



**BIRMINGHAM
ROYAL BALLET**

Director David Bintley CBE

**H BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME**

Wednesday 29 November 2017

PLEASE DO NOT VIEW THIS CAST SHEET
DURING A PERFORMANCE

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

The Sugar Plum Fairy Momoko Hirata

The Prince César Morales

Drosselmeyer, a magician Jonathan Payn

Clara, a ballet student Karla Doorbar

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Kit Holder

Clara's Mother, a former ballerina

Samara Downs

Clara's Father Wolfgang Stollwitzer

Fritz, Clara's younger brother Max Blackwell

Clara's Dancing Partner Lachlan Monaghan

Grandmother Ruth Brill

Grandfather Michael O'Hare

Butler Harry Wright

Harlequin Max Maslen

Columbine Maureya Lebowitz

Jack-in-the-Box Tzu-Chao Chou

Ballet Students, Cadets, Guests and Servants
Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Children

Junior Associates of the Royal Ballet School,
Students and Birmingham Associates of
Elmhurst Ballet School

The Nutcracker Doll Kit Holder

King Rat Valentin Olovyanikov

Soldiers Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Jenna Roberts

Her Attendants

Yvette Knight, Brooke Ray,

Alys Shee, Yijing Zhang

Winds

Miles Gilliver, Brandon Lawrence,

Tom Rogers, Edivaldo Souza da Silva

Snowflakes

Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

ACT II

Spanish Dance

Maureya Lebowitz,

Gabriel Anderson, Kit Holder

Arabian Dance

Delia Mathews,

Haoliang Feng, Tom Rogers, Harry Wright

Chinese Dance

Brogan McKelvey, Hamish Scott

Russian Dance

Laurence Elliott, Max Maslen, Lachlan

Monaghan

Dance of the Mirlitons

Ruth Brill, Laura Day,

Reina Fuchigami, Miki Mizutani

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Céline Gittens

Her Consorts

Tim Dutson, Miles Gilliver,

Brandon Lawrence, Edivaldo Souza da Silva

Leading Flowers

Yvette Knight, Brooke Ray,

Alys Shee, Yijing Zhang

Grand pas de deux

Momoko Hirata, César Morales

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, unable to sleep, 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 NUTCRACKER 2018

23 November – 13 December

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

Booking open now

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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

theBigGive.org.uk