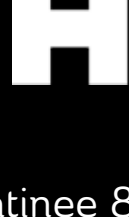




# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET



# BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Saturday matinee 8 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* Samara Downs**

***The Prince* Yasuo Atsuji**

***Drosselmeyer, a magician* Tom Rogers**

***Clara, a ballet student* Laura Purkiss**

### ACT I

***The Magician's Assistant* James Barton**

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

***Clara's Father* Rory Mackay**

***Fritz, Clara's younger brother* Joseph Burdett**

***Clara's Dancing Partner* Max Maslen**

***Grandmother* Marion Tait**

***Grandfather* Rory Mackay**

***Butler* Callum Findlay-White**

***Harlequin* Gus Payne**

***Columbine* Maureya Lebowitz**

***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* James Barton**

***The Rat King* Valentin Olovyannikov**

***Soldiers* Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

***Rats* Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

***The Snow Fairy* Yijing Zhang**

***Her Attendants***

**Ruth Brill, Karla Doorbar,**

**Beatrice Parma, Rachele Pizzillo**

***Winds***

**Tim Dutson, Edivaldo Souza da Silva,**

**Harry Wright, Alexander Yap**

***Snowflakes***

**Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

### INTERVAL

### ACT II

***Spanish Dance***

**Maureya Lebowitz,**

**Gabriel Anderson, Tim Dutson**

***Arabian Dance***

**Céline Gittens,**

**Brandon Lawrence, Lennert Steegen,**

**Harry Wright**

***Chinese Dance***

**Aitor Galende, Gus Payne**

***Russian Dance***

**Louis Andeasen, Lachlan Monaghan,**

**Joseph Taylor**

***Dance of the Mirlitons***

**Rosanna Ely, Beatrice Parma,**

**Rachele Pizzillo, Yuki Sugiura**

***Waltz of the Flowers***

***The Rose Fairy* Arancha Baselga**

***Her Consorts***

**Haoliang Feng, Miles Gilliver,**

**Edivaldo Souza da Silva, Alexander Yap**

***Leading Flowers***

**Yaoqian Shang, Alys Shee,**

**Brooke Ray, Yijing Zhang**

***Grand pas de deux***

**Samara Downs, Yasuo Atsuji**

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* 50 minutes

*This performance will end at*

*approximately 4.40pm*

## 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, 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.

**OKA** OFFICIAL INTERIOR DESIGN PARTNER