

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Wednesday 8 October 2025

The Lowry

Black Sabbath – The Ballet

Director Carlos Acosta; **Original Music** Black Sabbath; **Music Consultant** Tony Iommi;

Lead Composer, Project Music Supervisor Christopher Austin;

Lead Choreographer and Artistic Director Pontus Lidberg;

Dramaturg Richard Thomas; **Designer** Alexandre Arrechea; **Lighting Designer** K.J.;

Sound Production and Design Joshua Blair; **Metal Curator** Lisa Meyer

Black Sabbath – The Ballet is a Ballet Now commission. Ballet Now is generously supported by Oak Foundation's Special Interest Programme. We are also grateful to the John S Cohen Foundation, the John Feeney Charitable Trust, the Wood and Steven Charitable Trust, the Oakley Charitable Trust and The Owen Family Trust for their support of *Black Sabbath – The Ballet*.

Thanks also go to Alan and Caroline Howard, and Arts Council England for supporting our international touring of the production to date.

This performance includes occasional use of dry ice, smoke, flashing lights and loud music. It features archival voiceovers from the band and others; these include some bleeped-out swearing and references to drug use.

Act I: Heavy Metal Ballet

Composers Marko Nyberg, Christopher Austin;

Orchestrators Joshua Hickin, Christopher Austin;

Choreographer Raúl Reinoso;

Black Sabbath Arrangement Marko Nyberg, Joshua Hickin, Christopher Austin

Featuring: *War Pigs, Iron Man, Solitude, Paranoid*

Maïlène Katoch Alexandra Manuel Yaoqian Shang Eilis Small

Yuki Sugiura Lynsey Sutherland Lucy Waine Sophie Walters

Louis Andreasen Rafael Bejarano Vidal Ryan Felix Miles Gilliver

Tom Hazelby Mason King Oisin Middleton Javier Rojas

Yaoqian Shang Javier Rojas

Tzu-Chao Chou

Yaoqian Shang Javier Rojas

Maïlène Katoch Miles Gilliver

Guitarist Marc Hayward

INTERVAL

Act II: The Band

Composer Sun Keting; **Orchestrators** Sun Keting, Christopher Austin;
Choreographer Cassi Abranches; **Black Sabbath Arrangement** Sun Keting

Featuring: *Black Sabbath, Orchid, Planet Caravan, Sabbath Bloody Sabbath*

Amber Cook Tori Forsyth-Hecken Frieda Kaden
Ava May Llewellyn Lynsey Sutherland Gillian Whittall

Gabriel Anderson Louis Andreasen Ryan Felix
Marlo Kempsey-Fagg Mason King Luca Mollica

Gabriel Anderson
Ava May Llewellyn
Céline Gittens Haoliang Feng

Singer Lachlan Monaghan

INTERVAL

Act III: Everybody is a Fan

Composer & Orchestrator Christopher Austin; **Choreographer** Pontus Lidberg;
Black Sabbath Arrangement Christopher Austin

Featuring: *Iron Man, Black Sabbath, Sabbath Bloody Sabbath, War Pigs, Paranoid, Laguna Sunrise*

Céline Gittens Momoko Hirata Miki Mizutani
Eilis Small Lucy Waine
Tzu-Chao Chou Haoliang Feng Riku Ito
Max Maslen Lachlan Monaghan

Momoko Hirata Tzu-Chao Chou
Riku Ito

The full cast

Guitarist Marc Hayward

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Paul Murphy

First Violins	Second Violins	Violas
Robert Gibbs <i>Leader</i>	Will Hillman	Errika Collins
Joana Valentinaviciute	Fiona Robertson	Carys Barnes
Vanessa David	Robert Simmons	Sara Ramirez Rodriguez
Deborah Schlenther	Charlotte Dodwell	Alexandra Wakeling
Philip Aird	Amanda Britton	
Caroline Ferriman	Caroline Bodimead	Cellos
Jennifer Thurston		António Novais
Tim Wilford		Jane Rainey
		Maya Kashif
		Alessandro Sanguineti

Doubles Basses

Georgina McGrath
William Puhr

Flutes

Anna Kondrashina
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Ruth Contractor
Lousie Hayter *Cor anglais*

Clarinets

Anna Hasmmimoto
Chris Goodman *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Ruth Rosales *Contra*

Horns

Jo Withers
Neil Mitchell
Alastair Rycroft
Nicholas Ireson
Jennifer Cox

Trumpets

Christopher Deacon
Tim Hawes

Trombones

Andrew White
Megan Murphy
Andrew Crampton

Tuba

Carl Woodcroft

Timpani

Grahame King

Percussion

Kevin Earley
Iolo Edwards

Drums

Ian Whitehead

Guitars

Matt Isaac
Marcus Pritchard

Harp

Deian Rowlands

Piano / Celeste

Yen Lee

Approximate timings

Act I 30 minutes
Interval 20 minutes
Act II 30 minutes
Interval 20 minutes
Act III 30 minutes

This performance will finish at approximately 9.45pm

***Please do not take photographs or film during the performance.
You are welcome to take photographs or film during the curtain calls.***

Don't miss our

Black Sabbath – The Ballet

T-shirts | Souvenir programme

Available now in the main foyer or via our online shop

[**brb.org.uk/Shop**](http://brb.org.uk/Shop)

Marc Hayward's recently released debut solo EP, *Distant Calls*, can be purchased via his [website](#) or through [Bandcamp](#) or [Spotify](#)