourning and reminds Siegfried that he must choose a bride from three Princesses who will attend a grand reception. Benno attempts to cheer Siegfried up with the help of two courtesans. When the dancers have gone, a flight of swans passes and Benno suggests that Siegfried try out his new crossbow. They depart in pursuit.

### Act II *The lakeside by moonlight*

Is is midnight and Baron von Rothbart, an evil magician, awaits the arrival of the Princess Odette and her companions. He has transformed them into swans and it is only between midnight and dawn that they can return to human form. Von Rothbart hides when Siegfried arrives. Left alone, Siegfried sees a swan which, to his amazement, changes into a beautiful maiden, the Princess Odette. She explains that her enchantment can only be broken if someone who has never loved before swears an oath of undying love. Von Rothbart appears and Prince Siegfried attempts to shoot him, but Odette explains that if the magician dies the spell can never be broken. Dawn approaches. Prince Siegfried declares his love and swears to be true for eternity. Odette promises him that she will visit him the following night at the castle.

**Act III** *The ballroom of the castle*

At the grand reception three Princesses dance for Siegfried, but his thoughts are elsewhere. A fanfare announces the arrival of two uninvited guests; they are von Rothbart, disguised as an ambassador, and his daughter Odile, whom the sorcerer has transformed to look like Odette. The Prince believes her to be the Swan Princess. While Odile and the Prince dance, Odette keeps her promise and appears at the window, but his attention is distracted by the magician's spell. Infatuated, Siegfried asks for Odile's hand in marriage. Von Rothbart makes him swear his love for her and as Siegfried does so, Odette again appears at the window. The court is thrown into confusion and, in despair, the Prince rushes out in search of Odette.

**Act IV** *The lakeside*

Odette returns to the swan maidens, distraught and wishing to drown herself while she is still in human form. Realising Siegfried is following her, von Rothbart creates a storm in a vain attempt to stop him. Siegfried arrives and begs Odette's forgiveness. Sadly, she tells him that she forgives him but nothing can change the fact that his vow has been broken. Odette and Siegfried decide they cannot live apart and will die together. Odette throws herself into the lake and von Rothbart is thwarted in his attempt to stop Siegfried following her. Dawn breaks. The spell is broken as the lovers are united in a world of eternal love.

SIR PETER WRIGHT