



BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET



BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Saturday matinee 24 November 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* Delia Mathews**

***The Prince* Edivaldo Souza da Silva**

***Drosselmeyer, a magician* Rory Mackay**

***Clara, a ballet student* Miki Mizutani**

ACT I

***The Magician's Assistant* Max Maslen**

***Clara's Mother, a former ballerina* Yvette Knight**

***Clara's Father* Jonathan Payn**

***Fritz, Clara's younger brother* Harry Hincks**

***Clara's Dancing Partner* Aitor Galende**

***Grandmother* Ruth Brill**

***Grandfather* Kit Holder**

***Butler* Harry Wright**

***Harlequin* Hamish Scott**

***Columbine* Rachele Pizzillo**

***Jack-in-the-Box* James Barton**

***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* Max Maslen**

***The Rat King* Tom Rogers**

***Soldiers* Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

***Rats* Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

***The Snow Fairy* Céline Gittens**

***Her Attendants* Brooke Ray, Alys Shee, Daria Stanciulescu, Yijing Zhang**

***Winds* Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Brandon Lawrence**

***Snowflakes* Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

INTERVAL

ACT II

***Spanish Dance* Daria Stanciulescu, Max Maslen, Valentin Olovyannikov**

***Arabian Dance* Yijing Zhang, Gabriel Anderson, Tom Rogers, Harry Wright**

***Chinese Dance* Louis Andreasen, August Generali**

***Russian Dance* Lachlan Monaghan, Callum Findlay White, Joseph Taylor**

***Dance of the Mirlitons* Karla Doorbar, Rosanna Ely, Beatrice Parma, Yuki Sugiura**

***Waltz of the Flowers* The Rose Fairy Arancha Baselga**

***Her Consorts* Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Alexander Yap**

***Leading Flowers* Rachele Pizzillo, Brooke Ray, Alys Shee, Lynsey Sutherland**

***Grand pas de deux* Delia Mathews, Edivaldo Souza da Silva**

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.

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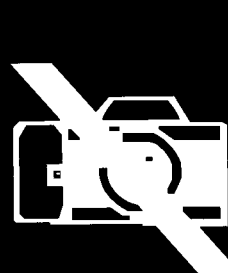
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ROYAL BALLET SINFONIA

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 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, 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 from 27 November until midday 4 December, so please support us if you can.

Thank you. brb.org.uk/biggive

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