

# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Tuesday 22 November 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** Céline Gittens  
**The Prince** Brandon Lawrence  
**Drosselmeyer** Rory Mackay  
*a magician*  
**Clara** Reina Fuchigami  
*a ballet student*

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Gus Payne  
**Clara's Mother** Samara Downs  
*a former ballerina*  
**Clara's Father** Jonathan Payn  
**Fritz** Matthew Titley  
*Clara's younger brother*  
**Clara's Dancing Partner** Ryan Felix  
**Grandmother** Lynsey Sutherland  
**Grandfather** Michael O'Hare  
**Butler** Oscar Kempsey-Fagg  
  
**Harlequin** Riku Ito  
**Columbine** Rachele Pizzillo  
**Jack-in-the-Box** Enrique Bejarano Vidal  
**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** Gabriel Anderson  
**Soldiers, Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet  
  
**The Snow Fairy** Yijing Zhang  
**Her Attendants** Rosanna Ely, Sofia Liñares,  
Alys Shee, Lucy Waine  
**Winds** Jack Easton, Ryan Felix,  
Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver  
**Snowflakes** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL

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

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## ACT II

<b><i>Spanish Dance</i></b>	<b>Rosana Ely, Kit Holder, Javier Rojas</b>
<b><i>Arabian Dance</i></b>	<b>Yaoqian Shang, Gabriel Anderson</b>
<b><i>Chinese Dance</i></b>	<b>Riku Ito, Gus Payne</b>
<b><i>Russian Dance</i></b>	<b>Louis Andreasen, Ryan Felix, Callum Findlay-White</b>
<b><i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i></b>	<b>Rosana Ely, Reina Fuchigami, Sofia Liñares, Rachele Pizzillo</b>

### Waltz of the Flowers

<b><i>The Rose Fairy</i></b>	<b>Sofia Liñares</b>
<b><i>Her Consorts</i></b>	<b>Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Haoliang Feng, Max Maslen, Lachlan Monaghan</b>
<b><i>Leading Flowers</i></b>	<b>Isabella Howard, Alys Shee, Daria Stanciulescu, Amelia Thompson</b>

<b><i>Grand pas de deux</i></b>	<b>Céline Gittens, Brandon Lawrence</b>
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Students appear by kind permission of the Principal of The Royal Ballet School.

### Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Martin Georgiev; 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.

#### The Big Give Christmas Challenge 2022

Help our trail-blazing Freefall Dance Company, a company of talented adults with learning difficulties, expand their work.

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