

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Sunday 4 December 2022

## 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** Miki Mizutani  
**The Prince** Lachlan Monaghan  
**Drosselmeyer** Max Maslen  
*a magician*  
**Clara** Sofia Liñares  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Gus Payne  
**Clara's Mother** Daria Stanciulescu  
*a former ballerina*  
**Clara's Father** Rory Mackay  
**Fritz** Joshua McKenzie  
*Clara's younger brother*  
**Clara's Dancing Partner** Ryan Felix  
**Grandmother** Yvette Knight  
**Grandfather** Hamish Scott  
**Butler** Oscar Kempsey-Fagg  
**Harlequin** Riku Ito  
**Columbine** Rosanna Ely  
**Jack-in-the-Box** Enrique Bejarano Vidal  
**Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
**Children** Members of Birmingham Royal Ballet'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** Mason King  
**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
**The Snow Fairy** Isabella Howard  
**Her Attendants** Alys Shee, Lynsey Sutherland  
Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine  
**Winds** Gabriel Anderson, Jack Easton,  
Callum Findlay-White, Miles Gilliver  
**Snowflakes** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL

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***The Nutcracker 2023: Booking open now!***

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## ACT II

<b>Spanish Dance</b>	<b>Rachele Pizzillo, Louis Andreasen, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg</b>
<b>Arabian Dance</b>	<b>Daria Stanciulescu, Callum Findlay-White</b>
<b>Chinese Dance</b>	<b>Riko Ito, Gus Payne</b>
<b>Russian Dance</b>	<b>Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Guillem Cabrera, Thomas Hazelby</b>
<b>Dance of the Mirlitons</b>	<b>Olivia Chang Clarke, Tessa Hogge, Frieda Kaden, Lynsey Sutherland</b>

### Waltz of the Flowers

<b>The Rose Fairy</b>	<b>Céline Gittens</b>
<b>Her Consorts</b>	<b>Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Lennert Steegen</b>
<b>Leading Flowers</b>	<b>Rosanna Ely, Reina Fuchigami, Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine</b>
<b>Grand pas de deux</b>	<b>Miki Mizutani, Lachlan Monaghan</b>

Students appear by kind permission of the Principal of The Royal Ballet School.

Ex Cathedra was founded in Birmingham by its Artistic Director, Jeffrey Skidmore OBE in 1969. Ex Cathedra is delighted their Academy of Vocal Music are performing in *The Nutcracker* again this year, under the leadership of Rebecca Ledgard, Director of Education. Email [education@excathedra.co.uk](mailto:education@excathedra.co.uk) to find out more and join the choir.

### Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Philip Ellis; Leader Robert Gibbs



#### Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes

Interval 30 minutes

Act II 50 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 3.10pm

## THE STORY

### 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 Big Give Christmas Challenge 2022

Help our trail-blazing Freefall Dance Company, a company of talented adults with learning difficulties, expand their work.

**29 November – 6 December**

Visit [brb.org.uk/biggive](http://brb.org.uk/biggive) for details