



BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

Director David Bintley CBE

BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Saturday 9 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 Atsuji
Drosselmeyer, a magician Tyrone Singleton
Clara, a ballet student Reina Fuchigami

ACT I

The Magician's Assistant Lachlan Monaghan
Clara's Mother, a former ballerina Yijing Zhang

Clara's Father Tom Rogers
Fritz, Clara's younger brother Max Blackwell

Clara's Dancing Partner Max Maslen
Grandmother Jade Heusen

Grandfather Kit Holder
Butler Harry Wright

Harlequin Aitor Galende
Columbine Rachele Pizzillo

Jack-in-the-Box Tzu-Chao Chou

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 Brandon Lawrence

Soldiers Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet
Rats Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

The Snow Fairy Jenna Roberts

Her Attendants Ruth Brill, Karla Doorbar, Maureya Lebowitz, Miki Mizutani

Winds Tim Dutson, Max Maslen, Brogan McKelvey, Gus Payne

Snowflakes Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet

INTERVAL

ACT II

Spanish Dance Ruth Brill, Gabriel Anderson, Tim Dutson

Arabian Dance Céline Gittens, Haoliang Feng, Tom Rogers, Harry Wright

Chinese Dance Kit Holder, Gus Payne
Russian Dance Aitor Galende, Hamish Scott, Aaron Venegas

Dance of the Mirlitons Rosanna Ely, Jade Heusen, Beatrice Parma, Rachele Pizzillo

Waltz of the Flowers

The Rose Fairy Momoko Hirata
Her Consorts Tzu-Chao Chou, Max Maslen, Brogan McKelvey, Lachlan Monaghan

Leading Flowers Karla Doorbar, Maureya Lebowitz, Miki Mizutani, Alys Shee

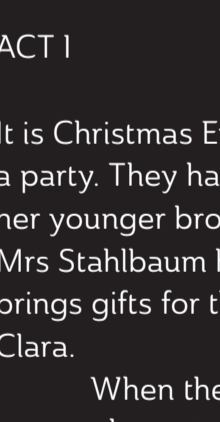
Grand pas de deux Yvette Knight, Yasuo Atsuji

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 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

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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