



**BIRMINGHAM
ROYAL BALLET**

**H BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME**

Tuesday 26 February 2019

PLEASE DO NOT VIEW THIS CAST SHEET

DURING A PERFORMANCE

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Choreography David Bintley

Music Glenn Buhr

Designs Philip Prowse

Lighting Mark Jonathan

Belle Delia Mathews

The Beast Tyrone Singleton

The Merchant, Belle's father Michael O'Hare

Fière Laura Purkiss

Vanité Samara Downs

Belle's sisters

Monsieur Cochon James Barton

Wild Girl Yaoqian Shang

Vixen Beatrice Parma

Raven Tzu-Chao Chou

Woodsman Jonathan Payn

Bailiff Lachlan Monaghan

Grandmère Marion Tait

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