

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday 8 December 2022

## 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** Laura Rodríguez\*

**The Prince** Riku Ito

**Drosselmeyer** Gabriel Anderson  
*a magician*

**Clara** Rachele Pizzillo  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Gus Payne

**Clara's Mother** Yijing Zhang  
*a former ballerina*

**Clara's Father** Jonathan Payn

**Fritz** Matthew Titley  
*Clara's younger brother*

**Clara's Dancing Partner** Max Maslen

**Grandmother** Yvette Knight

**Grandfather** Kit Holder

**Butler** Hamish Scott

**Harlequin** Javier Rojas

**Columbine** Lynsey Sutherland

**Jack-in-the-Box** Lachlan Monaghan

**Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

**Children** Members of Birmingham Royal Ballet'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** Mason King

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

**The Snow Fairy** Lucy Waine

**Her Attendants** Rosanna Ely, Reina Fuchigami,  
Matilde Rodrigues, Alys Shee

**Winds** Louis Andreasen, Callum Findlay-White,  
Javier Rojas, Lennert Steegen

**Snowflakes** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL

---

***The Nutcracker 2023: Booking open now!***

**H** BIRMINGHAM  
HIPPODROME

## ACT II

<b><i>Spanish Dance</i></b>	<b>Rosanna Ely, Louis Andreasen, Miles Gilliver</b>
<b><i>Arabian Dance</i></b>	<b>Alys Shee, Lennert Steegen</b>
<b><i>Chinese Dance</i></b>	<b>Guillem Cabrera, Gus Payne</b>
<b><i>Russian Dance</i></b>	<b>Callum Findlay-White, Theo Greenfield, Javier Rojas</b>
<b><i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i></b>	<b>Olivia Chang Clarke, Tessa Hogge, Frieda Kaden, Yuki Sugiura</b>

### Waltz of the Flowers

<b><i>The Rose Fairy</i></b>	<b>Karla Doorbar</b>
<b><i>Her Consorts</i></b>	<b>Ryan Felix, Haoliang Feng, Max Maslen, Eric Pinto Cata</b>
<b><i>Leading Flowers</i></b>	<b>Sofia Liñares, Matilde Rodrigues, Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine</b>
<b><i>Grand pas de deux</i></b>	<b>Laura Rodríguez, Riku Ito</b>

\*Laura Rodríguez is a guest principal from Acosta Danza.

Students appear by kind permission of the Principal of The Royal Ballet School.

### Royal Ballet Sinfonia

*Conductor* Paul Murphy; *Leader* Robert Gibbs



#### Approximate timings

*Act I* 50 minutes

*Interval* 30 minutes

*Act II* 50 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 9.40pm

## THE STORY

### 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.