



**BIRMINGHAM
ROYAL BALLET**

Director David Bintley CBE

**THE BRISTOL
HIPPODROME**

Wednesday 28 June 2017

COPPÉLIA

Production supported (1995) by David Lloyd

Music Léo Delibes

Choreography Marius Petipa, Enrico Cecchetti and Peter Wright

Production Peter Wright

Scenery and costumes Peter Farmer

Lighting Peter Teigen

Swanilda Céline Gittens
Franz Tyrone Singleton
Dr Coppélius Michael O'Hare

ACT I

Swanilda's Friends Arancha Baselga, Karla Doorbar,
Reina Fuchigami, Delia Mathews
Yaoqian Shang, Alys Shee
Burgomaster Jonathan Payn
Innkeeper Rory Mackay
Coppélia Morgan Foley
A doll
Gypsy Daria Stanciulescu
Mazurka and Czárdás Ruth Brill, Yijing Zhang,
William Bracewell, Tom Rogers

INTERVAL

ACT II

Oriental Doll Rosanna Ely
Spanish Doll Anna Monleon
Scottish Doll Miles Gilliver
Soldier Dolls Gabriel Anderson, Tim Dutson

INTERVAL

Ballet-themed merchandise
ballet shoe keyrings, bags and more...

Available to purchase in the foyer

ACT III

The Duke Tom Rogers
His Aide Edivaldo Souza da Silva

Festival of the Bell

Father Time Rory Mackay
Dance of the Hours Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
Dawn Karla Doorbar
Prayer Delia Mathews
Work Laura Day, Rosanna Ely, Reina Fuchigami,
Anna Monleon, Beatrice Parma,
Rachele Pizzillo, Brooke Ray, Alys Shee
Betrothal Ruth Brill, Feargus Campbell
Call to Arms Mathias Dingman
and
Gabriel Anderson, William Bracewell,
Tim Dutson, Aitor Galende,
Miles Gilliver, Brandon Lawrence,
Max Maslen, Lewis Turner
Peace Céline Gittens, Tyrone Singleton

*Students appear by kind permission of the Principal and the Artistic Director of Elmhurst School for Dance.
Children are from The Royal Ballet's Junior Associates programme.*

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor Paul Murphy; Leader Robert Gibbs



Approximate timings

*Act I 35 minutes; Interval 20 minutes; Act II 30 minutes;
Interval 25 minutes; Act III 32 minutes;
The performance will end at approximately 10pm*

The story

ACT I *The square of a village in eastern Europe*

Dr Coppélius has spent his life developing his mystical powers, which sometimes work but more often than not don't! His ambition is to bring Coppélia, one of his mechanical dolls, to life. One day Coppélius puts Coppélia out on the balcony; he is delighted when everyone believes she is a real person. However, Swanilda is not so pleased when she is ignored by Coppélia but Franz, her sweetheart, gets plenty of Coppélia's attention. The Burgomaster arrives and suggests that Swanilda tests Franz's faithfulness with an ear of corn – if it rattles she will know his love is true. The Burgomaster announces that the Duke has invited everyone to a fête, where the 'Masque of the Bell' will be performed to celebrate his gift of a new bell to the church. After everyone has departed, Swanilda and her friends return to decorate the square for the festivities. They decide to enter Coppélius's house to look for the mysterious girl on the balcony. Franz then returns with the same idea.

ACT II *Dr Coppélius's workshop, later the same night*

Inside the workshop Swanilda and her companions discover

Coppélia and are astonished to find that she is only a doll. Coppélius returns and drives them all out, except Swanilda who hides. Franz appears; Coppélius threatens to punish him. He then has second thoughts and, by putting a sleeping draught in some wine he offers Franz, he makes him fall asleep. With the help of a book of magic, he tries to bring Coppélia to life using Franz's spirit.

ACT III *The gardens of the Duke's mansion*

The bell is presented by the Duke, who presents gifts to Franz and Swanilda and another couple who have announced their wedding. Coppélius arrives, angry that his doll has been ruined, but the Duke placates him with a gift. The masque begins with dances that illustrate the uses to which the bell will be put: the call to prayer, work, the announcement of a marriage, the call to arms and, finally, the declaration of peace, in which we see Swanilda and Franz express their true love. As everyone departs Swanilda and Franz invite Dr Coppélius to join them as the festivities continue.