



# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Director David Bintley CBE

## BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Wednesday 6 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** Yijing Zhang

**The Prince** Brandon Lawrence

**Drosselmeyer, a magician** Tyrone Singleton

**Clara, a ballet student** Reina Fuchigami

### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant** Aitor Galende

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

Yvette Knight

**Clara's Father** Tom Rogers

**Fritz, Clara's younger brother** Archie Mathias

**Clara's Dancing Partner** Max Maslen

**Grandmother** Marion Tait

**Grandfather** Michael O'Hare

**Butler** Harry Wright

**Harlequin** Kit Holder

**Columbine** Rachelle Pizzillo

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

**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** Aitor Galende

**King Rat** Yasuo Atsuji

**Soldiers** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

**Rats** Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

**The Snow Fairy** Samara Downs

**Her Attendants**

Karla Doorbar, Maureya Lebowitz,

Miki Mizutani, Yaoqian Shang

**Winds**

Max Maslen, Brogan McKelvey,

Lachlan Monaghan, Gus Payne

**Snowflakes**

Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

### INTERVAL

### ACT II

**Spanish Dance**

Jade Heusen,

Kit Holder, Lachlan Monaghan

**Arabian Dance**

Delia Mathews,

Tim Dutson, Tom Rogers, Harry Wright

**Chinese Dance**

Gus Payne, Hamish Scott

**Russian Dance**

Laurence Elliott, Aitor Galende, Aaron Venegas

**Dance of the Mirlitons**

Ruth Brill, Laura Day,

Rosanna Ely, Beatrice Parma

**Waltz of the Flowers**

**The Rose Fairy** Momoko Hirata

**Her Consorts**

Yasuo Atsuji, Haoliang Feng,

Miles Gilliver, Max Maslen

**Leading Flowers**

Karla Doorbar, Maureya Lebowitz,

Miki Mizutani, Alys Shee

**Grand pas de deux**

Yijing Zhang, Brandon Lawrence

*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 Philip Ellis

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**

### BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET GIFTS

LIMITED EDITION PRINTS | MUGS | KEY RINGS and more...

Available in the foyer, in front of the Box Office

### 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