

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Friday 6 December 2024, Birmingham Hippodrome

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 Céline Gittens
The Prince Yasiel Hodelín Bello
**Drosselmeyer
a magician** Lachlan Monaghan
Clara Tessa Hogge
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Gus Payne
Clara's Mother Daria Stanciulescu
a former ballerina
Clara's Father Mason King
Fritz Lars Hetherington-Howell
Clara's younger brother
Clara's Dancing Partner Javier Rojas
Grandmother Yvette Knight
Grandfather Rory Mackay
Butler Marlo Kempsey-Fagg
Harlequin August Generalli
Columbine Rachele Pizzillo
Jack-in-the-Box Shuailun Wu
Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
Children Members of BRB'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 Gabriel Anderson
Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
The Snow Fairy Yu Kurihara
Her Attendants Reina Fuchigami, Frieda Kaden, Eilis Small, Amelia Thompson
Winds Ryan Felix, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Mason King
Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



THE BIG GIVE
CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE
3 – 10 December
brb.org.uk/BigGive

**Help us raise £70,000 this Christmas
to whisk Cinderella to the ball**

Your support will help Sir David Bintley's
Cinderella to sparkle for generations to come!



ACT II

Spanish Dance	Rachele Pizzillo, Gabriel Anderson, August Generalli
Arabian Dance	Daria Stanciulescu, Jack Easton, Ixan Llorca Ferrer, Miles Gilliver
Chinese Dance	Tom Hazelby, Gus Payne
Russian Dance	Louis Andreasen, Callum Findlay-White, Joe Parker
Dance of the Mirlitons	Rosanna Ely, Reina Fuchigami, Alisa Garkavenko, Yuki Sugiura

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy	Sofia Liñares
Her Consorts	Mason King, Haoliang Feng, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Ryan Felix
Leading Flowers	Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Ava May Llewellyn, Isabella Howard, Amelia Thompson
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 Cathedra'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 9.40pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Charlotte Politti

First Violins

Joana Valentinaviciute
Leader

Vanessa David
Amanda Brown
Deborah Schlenther
Philip Aird
Caroline Ferriman
Jenny Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Rosemary Henbest
Jake Rea

Second Violins

Kerenza Peacock
Mary Martin
Fiona Robertson
Robert Simmons
Shelley Deacon
Amy Heggart
Caroline Bodimead
Elizabeth Goble

Violas

Errika Collins
Jisu Song
James Flannery
Wei Wei Tan
Catherine Howe

Cellos

António Novais
Jane Rainey
Francesca Cull
Danushka Edirisinge
Amy Goodwin

Doubles Basses

Emma Prince
Phoebe Cheng
William Pühr
Julie Buckley

Flutes

Daniel Shao
Jimena de Vicente Alvarez
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Amy Turner
Odette Cotton
Lydia Griffiths *Cor anglais*

Clarinets

Ian Scott
Christopher Goodman
Harry Penny *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Ruth Rosales

Horns

Richard Dille
Jennifer Cox
Christopher Pointon
Andrew Sutton
Alexander Willett

Trumpets

Christopher Deacon
Timothy Hawes

Trombones

Andrew White
Pau Hernandez
Andrew Crampton

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Kevin Earley
Thomas Edwards
Aidan Hammond

Harps

Susan Blair
Nicolette Chin

Celeste

Jeanette Wong

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.

The Nutcracker 2025 – Booking open now!
Birmingham Hippodrome