



BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Director David Bintley CBE



Wednesday 14 June 2017

PLEASE DO NOT VIEW THIS CAST SHEET DURING A PERFORMANCE

COPPÉLIA

Production supported (1995) by David Lloyd

Music Léo Delibes

Choreography Marius Petipa, Enrico Cecchetti and Peter Wright

Production Peter Wright

Scenery and costumes Peter Farmer

Lighting Peter Teigen

Swanilda Samara Downs

Franz Mathias Dingman

Dr Coppélius Jonathan Payn

ACT I

Swanilda's Friends

Ruth Brill, Karla Doorbar,

Yvette Knight, Miki Mizutani,

Yaoqian Shang, Yijing Zhang

Burgomaster Valentin Olovyannikov

Innkeeper Kit Holder

Coppélia (a doll) Emilia Rouanet Feliu

Gypsy Maureya Lebowitz

Mazurka and Czárdás

Anna Monleon, Alys Shee,

Yasuo Atsuji, Feargus Campbell

INTERVAL

ACT II

Oriental Doll Beatrice Parma

Spanish Doll Brooke Ray

Scottish Doll Edivaldo Souza da Silva

Soldier Dolls

Alexander Bird, Aitor Galende

INTERVAL

ACT III

The Duke Tom Rogers

His Aide Lachlan Monaghan

Festival of the Bell

Father Time Kit Holder

Dance of the Hours

Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Dawn Karla Doorbar

Prayer Yijing Zhang

Work

Laura Day, Rosanna Ely,

Johanne Monfret, Anna Monleon,

Beatrice Parma, Rachele Pizzillo,

Brooke Ray, Daria Stanculescu

Betrothal

Ruth Brill, Lewis Turner

Call to Arms

William Bracewell

and

Gabriel Anderson, Alexander Bird,

Feargus Campbell, Tim Dutson,

Aitor Galende, Miles Gilliver,

Brandon Lawrence, Max Maslen

Peace Samara Downs, Mathias Dingman

Students on the John Pinder Studentship programme and the Robin Cadbury Studentship programme appear by kind permission of the Principal and the Artistic Director of Elmhurst School for Dance. Children are from Birmingham Royal Ballet's Dance Track programme

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Koen Kessels;

Leader Robert Gibbs



Approximate timings
Act I 35 minutes; Interval 20 minutes;
Act II 30 minutes;
Interval 25 minutes;
Act III 32 minutes
The performance will end at approximately 10pm

The Story

ACT I *The square of a village in eastern Europe*

Dr Coppélius has spent his life developing his mystical powers, which sometimes work but more often than not don't! His ambition is to bring Coppélia, one of his mechanical dolls, to life. One day Coppélius puts Coppélia out on the balcony; he is delighted when everyone believes she is a real person. However, Swanilda is not so pleased when she is ignored by Coppélia but Franz, her sweetheart, gets plenty of Coppélia's attention. The Burgomaster arrives and suggests that Swanilda tests Franz's faithfulness with an ear of corn – if it rattles she will know his love is true. The Burgomaster announces that the Duke has invited everyone to a fête, where the 'Masque of the Bell' will be performed to celebrate his gift of a new bell to the church. After everyone has departed, Swanilda and her friends return to decorate the square for the festivities. They decide to enter Coppélius's house to look for the mysterious girl on the balcony. Franz then returns with the same idea.

ACT II *Dr Coppélius's workshop, later the same night*

Inside the workshop Swanilda and her companions discover Coppélia and are astonished to find that she is only a doll. Coppélius returns and drives them all out, except Swanilda who hides. Franz appears; Coppélius threatens to punish him. He then has second thoughts and, by putting a sleeping draught in some wine he offers Franz, he makes him fall asleep. With the help of a book of magic, he tries to bring Coppélia to life using Franz's spirit.

ACT III *The gardens of the Duke's mansion*

The bell is presented by the Duke, who presents gifts to Franz and Swanilda and another couple who have announced their wedding. Coppélius arrives, angry that his doll has been ruined, but the Duke placates him with a gift. The masque begins with dances that illustrate the uses to which the bell will be put: the call to prayer, work, the announcement of a marriage, the call to arms and, finally, the declaration of peace, in which we see Swanilda and Franz express their true love. As everyone departs Swanilda and Franz invite Dr Coppélius to join them as the festivities continue.

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