

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday matinee 7 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 Beatrice Parma

The Prince Tzu-Chao Chou

Drosselmeyer Gabriel Anderson
a magician

Clara Rosanna Ely
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Thomas Hazelby

Clara's Mother Tori Forsyth-Hecken
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Jonathan Payn

Fritz Lawson Hatley
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Gus Payne

Grandmother Yvette Reguiero

Grandfather Louis Andreasen

Butler Oscar Kempsey-Fagg

Harlequin Riku Ito

Columbine Tessa Hogge

Jack-in-the-Box Ryan Felix

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 Thomas Hazelby

The Rat King Callum Findlay-White

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Yuki Sugiura

Her Attendants Isabella Howard, Ava May Llewellyn,
Matilde Rodrigues, Frieda Kaden

Winds Louis Andreasen, Enrique Bejarano Vidal,
Jack Easton, Gus Payne

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	Sofia Liñares, August Generalli, Javier Rojas
Arabian Dance	Daria Stanciulescu, Miles Gilliver, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Ixan Llorca Ferrer
Chinese Dance	Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Gus Payne
Russian Dance	Thomas Kujawa, Joe Parker, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg
Dance of the Mirlitons	Frieda Kaden, Mailène Katoch, Ellyn Knol, Yuki Sugiura

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy	Amelia Thompson
Her Consorts	Jack Easton, Ryan Felix, Callum Findlay-White, Mason King
Leading Flowers	Reina Fuchigami, Isabella Howard, Tessa Hogge, Yuki Sugiura

Grand pas de deux	Beatrice Parma, Tzu-Chao Chou
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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 3.40pm

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Charlotte Politi

First Violins

Joana Valentinaviciute
Leader
Vanessa David
Amanda Brown
Deborah Schlenther
Phillip Aird
Caroline Ferriman
Jenny Thurston
Timothy Wilford
Rosemary Henbest
Jake Rea

Second Violins

Kerenza Peacock
Fiona Robertson
Charlotte Dodwell
Suzannah Quirke
Shelley Deacon
Caroline Bodimead
Natalee Jeremic

Violas

Errika Collins
Jisu Song
Amy Swain
James Flannery
Wei Wei Tan

Cellos

António Novais
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
Jonathan Bareham

Trumpets

Jonathan Clarke
Steven Walton

Trombones

Andrew White
Pau Hernandez
Andrew Crampton

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Paul Parker
Thomas Edwards
Aidan Hammond

Harp

Susan Blair
Elin Samuel

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