



BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Director David Bintley CBE

H BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Friday 1 December 2017

PLEASE DO NOT VIEW THIS CAST SHEET DURING A PERFORMANCE

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

The Sugar Plum Fairy Maureya Lebowitz
The Prince Lachlan Monaghan

Drosselmeyer, a magician Iain Mackay
Clara, a ballet student Karla Doorbar

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Kit Holder
Clara's Mother, a former ballerina Yijing Zhang
Clara's Father Wolfgang Stollwitzer
Fritz, Clara's younger brother Archie Mathias
Clara's Dancing Partner Aitor Galende
Grandmother Jade Heusen
Grandfather Michael O'Hare
Butler Harry Wright

Harlequin Max Maslen
Columbine Reina Fuchigami
Jack-in-the-Box Tzu-Chao Chou
Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Children Junior Associates of the Royal Ballet School, Students and Birmingham Associates of Elmhurst Ballet School

The Nutcracker Doll Kit Holder
King Rat Yasuo Atsuji
Soldiers Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Yvette Knight
Her Attendants Ruth Brill, Reina Fuchigami, Miki Mizutani, Alys Shee

Winds Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Brogan McKelvey
Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

ACT II

Spanish Dance Ruth Brill, Kit Holder, Valentin Olovyannikov

Arabian Dance Céline Gittens, Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng, Tom Rogers

Chinese Dance Max Maslen, Gus Payne

Russian Dance Aitor Galende, Hamish Scott, Aaron Venegas

Dance of the Mirlitons Laura Day, Rosanna Ely, Beatrice Parma, Rachele Pizzillo

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Momoko Hirata
Her Consorts Yasuo Atsuji, Miles Gilliver, Brogan McKelvey, Edivaldo Souza da Silva

Leading Flowers Jade Heusen, Miki Mizutani, Brooke Ray, Alys Shee

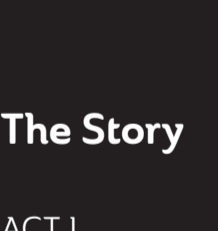
Grand pas de deux Maureya Lebowitz, Lachlan Monaghan

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, unable to sleep, 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 NUTCRACKER 2018

23 November – 13 December
 Ensure next year's Christmas gets off to a cracking start

Booking open now

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THE BIG GIVE CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE
 If you have enjoyed this performance, why not play your part in the creation of new ballets. Donations through the Big Give will be doubled from 28 November until midday 5 December, so please support us if you can – thank you
www.brb.org.uk/BigGive theBigGive.org.uk