



**BIRMINGHAM
ROYAL BALLET**

Director David Bintley CBE

**H BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME**

Friday 1 December 2017

Sir Peter Wright's production of

The Nutcracker

Music Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky;

Choreography Peter Wright, Lev Ivanov, Vincent Redmon;

Designs John F. Macfarlane; *Lighting* David A. Finn

<i>The Sugar Plum Fairy</i>	Maureya Lebowitz
<i>The Prince</i>	Lachlan Monaghan
<i>Drosselmeyer, a magician</i>	Iain Mackay
<i>Clara, a ballet student</i>	Karla Doorbar

ACT I

<i>The Magician's Assistant</i>	Kit Holder
<i>Clara's Mother, a former ballerina</i>	Yijing Zhang
<i>Clara's Father</i>	Wolfgang Stollwitzer
<i>Fritz, Clara's younger brother</i>	Archie Mathias
<i>Clara's Dancing Partner</i>	Aitor Galende
<i>Grandmother</i>	Jade Heusen
<i>Grandfather</i>	Michael O'Hare
<i>Butler</i>	Harry Wright
<i>Harlequin</i>	Max Maslen
<i>Columbine</i>	Reina Fuchigami
<i>Jack-in-the-Box</i>	Tzu-Chao Chou
<i>Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants</i>	Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
<i>Children</i>	Junior Associates of the Royal Ballet School, Students and Birmingham Associates of Elmhurst Ballet School
<i>The Nutcracker Doll</i>	Kit Holder
<i>King Rat</i>	Yasuo Atsuji
<i>Soldiers</i>	Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
<i>Rats</i>	Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
<i>The Snow Fairy</i>	Yvette Knight
<i>Her Attendants</i>	Ruth Brill, Reina Fuchigami, Miki Mizutani, Alys Shee
<i>Winds</i>	Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Brogan McKelvey
<i>Snowflakes</i>	Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET GIFTS

LIMITED EDITION PRINTS | MUGS | KEY RINGS
and more...

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THE NUTCRACKER 2018

23 November – 13 December

Ensure next year's Christmas gets off to a cracking start

Booking open now

ACT II

<i>Spanish Dance</i>	Ruth Brill, Kit Holder, Valentin Olovyannikov
<i>Arabian Dance</i>	Céline Gittens, Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng, Tom Rogers
<i>Chinese Dance</i>	Max Maslen, Gus Payne
<i>Russian Dance</i>	Aitor Galende, Hamish Scott, Aaron Venegas
<i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i>	Laura Day, Rosanna Ely, Beatrice Parma, Rachele Pizzillo

Waltz of the Flowers

<i>The Rose Fairy</i>	Momoko Hirata
<i>Her Consorts</i>	Yasuo Atsuji, Miles Gilliver, Brogan McKelvey, Edivaldo Souza da Silva
<i>Leading Flowers</i>	Jade Heusen, Miki Mizutani, Brooke Ray, Alys Shee
<i>Grand pas de deux</i>	Maureya Lebowitz, Lachlan Monaghan

*Students on the Robin Cadbury Studentship programme appear by kind permission of the Director of the Royal Ballet School.
Students on the John Pinder Studentship programme and the Cecil King Memorial Foundation Studentship appear by kind permission of the
Principal and the Artistic Director of Elmhurst 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 Philip Ellis; Leader Robert Gibbs



Approximate timings

Act I 50 minutes; Interval 25 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

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