

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Sunday 30 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 Céline Gittens

The Prince Yasiel Hodelín Bello

Drosselmeyer Miles Gilliver
a Magician

Clara Sofia Liñares
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Tom Hazelby

Clara's Mother Eilis Small
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Jonathan Payn

Fritz Albert Newton-Smith
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Enrique Bejarano Vidal

Grandmother Lynsey Sutherland

Grandfather August Generalli

Butler Rafael Bejarano Vidal

Harlequin Javier Rojas

Columbine Alisa Garkavenko

Jack-in-the-Box Riku Ito

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 Louis Andreasen

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Lucy Waine

Her Attendants Rosanna Ely, Reina Fuchigami,
Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Amelia Thompson

Winds John Fontanini, Haoliang Feng,
Ixañ Llorca Ferrer, Mason King

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



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CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE
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Don Quixote shine for
generations to come!



ACT II

Spanish Dance Hannah Martin
Gabriel Anderson, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg
Arabian Dance Amelia Thompson
Rafael Bejarano Vidal, Haoliang Feng,
Killian Rudd
Chinese Dance John Fontanini, Ted Peng
Russian Dance Javier Rojas, Alfie-Lee Hall,
Thomas Kujawa
Dance of the Mirlitons Maïlène Katoch, Yasemin Kayabay,
Yoli Meurisse, Yuki Sugiura

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Lucy Waine
Her Consorts Louis Andreasen, Enrique Bejarano Vidal,
Ixañ Llorca Ferrer, Mason King
Leading Flowers Karla Doorbar, Tori Forsyth-Hecken,
Alisa Garkavenko, Eilis Small

Grand pas de deux Céline Gittens, Yasiel Hodelín Bello

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 3.10pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Thomas Jung
Leader Robert Gibbs

First Violins

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

Second Violins

Thomas Grundy
Mary Martin
Fiona Robertson
Robert Simmons
Charlotte Dodwell
Suzannah Quirke
Cora-Marina Iordache
Vladimir Naoumov

Violas

Errika Collins
Carys Barnes
Emily Clarke
Hannah Horton
Wei Wei Tan

Cellos

António Novais
Jane Rainey
Miguel Fernandes
Gen Li
Samuel Vincent

Doubles Basses

Vera Pereira
Georgina McGrath
Alexander Verster
William Pühr

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 Littermore
Jo Withers
Christopher Pointon
Richard Stroud
Richard Dille

Trumpets

Michael Allen
Steven Walton

Trombones

Andrew White
Christopher Hickman
Paul Lambert

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Kevin Earley
Paul Parker
John McCutcheon

Harp

Susan Blair
Deian Rowlands

Celeste

Yen Lee

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