



**BIRMINGHAM
ROYAL BALLET**

Director David Bintley CBE

**H BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME**

Saturday 17 June 2017

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 Céline Gittens
Franz Tyrone Singleton
Dr Coppélius Michael O'Hare

ACT I

Swanilda's Friends Arancha Baselga, Reina Fuchigami,
Maureya Lebowitz, Delia Mathews,
Brooke Ray, Yaoqian Shang
Burgomaster Rory Mackay
Innkeeper Valentin Olovyannikov
Coppélia Emilia Rouanet Feliu
A doll
Gypsy Alys Shee
Mazurka and Czárdás Ruth Brill, Daria Stanculescu,
Kit Holder, Lewis Turner

INTERVAL

ACT II

Oriental Doll Beatrice Parma
Spanish Doll Anna Monleon
Scottish Doll Edivaldo Souza da Silva
Soldier Dolls Alexander Bird, Aitor Galende

INTERVAL

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ACT III

The Duke Yasuo Atsuji
His Aide Edivaldo Souza da Silva

Festival of the Bell

Father Time Valentin Olovyannikov
Dance of the Hours Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
Dawn Miki Mizutani
Prayer Brooke Ray
Work Ruth Brill, Rosanna Ely, Johanne Monfret,
Anna Monleon, Beatrice Parma,
Rachele Pizzillo, Alys Shee, Yijing Zhang
Betrothal Yaoqian Shang, Max Maslen
Call to Arms Tzu-Chao Chou
and
Gabriel Anderson, Alexander Bird,
William Bracewell, Tim Dutson, Aitor Galende,
Miles Gilliver, Brandon Lawrence, Lewis Turner
Peace Céline Gittens, Tyrone Singleton

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.