

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday matinee 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 Yaoqian Shang

The Prince Tyrone Singleton

Drosselmeyer Rory Mackay
a magician

Clara Reina Fuchigami
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Gus Payne

Clara's Mother Daria Stanciulescu
a former ballerina

Clara's Father Jonathan Payn

Fritz Joshua McKenzie
Clara's younger brother

Clara's Dancing Partner Lachlan Monaghan

Grandmother Lynsey Sutherland

Grandfather Michael O'Hare

Butler Hamish Scott

Harlequin Javier Rojas

Columbine Rachele Pizzillo

Jack-in-the-Box Eric Pinto Cata

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 Callum Findlay-White

Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Alys Shee

Her Attendants Rosanna Ely, Regan Hutsell,
Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine

Winds Ryan Felix, Haoliang Feng,
Miles Gilliver, Lennert Steegen

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

The Nutcracker 2023: Booking open now!

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ACT II

<i>Spanish Dance</i>	Tessa Hogge, Louis Andreasen, Mason King
<i>Arabian Dance</i>	Alys Shee, Haoliang Feng
<i>Chinese Dance</i>	Ryan Felix, Gus Payne
<i>Russian Dance</i>	Callum Findlay-White, Theo Greenfield, Javier Rojas
<i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i>	Rosanna Ely, Mailène Katoch, Matilde Rodrigues, Lynsey Sutherland

Waltz of the Flowers

<i>The Rose Fairy</i>	Céline Gittens
<i>Her Consorts</i>	Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Lachlan Moaghan
<i>Leading Flowers</i>	Karla Doorbar, Daria Stanciulescu, Amelia Thompson, Lucy Waine

<i>Grand pas de deux</i>	Yaoqian Shang, Tyrone Singleton
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Students appear by kind permission of the Principal of The Royal Ballet School.

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Charlotte Politi; *Leader* Robert Gibbs



Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes

Interval 30 minutes

Act II 50 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 4.10pm

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.