



**BIRMINGHAM  
ROYAL BALLET**

Director David Bintley CBE

**H BIRMINGHAM  
HIPPODROME**

Tuesday 5 December 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** Yvette Knight

**The Prince** Yasuo Atsui

**Drosselmeyer, a magician** Iain Mackay

**Clara, a ballet student** Miki Mizutani

## ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Lachlan Monaghan

**Clara's Mother, a former ballerina**

**Samara Downs**

**Clara's Father** Wolfgang Stollwitzer

**Fritz, Clara's younger brother** Max Blackwell

**Clara's Dancing Partner** Max Maslen

**Grandmother** Ruth Brill

**Grandfather** Kit Holder

**Butler** Harry Wright

**Harlequin** Gus Payne

**Columbine** Laura Day

**Jack-in-the-Box** Hamish Scott

**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** Lachlan Monaghan

**King Rat** Tom Rogers

**Soldiers** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

**Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

**The Snow Fairy** Céline Gittens

**Her Attendants**

**Jade Heusen, Brooke Ray,**

**Yaoqian Shang, Yijing Zhang**

**Winds**

**Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng,**

**Miles Gilliver, Brogan McKelvey,**

**Snowflakes**

**Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

## INTERVAL

## ACT II

**Spanish Dance**

**Ruth Brill,**

**Max Maslen, Brogan McKelvey**

**Arabian Dance**

**Daria Stanculescu,**

**Feargus Campbell, Miles Gilliver, Harry Wright**

**Chinese Dance**

**Aitor Galende, Kit Holder**

**Russian Dance**

**Laurence Elliott, Lachlan Monaghan, Gus Payne**

**Dance of the Mirlitons**

**Laura Day, Rosanna Ely,**

**Beatrice Parma, Rachele Pizzillo**

**Waltz of the Flowers**

**The Rose Fairy** Yaoqian Shang

**Her Consorts**

**Tim Dutson, Haoliang Feng,**

**Tom Rogers, Edivaldo Souza da Silva**

**Leading Flowers**

**Reina Fuchigami, Jade Heusen,**

**Maureya Lebowitz, Brooke Ray**

**Grand pas de deux**

**Yvette Knight, Yasuo Atsui**

*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* Paul Murphy

*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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## AN EVENING OF MUSIC & DANCE

Our acclaimed orchestra, the Royal Ballet Sinfonia, share the stage with our leading dancers for performances that include show-stopping *pas de deux* and other short excerpts from our repertory, alongside spectacular music

**19 January: Symphony Hall, Birmingham**

**20 January: Royal & Derngate, Northampton**