

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday matinee 6 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** Katherine Ochoa

**The Prince** Enrique Bejarano Vidal

**Drosselmeyer** Mathias Dingman  
*a Magician*

**Clara** Rosanna Ely  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Louis Andreasen

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

**Clara's Father** Rory Mackay

**Fritz** Albert Newton-Smith  
*Clara's younger brother*

**Clara's Dancing Partner** Javier Rojas

**Grandmother** Karla Doorbar

**Grandfather** Jonathan Payn

**Butler** Rafael Bejarano Vidal

**Harlequin** Tom Hazelby

**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** Louis Andreasen

**The Rat King** Mason King

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

**The Snow Fairy** Yuki Sugiura

**Her Attendants** Frieda Kaden, Mailéne Katoch,  
Amelia Thompson, Eilis Small

**Winds** John Fontantini, Marlo Kempsey Fagg,  
Yasiel Hodelin Bello, Ixan Llorca Ferrer

**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** Hannah Martin  
Ixan Llorca Ferrer, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg  
**Arabian Dance** Ellis Small  
Rafael Bejarano Vidal, Mason King,  
Killian Rudd  
**Chinese Dance** Ted Peng, Thomas Kujawa  
**Russian Dance** John Fontanini, Oisín Middleton,  
Luca Mollica  
**Dance of the Mirlitons** Alisa Garkavenko, Frieda Kaden,  
Yasemin Kayabay, Sophie Walters

## Waltz of the Flowers

**The Rose Fairy** Amelia Thompson  
**Her Consorts** Louis Andreassen, Yasiel Hodelín Bello,  
Riku Ito, Javier Rojas  
**Leading Flowers** Karla Doorbar, Reina Fuchigami,  
Sofia Liñares, Ava May Llewellyn  
**Grand pas de deux** Katherine Ochoa, Enrique Bejarano Vidal

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 4.40pm

## Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* José Salazar  
*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  
Fiona Robertson  
Suzannah Quirke  
Cora-Marina Iordache  
Caroline Bodimead  
Risa Sekine  
Zhivko Georgiev  
Elizabeth Goble

### Violas

Errika Collins  
Jamie Howe  
May Bardsley  
Wei Wei Tan  
Hannah Horton

### Cellos

António Novais  
Maya Kashif  
Miguel Fernandes  
Danushka Edirisinghe  
Anna Joubert

### Doubles Basses

Sam Rice  
Georgia Lloyd  
Phoebe Cheng  
Julian Walters

### Flutes

Anna Kondrashina  
Daniel Parkin  
Jimena de Vicente  
*Alvarez Piccolo*

### Oboes

Hannah Condliffe  
Louise Hayter  
Lorraine Hart  
*Cor Anglais*

### Clarinets

Ian Scott  
Fiona Mitchell  
James Maltby *Bass*

### Bassoons

Luke Tucker  
Ruth Rosales

### Horns

Jo Withers  
Alex Hocknull  
Jonathan Farey  
Andrew Sutton  
Jonathan Bareham

### Trumpets

Oscar Whight  
Steven Walton

### Trombones

Thomas Scaife  
Christopher Hickman  
Paul Lambert

### Tuba

David Gordon Shute

### Timpani

Grahame King

### Percussion

Kevin Earley  
Paul Parker  
John McCutcheon

### Harp

Susan Blair  
Elin Samuel

### Celeste

Jeanette Wong

***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**