



BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET



BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Sunday 2 December 2018

PLEASE DO NOT VIEW THIS CAST SHEET DURING A PERFORMANCE

THE NUTCRACKER

Choreography Peter Wright, Lev Ivanov, Vincent Redmon

Music Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Designs John F. Macfarlane

Lighting David A. Finn

The Sugar Plum Fairy Arancha Baselga

The Prince Max Maslen

Drosselmeyer, a magician Tom Rogers

Clara, a ballet student Miki Mizutani

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant James Barton

Clara's Mother, a former ballerina

Yvette Knight

Clara's Father Dominic Antonucci

Fritz, Clara's younger brother Joseph Burdett

Clara's Dancing Partner Gus Payne

Grandmother Laura Purkiss

Grandfather Rory Mackay

Butler Callum Findlay-White

Harlequin Lachlan Monaghan

Columbine Beatrice Parma

Jack-in-the-Box Aitor Galende

Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants

Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Children

Elmhurst Young Dancers and Junior

Associates of the Royal Ballet School

The Nutcracker Doll James Barton

The Rat King Gabriel Anderson

Soldiers Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Yijing Zhang

Her Attendants

Karla Doorbar, Beatrice Parma,

Rachele Pizzillo, Lynsey Sutherland

Winds

Tim Dutson, August Generali,

Lachlan Monaghan, Harry Wright

Snowflakes

Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

ACT II

Spanish Dance

Laura Purkiss,

Gabriel Anderson, Tim Dutson

Arabian Dance

Céline Gittens,

Brandon Lawrence, Lennert Steegen,

Harry Wright

Chinese Dance

Louis Andreasen, August Generali

Russian Dance

Matthew Bates, Lachlan Monaghan,

Gus Payne

Dance of the Mirlitons

Karla Doorbar, Rosanna Ely,

Emma Price, Yuki Sugiura

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Beatrice Parma

Her Consorts

Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver

Edivaldo Souza da Silva, Alexander Yap

Leading Flowers

Rachele Pizzillo, Brooke Ray,

Daria Stanciulescu. Lynsey Sutherland

Grand pas de deux

Arancha Baselga, Max Maslen

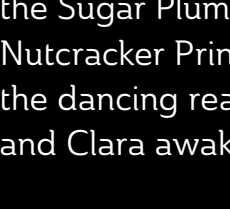
Students on the Robin Cadbury Studentship programme appear by kind permission of the Director of the Royal Ballet School.

Students on the John Pinder Studentship programme 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 Matthew Rowe

Leader Robert Gibbs



APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

Act I 50 minutes

Interval 20 minutes

Act II 50 minutes

This 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, 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 BIG GIVE CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE

If you have enjoyed this performance, why not play your part in the refurbishment of *Nutcracker* costumes.

Donations will be doubled until midday 4 December, so please support us if you can. Thank you. brb.org.uk/biggive

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