

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Saturday matinee 9 December 2023

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 Beatrice Parma
The Prince Tzu-Chao Chou
Drosselmeyer Miles Gilliver
a magician
Clara Rosanna Ely
a ballet student

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Enrique Bejarano Vidal
Clara's Mother Eilis Small
a former ballerina
Clara's Father Rory Mackay
Fritz Matthew Titley
Clara's younger brother
Clara's Dancing Partner Riku Ito
Grandmother Daria Stanciulescu
Grandfather Jonathan Payn
Butler Hamish Scott

Harlequin Shuailun Wu
Columbine Hannah Martin
Jack-in-the-Box Gus Payne
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 Enrique Bejarano Vidal
The Rat King Louis Andreasen
Soldiers, Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Amelia Thompson
Her Attendants Reina Fuchigami, Tessa Hogge
Sofia Liñares, Yuki Sugiura
Winds Jack Easton, Callum Findlay-White,
Oscar Kempsey-Fagg, Mason King
Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

The Nutcracker 2024: Booking open now!

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ACT II

Spanish Dance Rachele Pizzillo, Louis Andreasen, Oscar Kempsey-Fagg
Arabian Dance Isabella Howard,
Nasrullah Abdur-Rahman, Yasiel Hodelín Bello, Alfie Shacklock
Chinese Dance Eric Pinto Cata, Shuailun Wu
Russian Dance Enrique Bejarano Vidal, Ryan Felix, Tom Hazelby
Dance of the Mirlitons Olivia Chang Clarke, Reina Fuchigami,
Mailène Katoch, Emma Price

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Sofia Liñares
Her Consorts Gabriel Anderson, Jack Easton,
Callum Findlay-White, Gus Payne
Leading Flowers Tessa Hogge, Matilde Rodrigues,
Yuki Sugiura, Amelia Thompson
Grand pas de deux Beatrice Parma, Tzu-Chao Chou

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

The choristers in Act I are members of Ex Cathedra's Academies of Vocal Music, Artistic Director Jeffrey Skidmore.

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Thomas Jung; *Leader* Robert Gibbs



Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes

Interval 30 minutes

Act II 50 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 3.10pm

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.