

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Sunday matinee 7 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 August Generalli
a Magician

Clara Reina Fuchigami
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Alfie-Lee Hall

Clara's Mother Eilis Small
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Gabriel Anderson

Fritz Albert Newton-Smith
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Tom Hazelby

Grandmother Lynsey Sutherland

Grandfather Jonathan Payn

Butler Rafael Bejarano Vidal

Harlequin Riku Ito

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 Louis Andreasen

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Rosanna Ely

Her Attendants Tori Forsyth-Hecken, Hannah Martin,
Frieda Kaden, Amelia Thompson

Winds John Fontanini, Ixan Llorca Ferrer,
Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL



THE BIG GIVE
CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE
2 – 9 December
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Don Quixote shine for
generations to come!



ACT II

Spanish Dance Hannah Martin
Gabriel Anderson, Rafael Bejarano Vidal
Arabian Dance Amelia Thompson
Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Marlo Kempsey-Fagg
Julian Pecoraro
Chinese Dance Alfie-Lee Hall, Yusuke Otake
Russian Dance Luca Mollica, Oisín Middleton,
John Fontanini
Dance of the Mirlitons Yasemin Kayabay, Maïlène Katoch,
Yoli Meurisse, Yuki Sugiura

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Lucy Waine
Her Consorts Louis Andreasen, Enrique Bejarano Vidal,
Javier Rojas, Ixan Llorca Ferrer
Leading Flowers Karla Doorbar, Rosanna Ely,
Tori Forsyth Hecken, Eilis Small
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 3.10pm

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
Mary Martin
Fiona Robertson
Suzannah Quirke
Cora-Marina Iordache
Vladimir Naoumov
Caroline Bodimead
Zhviko Georgiev

Violas

Errika Collins
Jamie Howe
May Bardsley
Wei Wei Tan
Elizabeth Fryer

Cellos

António Novais
Jane Rainey
Maya Kashif
Miguel Fernandes
Danushka Edirisinghe

Doubles Basses

Georgina McGrath
Georgia Lloyd
Phoebe Cheng
Julian Walters

Flutes

Anna Kondrashina
Daniel Parkin
Jimena de Vincente
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
Richard Dilley
Andrew Sutton
Jonathan Bareham

Trumpets

Michael Allen
Steven Walton

Trombones

Andrew White
Thomas Scaife
Paul Lambert

Tuba

David Gordon Shute

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Kevin Earley
Paul Parker
John McCutcheon

Harp

Susan Blair
Elin Samuel

Celeste

Yuria Miki

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 or by scanning the QR code