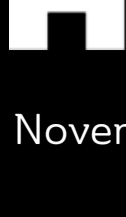




# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET



## BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Thursday 29 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***

**Valentin Olovyannikov**

***Clara, a ballet student* Beatrice Parma**

## 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* Joseph Burdett**

***Clara's Dancing Partner* Gus Payne**

***Grandmother* Ruth Brill**

***Grandfather* Kit Holder**

***Butler* Harry Wright**

***Harlequin* Hamish Scott**

***Columbine* Rachele Pizzillo**

***Jack-in-the-Box* Lachlan Monaghan**

***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 Stanculescu, Yijing Zhang**

***Winds***

**Gabriel Anderson, Haoliang Feng,**

**Miles Gilliver, Brandon Lawrence**

***Snowflakes***

**Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

## INTERVAL

## ACT II

***Spanish Dance***

**Daria Stanculescu,**

**James Barton, Max Maslen**

***Arabian Dance***

**Alys Shee,**

**Gabriel Anderson, Tom Rogers, Harry Wright**

***Chinese Dance***

**Gus Payne, Aitor Galende**

***Russian Dance***

**Louis Andreasen, Lachlan Monaghan,**

**Joseph Taylor**

***Dance of the Mirlitons***

**Yu Kurihara, Emma Price**

**Laura Purkiss, Lynsey Sutherland**

***Waltz of the Flowers***

***The Rose Fairy* Arancha Baselga**

***Her Consorts***

**Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng,**

**Miles Gilliver, Alexander Yap**

***Leading Flowers***

**Ruth Brill, Rachele Pizzillo,**

**Brooke Ray, Yijing Zhang**

***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 Cathedral's Academies of Vocal Music, Artistic Director Jeffrey Skidmore.

## ROYAL BALLET SINFONIA

*Conductor* Philip Ellis

*Leader* Robert Gibbs



### APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

*Act I* 50 minutes

*Interval* 20 minutes

*Act II* 50 minutes

*This performance will end at approximately 9.40pm*

## LIVE COMMENTARY THIS EVENING

Invisible and inaudible in the auditorium tonight, in what could be a broadcasting first (live at [stanscafe.co.uk](http://stanscafe.co.uk)), The Commentators (characters of Stan's Cafe theatre company) are describing all the action of Nutcracker as it unfolds on stage.

In their sheepskin coats and wielding lip microphones, The Commentators will treat listeners to their valiant attempts to describe the famous spectacle, as if they are watching a sporting event! Why not let your friends and family know, so they can share your night out?

## 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 until midday 4 December, so please support us if you can. Thank you. [brb.org.uk/biggive](http://brb.org.uk/biggive)

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