



ROYAL
BALLET

OCTOBER 2015

PRESS RELEASE

THE NUTCRACKER RETURNS IN A FLURRY OF CHRISTMAS SPARKLE

Tuesday 8 December – Thursday 14 January

ROH Live Cinema Wednesday 16 December, Encore Screening Sunday 27 December



The Nutcracker is a festive family favourite that has delighted and enthralled audiences for over 30 years and is returning to the Royal Opera House this December.

Peter Wright's enchanting production first opened in 1984 with Royal Ballet greats **Lesley Collier** and **Anthony Dowell** dancing the roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Prince. This Season features debuts from Principal Dancer **Vadim Muntagirov** as the Prince and Guest Artist **Iana Salenko** as the Sugar Plum Fairy.

Soloists and dancers from the *corps de ballet* are given the opportunity to take centre stage in the roles of Clara and Hans-Peter/the Nutcracker. Making their debuts this Season are First Artist **Leticia Stock** and Artist **Anna Rose O'Sullivan** as Clara and Soloists **Luca Acri** and **Marcelino Sambé** as Hans-Peter/the Nutcracker.

The Nutcracker tells the story of Drosselmeyer, a mysterious magician and maker of mechanical toys, who longs to break a curse that has turned his nephew into a nutcracker doll. With the help of a young girl, Clara, they embark on a magical adventure battling the Mouse King and his army and travelling to the faraway Kingdom of the Sweets and the Land of Snow.

Peter Wright says, 'I'm very happy that my *Nutcracker* is still so loved after more than 30 years. Most of the credit has to go to composer **Pyotr Tchaikovsky** for his superb music and to the late **Julia Trevelyan Oman** for her designs. But it is really The Royal Ballet dancers and staff, led by ballet master **Christopher Carr**, who make the magic happen'.

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Supported using public funding by
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Tchaikovsky's intoxicating score contains some of the best-known melodies in ballet. Coupled with spectacular designs by Julia Trevelyan Oman that hark back to a traditional 19th-century Christmas, this is a truly magical production for the festive season.

The Nutcracker runs from December until January and can also be seen in cinemas across the world as part of the Royal Opera House Live Cinema season on 16 December.

--- ENDS ---

Generous philanthropic support from The Royal Opera House Endowment Fund

Notes to Editors

Download images by following this link: <http://bit.ly/rohNutcrackerPics>

The Nutcracker

Tuesday 8 December – Thursday 14 January

Royal Opera House

8, 9, 11, 14, 16[†], 21 December at 7.30pm

12 December at 7.00pm

17 December at 2.30pm & 7.30pm

18, 22, 24, 29 December, 2 January at 12.30pm

23, 28 December at 2.00pm & 7.00pm

31 December at 12.00 & 5.00pm

5, 6, 8, 13, 14 January at 7.30pm

9 January at 1.00pm

[†]Live Cinema Relay

Royal Opera House Nutcracker Afternoon Tea

With sandwiches, scones, premium teas and the option of a glass of champagne, a teatime table in the Crush Room or Paul Hamlyn Hall is the perfect way to complete a festive visit to the Royal Opera House. The Nutcracker Afternoon Tea includes rum and vanilla drum cake, Opéra Gâteau, white chocolate and Perigord truffle, and a dark chocolate walnut. For children, the menu includes a magical popping candy Christmas tree cupcake, candy cane meringue, and toy soldier gingerbread biscuit.

Prices

Paul Hamlyn Hall (Non-performance days)

Adults £42.50 / Children £18.75

Crush Room (Matinees)

Adults £37.50 / Children £18.75

Book online via www.roh.org.uk/tea or by phone on +44 (0)20 7212 9254

***The Nutcracker* pre-performance talks**

8, 16 December 2015, 8 January 2016 at 6.30pm-7pm

Clore Studio Upstairs

A fascinating introduction to the production before curtain up.

£5/£2.50

Choreography	Peter Wright after Lev Ivanov
Music	Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky
Original Scenario	Marius Petipa after E.T.A Hoffman's <i>Nussnacker und Mausekönig</i>
Production and Scenario	Peter Wright
Designer	Julia Trevelyan Oman
Lighting Designer	Mark Henderson
Production Consultant	Roland John Wiley

Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

CASTING

Sugar Plum Fairy, the Prince

Clara, Hans Peter/the Nutcracker

Drosslemeyer

8 Dec / 14 Dec	Iana Salenko*, Steven McRae Francesca Hayward, Alexander Campbell Gary Avis
9 Dec	Sarah Lamb, Vadim Muntagirov* Meaghan Grace Hinkis, Ricardo Cervera Christopher Saunders
11 Dec / 16 Dec†	Lauren Cuthbertson, Matthew Golding Francesca Hayward, Alexander Campbell Gary Avis
12 Dec	Laura Morera, Federico Bonelli Meaghan Grace Hinkis, Ricardo Cervera Christopher Saunders
17 Dec (mat)	Sarah Lamb, Valeri Hristov Meaghan Grace Hinkis, Ricardo Cervera Thomas Whitehead*
17 Dec (eve)	Laura Morera, Federico Bonelli Anna Rose O'Sullivan*, James Hay Christopher Saunders

18 Dec (mat)	Lauren Cuthbertson, Matthew Golding Emma Maguire, Tristan Dyer Gary Avis
21 Dec	Laura Morera, Federico Bonelli Emma Maguire, Tristan Dyer Christopher Saunders
22 Dec (mat)	Sarah Lamb, Valeri Hristov Anna Rose O'Sullivan, James Hay Thomas Whitehead
23 Dec (mat)	Iana Salenko, Steven McRae Emma Maguire, Tristan Dyer Alastair Marriott
23 Dec (eve)	Akane Takada, Valentino Zucchetti Meaghan Grace Hinkis, Paul Kay Bennet Gartside
24 Dec (mat) / 28 Dec (mat)	Yuhui Choe, Alexander Campbell Leticia Stock*, Marcelino Sambé* Will Tuckett
28 Dec (eve)	Fumi Kaneko, Nehemiah Kish Meaghan Grace Hinkis, Paul Kay Christopher Saunders
29 Dec (mat)	Hikaru Kobayashi, Ryoichi Hirano Emma Maguire, Tristan Dyer Alastair Marriott
31 Dec (mat)	Fumi Kaneko, Nehemiah Kish Leticia Stock, Marcelino Sambé Will Tuckett
31 Dec (eve)	Yuhui Choe, Alexander Campbell Meaghan Grace Hinkis, Paul Kay Bennet Gartside
2 Jan (mat)	Hikaru Kobayashi, Ryoichi Hirano Emma Maguire, Luca Acri* Bennet Gartside

5 Jan	Marianela Nuñez, Vadim Muntagirov Francesca Hayward, Valentino Zucchetti Will Tuckett
6 Jan	Akane Takada, Valeri Hristov Emma Maguire, Luca Acri Bennet Gartside
8 Jan / 14 Jan	Marianela Nuñez, Vadim Muntagirov Francesca Hayward, Valentino Zucchetti Gary Avis
9 Jan (mat)	Fumi Kaneko, Nehemiah Kish Anna Rose O'Sullivan, James Hay Alastair Marriott
13 Jan	Akane Takada, Valeri Hristov Anna Rose O'Sullivan, James Hay Alastair Marriott

*Role debut

†Live Cinema, Wednesday 16 December

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