

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday matinee 4 December 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** Sofia Liñares

**The Prince** Mason King

**Drosselmeyer** Louis Andreasen  
*a Magician*

**Clara** Alisa Garkavenko  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Alfie-Lee Hall

**Clara's Mother** Daria Stanciuлесcu  
*a former ballerina*

**Clara's Father** Rory Mackay

**Fritz** Lawson Hateley  
*Clara's younger brother*

**Clara's Dancing Partner** Tom Hazelby

**Grandmother** Laëtitia Lo Sardo

**Grandfather** Riku Ito

**Butler** Rafael Bejarano Vidal

**Harlequin** Enrique Bejarano Vidal

**Columbine** Karla Doorbar

**Jack-in-the-Box** Javier Rojas

**Ballet students, Cadets, Guests,** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

**Children** Students of Elmhurst Ballet School and  
The Royal Ballet School

**The Nutcracker Doll** Alfie-Lee Hall

**The Rat King** Gabriel Anderson

**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

**The Snow Fairy** Frieda Kaden

**Her Attendants** Rosanna Ely, Tori Forsyth-Hecken,  
Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine

**Winds** John Fontanini, Miles Gilliver,  
Tom Hazelby, Yasiel Hodelín Bello

**Snowflakes** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL



**THE BIG GIVE**  
CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE  
2 – 9 December  
[brb.org.uk/BigGive](http://brb.org.uk/BigGive)

Your support will  
help Carlos Acosta's  
*Don Quixote* shine for  
generations to come!



## ACT II

**Spanish Dance** Frieda Kaden  
Ixan Llorca Ferrer, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg

**Arabian Dance** Amelia Thompson  
Rafael Bejarano Vidal, Miles Gilliver,  
Killian Rudd

**Chinese Dance** Alfie-Lee Hall, Thomas Kujawa

**Russian Dance** John Fontanini, Oisin Middleton,  
Luca Mollica

**Dance of the Mirlitons** Rosanna Ely, Yasemin Kayabay,  
Airi Kobayashi, Yoli Meurisse

### Waltz of the Flowers

**The Rose Fairy** Lucy Waine  
**Her Consorts** Gabriel Anderson, Tom Hazelby,  
Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Javier Rojas

**Leading Flowers** Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Reina Fuchigami,  
Ava May Llewellyn, Yuki Sugiura

**Grand pas de deux** Sofia Liñares, Mason King

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 4.10pm

### Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* Thomas Jung  
*Leader* Robert Gibbs

#### First Violins

Vanessa David  
Deborah Schlenther  
Philip Aird  
Caroline Ferriman  
Jennifer Thurston  
Timothy Wilford  
Jake Rea  
Catherine Hamer  
Risa Sekine

#### Second Violins

Thomas Grundy  
Mary Martin  
Fiona Robertson  
Robert Simmons  
Charlotte Dodwell  
Glesni Roberts  
Vladimir Naumov  
Zhvivko Georgiev

#### Violas

Errika Collins  
Jamie Howe  
May Bardsley  
Wei Wei Tan  
Hannah Horton

#### Cellos

António Novais  
Jane Rainey  
Maya Kashif  
Toby Turton  
Gen Li

#### Doubles Basses

Vera Pereira  
Sam Rice  
Georgia Lloyd  
Phoebe Cheng

#### Flutes

Anna Kondrashina  
Daniel Parkin  
Sandra Skipper  
*Piccolo*

#### Oboes

Hannah Condliffe  
Louise Hayter  
Lorraine Hart  
*Cor Anglais*

#### Clarinets

Harry Penny  
Fiona Mitchell  
James Maltby *Bass*

#### Bassoons

Luke Tucker  
Ruth Rosales

#### Horns

Andrew Littlemore  
Alastair Rycroft  
Jo Withers  
Alex Hocknull  
Jonathan Bareham

#### Trumpets

Alexander Cromwell  
Steven Walton

#### Trombones

Andrew White  
Thomas Scaife  
Andrew Crampton

#### Tuba

David Gordon Shute

#### Timpani

Grahame King

#### Percussion

Kevin Earley  
Paul Parker  
John McCutcheon

#### Harp

Susan Blair  
Elin Samuel

#### 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](http://brb.org.uk/Shop) or by scanning the QR code**