



BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Director David Bintley CBE

H BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Sunday matinee 10 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 Yasuo Atsuji

Clara, a ballet student Karla Doorbar

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Kit Holder

Clara's Mother, a former ballerina Daria Stanculescu

Clara's Father Dominic Antonucci

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 Hamish Scott

Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

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 Tom Rogers

Soldiers Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Yijing Zhang

Her Attendants

Yvette Knight, Brooke Ray,

Yaoqian Shang, Alys Shee

Winds

Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng,

Brandon Lawrence, Edivaldo Souza da Silva

Snowflakes

Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

ACT II

Spanish Dance

Jade Heusen,

Miles Gilliver, Valentin Olovyannikov

Arabian Dance

Yijing Zhang,

Gabriel Anderson, Brandon Lawrence,

Harry Wright

Chinese Dance

Aitor Galende, Gus Payne

Russian Dance

Laurence Elliott, Lachlan Monaghan, Gus Payne

Dance of the Mirlitons

Reina Fuchigami, Miki Mizutani,

Rachele Pizzillo, Yaoqian Shang

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Céline Gittens

Her Consorts

Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng,

Tom Rogers, Edivaldo Souza da Silva

Leading Flowers

Ruth Brill, Yvette Knight,

Brooke Ray, Alys Shee

Grand pas de deux

Maureya Lebowitz, Lachlan Monaghan

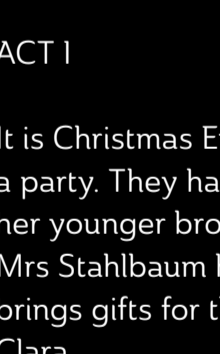
Students on the Robin Cadbury Studentship programme appear by kind permission of the Director of the Royal Ballet School. Students on the John Pinder Studentship programme and the Cecil King Memorial Foundation Studentship appear by kind permission of the Principal and the Artistic Director of Elmhurst 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 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, 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

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET GIFTS

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AN EVENING OF MUSIC & DANCE

Our acclaimed orchestra, the Royal Ballet Sinfonia, share the stage with our leading dancers for performances that include show-stopping *pas de deux* and other short excerpts from our repertory, alongside spectacular music

19 January: Symphony Hall, Birmingham

20 January: Royal & Derngate, Northampton