



**BIRMINGHAM  
ROYAL BALLET**

*Director David Bintley CBE*

**H BIRMINGHAM  
HIPPODROME**

Saturday 25 November 2017

Sir Peter Wright's production of

# The Nutcracker

*Music* Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky;

*Choreography* Peter Wright, Lev Ivanov, Vincent Redmon;

*Designs* John F. Macfarlane; *Lighting* David A. Finn

<i>The Sugar Plum Fairy</i>	<b>Jenna Roberts</b>
<i>The Prince</i>	<b>Tyrone Singleton</b>
<i>Drosselmeyer, a magician</i>	<b>Valentin Olovyannikov</b>
<i>Clara, a ballet student</i>	<b>Laura Day</b>

## ACT I

<i>The Magician's Assistant</i>	<b>Max Maslen</b>
<i>Clara's Mother, a former ballerina</i>	<b>Samara Downs</b>
<i>Clara's Father</i>	<b>Jonathan Payn</b>
<i>Fritz, Clara's younger brother</i>	<b>Max Blackwell</b>
<i>Clara's Dancing Partner</i>	<b>Tzu-Chao Chou</b>
<i>Grandmother</i>	<b>Jade Heusen</b>
<i>Grandfather</i>	<b>Michael O'Hare</b>
<i>Butler</i>	<b>Harry Wright</b>
<i>Harlequin</i>	<b>Kit Holder</b>
<i>Columbine</i>	<b>Reina Fuchigami</b>
<i>Jack-in-the-Box</i>	<b>Lachlan Monaghan</b>
<i>Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants</i>	<b>Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet</b>
<i>Children</i>	<b>Junior Associates of the Royal Ballet School, Students and Birmingham Associates of Elmhurst Ballet School</b>
<i>The Nutcracker Doll</i>	<b>Max Maslen</b>
<i>King Rat</i>	<b>Tom Rogers</b>
<i>Soldiers</i>	<b>Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet</b>
<i>Rats</i>	<b>Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet</b>
<i>The Snow Fairy</i>	<b>Alys Shee</b>
<i>Her Attendants</i>	<b>Ruth Brill, Karla Doorbar, Maureya Lebowitz, Yaoqian Shang</b>
<i>Winds</i>	<b>Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver, Edivaldo Souza da Silva</b>
<i>Snowflakes</i>	<b>Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet</b>

## INTERVAL

### BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET GIFTS

LIMITED EDITION PRINTS | MUGS | KEY RINGS  
and more...

Available in the foyer, in front of the Box Office

### THE NUTCRACKER 2018

23 November – 13 December

Ensure next year's Christmas gets off to a cracking start

Booking open now

## ACT II

<i>Spanish Dance</i>	Ruth Brill, Gabriel Anderson, Tim Dutson
<i>Arabian Dance</i>	Yvette Knight, Yasuo Atsuji, Haoliang Feng, Edivaldo Souza da Silva
<i>Chinese Dance</i>	Kit Holder, Gus Payne
<i>Russian Dance</i>	Laurence Elliott, Aitor Galende, Hamish Scott
<i>Dance of the Mirlitons</i>	Rosanna Ely, Jade Heusen, Rachele Pizzillo, Yaoqian Shang

### Waltz of the Flowers

<i>The Rose Fairy</i>	Beatrice Parma
<i>Her Consorts</i>	Tzu-Chao Chou, Max Maslen, Brogan McKelvey, Lachlan Monaghan
<i>Leading Flowers</i>	Karla Doorbar, Reina Fuchigami, Maureya Lebowitz, Miki Mizutani
<i>Grand pas de deux</i>	Jenna Roberts, Tyrone Singleton

*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 and the Cecil King Memorial Foundation Studentship 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 Koen Kessels; Leader Robert Gibbs*



### Approximate timings

*Act I 50 minutes; Interval 25 minutes; Act II 50 minutes  
The performance will end at approximately 9.40pm*

## 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 creation of new ballets. Donations through the Big Give will be doubled from 28 November until midday 5 December, so please support us if you can – thank you.

[www.brb.org.uk/BigGive](http://www.brb.org.uk/BigGive)

[theBigGive.org.uk](http://theBigGive.org.uk)  
helping your donations go further