



BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Director David Bintley CBE

H BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Tuesday matinee 12 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 Nao Sakuma

The Prince Max Maslen

Drosselmeyer, a magician

Valentin Olovyannikov

Clara, a ballet student Beatrice Parma

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Lachlan Monaghan

Clara's Mother, a former ballerina

Yijing Zhang

Clara's Father Jonathan Payn

Fritz, Clara's younger brother Max Blackwell

Clara's Dancing Partner Aitor Galende

Grandmother Ruth Brill

Grandfather Feargus Campbell

Butler Harry Wright

Harlequin Hamish Scott

Columbine Laura Day

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 Lachlan Monaghan

King Rat Yasuo Atsuji

Soldiers Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Brooke Ray

Her Attendants

Jade Heusen, Maureya Lebowitz,

Miki Mizutani, Yaoqian Shang

Winds

Tim Dutson, Miles Gilliver,

Brogan McKelvey, Gus Payne

Snowflakes

Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

ACT II

Spanish Dance

Maureya Lebowitz,

Tim Dutson, Brogan McKelvey

Arabian Dance

Céline Gittens,

Gabriel Anderson, Tom Rogers, Harry Wright

Chinese Dance

Aitor Galende, Hamish Scott

Russian Dance

Laurence Elliott, Lachlan Monaghan, Gus Payne

Dance of the Mirlitons

Ruth Brill, Laura Day,

Karla Doorbar, Rachele Pizzillo

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Yaoqian Shang

Her Consorts

Yasuo Atsuji, Haoliang Feng,

Miles Gilliver, Brandon Lawrence

Leading Flowers

Jade Heusen, Yvette Knight,

Daria Stanculescu, Yijing Zhang

Grand pas de deux

Nao Sakuma, Max Maslen

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 4.10pm

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

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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