

Saturday 23 March 2019

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Choreography David Bintley
Music Glenn Buhr
Designs Philip Prowse
Lighting Mark Jonathan

Belle Yvette Knight
The Beast Brandon Lawrence
The Merchant, Belle's father Jonathan Payn
Fière Daria Stanciulescu
Vanité Yijing Zhang
Belle's sisters

Monsieur Cochon Tom Rogers
Wild Girl Miki Mizutani
Vixen Laura Day
Raven Lachlan Monaghan
Woodsman Rory Mackay
Bailiff Tim Dutson
Grandmère Laura Purkiss

*Hunters, Birds of the Air,
Birds of the Forest, Court Beasts,
Wedding Guests* **Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

*Students on the John Pinder Studentship programme appear by permission of the Principal and
the Artistic Director of Elmhurst Ballet School*

ROYAL BALLET SINFONIA

Conductor Philip Ellis
Leader Robert Gibbs



Approximate timings

Act I 47 minutes

Interval 25 minutes

Act II 47 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 9.35pm

THE STORY

PROLOGUE

A cruel Prince is cursed as he hunts a Vixen, becoming a terrible Beast, whilst the Vixen is transformed into a Wild Girl.

ACT I

Belle's father, a Merchant, believing his fortune lost at sea, accepts money from the rich Monsieur Cochon to pay bailiffs, but Cochon is motivated by his desire to marry one of the sisters. The Merchant's ships are then sighted and he leaves to meet them, promising his daughters gifts; Belle asks for a single rose. Robbed during a storm, the Merchant takes refuge in a castle.

The next morning, he finds his trunk returned and full of gifts for his daughters. Remembering Belle, as he leaves, he picks a rose. Outraged at the theft, a monstrous Beast appears: in return for his life, the Merchant must send his youngest daughter to the castle. Wanting to save her father, Belle agrees.

ACT II

Every night for months the Beast asks Belle to marry him, but is turned down each time. The Beast throws an extravagant ball and once again asks Belle for her hand. She refuses again and the Beast descends into a rage.

Belle asks to leave to see her father. The Beast agrees, but gives her another rose: she must return before the rose dies, or he too will die. Belle arrives home to find wedding preparations under way, but the greedy Cochon has yet to decide which sister he wants as his wife! Explaining her situation to her jealous sisters, Belle is detained by them whilst, back at his castle, the Beast begins to die.

Returning at the last minute, Belle declares her love for the Beast whereupon the curse is lifted and he transforms back into a handsome Prince

DAVID BINTLEY FUTURE FUND RAFFLE

TICKETS: £20; AVAILABLE IN THE FOYER AND ONLINE brb.org.uk/futurefund

David Bintley, Birmingham Royal Ballet's Director stands down this summer after 24 outstanding years at the helm of the Company. As well as creating his own ballets, David has championed new choreography from guest and company choreographers. The David Bintley Future Fund will ensure his legacy continues and that new ballets remain the beating heart of Birmingham Royal Ballet.

FIRST PRIZE A pair of tickets to watch **Hobson's Choice** from the wings! either in Birmingham or London with pre-show drinks and a backstage tour.

SECOND PRIZE A pair of tickets to watch **Hobson's Choice** either in Birmingham or London in premium stalls seats with pre-show drinks and a backstage tour.

THIRD PRIZE A framed image signed by David Bintley from one his favourite productions.

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ROYAL BALLET


THE LOWRY

SWAN LAKE

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DAILY TELEGRAPH

FIRST STEPS: SWAN LAKE

An interactive show for children

FRIDAY 6 MARCH, 4.30PM

brb.org.uk/swanlake