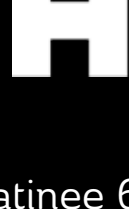




# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET



## BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Thursday matinee 6 December 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 Arancha Baselga**

**The Prince Max Maslen**

**Drosselmeyer, a magician**

**Valentin Olovyannikov**

**Clara, a ballet student Beatrice Parma**

#### ACT I

**The Magician's Assistant James Barton**

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

**Yvette Knight**

**Clara's Father Rory Mackay**

**Fritz, Clara's younger brother Harry Hincks**

**Clara's Dancing Partner Gus Payne**

**Grandmother Ruth Brill**

**Grandfather Michael O'Hare**

**Butler Callum Findlay-White**

**Harlequin Kit Holder**

**Columbine Rosanna Ely**

**Jack-in-the-Box Aitor Galende**

**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 James Barton**

**The Rat King Tom Rogers**

**Soldiers Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

**Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

**The Snow Fairy Brooke Ray**

**Her Attendants**

**Karla Doorbar, Maureya Lebowitz,**

**Rachele Pizzillo, Lynsey Sutherland**

**Winds**

**August Generalli, Miles Gilliver,**

**Lachlan Monaghan, Harry Wright**

**Snowflakes**

**Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

#### INTERVAL

#### ACT II

**Spanish Dance**

**Laura Purkiss,**

**James Barton, Kit Holder**

**Arabian Dance**

**Daria Stanciulescu,**

**Miles Gilliver, Lennert Steegen, Harry Wright**

**Chinese Dance**

**Louis Andreasen, August Generalli**

**Russian Dance**

**Matthew Bates, Callum Findlay-White,**

**Lachlan Monaghan**

**Dance of the Mirlitons**

**Rosanna Ely, Rachele Pizzillo,**

**Emma Price, Yuki Sugiura**

**Waltz of the Flowers**

**The Rose Fairy Céline Gittens**

**Her Consorts**

**Haoliang Feng, Brandon Lawrence,**

**Edivaldo Souza da Silva, Alexander Yap**

**Leading Flowers**

**Brooke Ray, Yaoqian Shang,**

**Alys Shee, Lynsey Sutherland**

**Grand pas de deux**

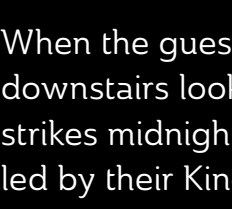
**Arancha Baselga, Max Maslen**

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* Koen Kessels

*Leader* Robert Gibbs



#### APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

*Act I* 50 minutes

*Interval* 20 minutes

*Act II* 50minutes

*This performance will end at*

*approximately 4.10pm*

### 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.