

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Thursday 9 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 Hannah Martin Alexandra Manuel Katherine Ochoa

Eilis Small Lynsey Sutherland Lucy Waine Sophie Walters

Enrique Bejarano Vidal Rafael Bejarano Vidal Ryan Felix John Fontanini

Miles Gilliver Mason King Thomas Kujawa Oisin Middleton

Katherine Ochoa Enrique Bejarano Vidal

Tzu-Chao Chou

Katherine Ochoa Enrique Bejarano Vidal

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

Ryan Felix Alfie-Lee Hall Tom Hazelby
Marlo Kempsey-Fagg Mason King Thomas Kujawa

Marlo Kempsey-Fagg
Ava May Llewellyn
Yaoqian Shang Lachlan Monaghan

Singer Ryan Felix

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*

Momoko Hirata Yaoqian Shang Eilis Small
Yuki Sugiura Lucy Waine
Tzu-Chao Chou Ryan Felix Riku Ito
Max Maslen Lachlan Monaghan

Momoko Hirata Tzu-Chao Chou

Riku Ito

The full cast

Guitarist Marc Hayward

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Yi Wei

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

Doubles Basses

Georgina McGrath
William Pühr

Flutes

Anna Kondrashina
Sandra Skipper *Piccolo*

Oboes

Ruth Contractor
Lousie Hayter *Cor anglais*

Clarinets

Anna Hasmimoto
Chris Goodman *Bass*

Bassoons

Luke Tucker
Ruth Rosales *Contra*

Horns

Jo Withers
Neil Mitchell
Alastair Rycroft
Nicholas Ireson
Jennifer Cox

Trumpets

Michael Allen
Christoper Deacon

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

Elin Samuel

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**](#)