BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday matinee 31 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)

Odette/Odile	**Beatrice Parma**
Prince Siegfried	**Enrique Bejarano Vidal**
The Queen Mother	**Daria Stanciulescu**
Baron von Rothbart	**Miles Gilliver**
Benno *Prince Siegfried's Friend*	**Ryan Felix**

ACT I

The Prince's Companions	**Rosanna Ely, Alisa Garkavenko, Rachele Pizzillo, Yuki Sugiura, Gabriel Anderson, Louis Andreasen, Noah Campbell, Mason King**
Two Courtesans	**Reina Fuchigami, Katherine Ochoa**
Court Ladies, Courtiers, Ladies in Waiting	**Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

Three-minute pause: please remain seated

ACT II

Cygnets	**Olivia Chang-Clarke, Rosanna Ely, Sofia Liñares, Rachele Pizzillo**
Two Swan Maidens	**Alisa Garkavenko, Yuki Sugiura**

INTERVAL

ACT III

Master of Ceremonies	**Jonathan Payn**
Hungarian Princess	**Rachele Pizzillo**
Polish Princess	**Amelia Thompson**
Italian Princess	**Reina Fuchigami**
Czárdás	**Olivia Chang-Clarke, Louis Andreasen and Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**
Mazurka	**Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**
Neapolitan Dance	**Rosanna Ely, Frieda Kaden, Jacopo Biancucci, John Fontanini**
Spanish Dance	**Alexandra Manuel, Matilde Rodrigues, Gabriel Anderson, Mason King**
Ambassadors, Pages, Guards, Attendants and Courtiers	**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 4.50pm

First Violins
Joana Valentinaviciute
Leader
Robert Gibbs
Deborah Schlenther
Philip Aird
Caroline Ferriman
Jennifer Thurston
Tim Wilford
Amanda Britton
Anne Martin

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

Violas
James Flannery
Emily Clark
Hannah Horton
Hannah Roberts
Sheila Holdsworth

Cellos
António Novais
Abi Hyde-Smith
Alessandro Sanguineti
Tiago Silva
Cormac O'Briain

Doubles Basses
Fabian Galeana
Georgia Lloyd
Katy Furmanski
Levi Andreassen

Flutes
Anna Kondrashina
Jane Dixon-Wayne
Sandra Skipper
Piccolo

Oboes
Rachel Harwood White
Sarah Harper

Clarinets
Ian Scott
Fresca David

Bassoons
Luke Tucker
Claire Webster

Horns
Andrew Littlemore
Richard Stroud
Chris Pointon
Alastair Rycroft
Richard Dilley

Cornets
Michael Allen
Julie Ryan

Trumpets
Christopher Deacon
Steve Walton

Trombones
Andrew White
David Pitts
Paul Lambert

Tuba
Jude Smith

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 Siegfied 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