

Approximate timings

Live cinema relay begins at 7.15pm, ballet begins at 7.30pm

Act I 45 minutes

Interval

Act II 30 minutes

Interval

Act III 45 minutes

The live relay will end at approximately 10.25pm

Tweet your thoughts about tonight's performance before it starts, during the intervals or afterwards with **#ROHalice**

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2017/18 LIVE CINEMA SEASON

THE NUTCRACKER TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER 2017

RIGOLETTO TUESDAY 16 JANUARY 2018

TOSCA WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018

THE WINTER'S TALE WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2018

CARMEN TUESDAY 6 MARCH 2018

BERNSTEIN CENTENARY TUESDAY 27 MARCH 2018

MACBETH WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL 2018

MANON THURSDAY 3 MAY 2018

SWAN LAKE TUESDAY 12 JUNE 2018

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ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

THE ROYAL BALLET

DIRECTOR KEVIN O'HARE

FOUNDER DAME NINETTE DE VALOIS OM CH DBE

FOUNDER CHOREOGRAPHER

SIR FREDERICK ASHTON OM CH CBE

FOUNDER MUSIC DIRECTOR CONSTANT LAMBERT

PRIMA BALLERINA ASSOLUTA

DAME MARGOT FONTEYN DBE

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND

BALLET IN THREE ACTS

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND IS DEDICATED BY CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON TO DAME NINETTE DE VALOIS, FOUNDER OF THE ROYAL BALLET, WHOSE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF NEW CREATIVE VOICES LIVES ON

CHOREOGRAPHY CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON

MUSIC JOBY TALBOT

ORCHESTRATED BY CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN AND JOBY TALBOT
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CHESTER MUSIC LTD

DESIGNER BOB CROWLEY

SCENARIO NICHOLAS WRIGHT

LIGHTING DESIGNER NATASHA KATZ

PROJECTION DESIGNERS JON DRISCOLL AND GEMMA CARRINGTON

ORIGINAL SOUND DESIGNER ANDREW BRUCE FOR AUTOGRAPH

STAGING CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS

ASSISTANT TO THE CHOREOGRAPHER JACQUELIN BARRETT

BALLET MASTERS GARY AVIS, RICARDO CERVERA AND JONATHAN HOWELLS

BALLET MISTRESS SIAN MURPHY

BENESH NOTATOR ANNA TREVIEN

CONDUCTOR KOEN KESSELS

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

ASSOCIATE CONCERT MASTER ANIA SAFONOVA

DIRECTED FOR THE SCREEN BY ROSS MACGIBBON

LIVE FROM THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
MONDAY 23 OCTOBER 2017, 7.15PM

Synopsis

Act I

Oxford, 1862. At the Liddell family's garden party, Lewis Carroll, a family friend, entertains three young sisters with a story and magic tricks. One of them, Alice, is friends with the gardener's boy, Jack. He gives her a rose and she gives him a jam tart. But Alice's mother accuses Jack of stealing it and dismisses him. As a curious variety of guests arrive Lewis Carroll consoles Alice. While taking her photograph he disappears beneath the camera cloth and emerges as a White Rabbit, then vanishes into his camera-bag. Alice follows and falls into a mysterious and wonderful world. Jack is the Knave of Hearts, accused of stealing a tray of tarts by the bad-tempered Queen of Hearts, whose guards pursue him relentlessly.

Alice spies a garden through a keyhole, but cannot reach it. She finds a drink that makes her shrink and a cake that makes her grow enormous. She swims in a lake of her own tears with a variety of strange creatures, and afterwards arranges a race to cheer them up. She encounters a Duchess in a cottage tending a baby (while a Cook makes pigs into sausages), fish- and frog-footmen and a mysterious Cheshire Cat. The White Rabbit and the Knave, worried for her safety, forbid her to follow them and blindfold her.

Interval

Act II

Alice becomes even more confused when she asks the Cheshire Cat for directions, then finds herself at a bizarre tea party with a Mad Hatter, a March Hare and a sleepy Dormouse. She escapes, only to meet an exotic Caterpillar perched on a mushroom, who lifts her spirits and, before disappearing, gives her a piece of the mushroom.

At last she finds herself in the garden, full of strange and beautiful flowers and, to her delight, she finds the Knave. But the Queen is still in pursuit and the Knave escapes again, followed by the White Rabbit and Alice.

Interval

Act III

Three gardeners are painting the rosebushes red, having mistakenly planted white ones, which the Queen hates. The Queen arrives and orders the gardeners to be executed. She shows off her dancing skills, then she and the Duchess begin a croquet game with flamingos for mallets and hedgehogs for balls. When she accuses the Queen of cheating, the Duchess is next to be ordered for execution.

The Knave is discovered and brought to the castle to face trial. All the colourful characters are witnesses and accuse the Knave as the trial descends into mayhem. His defence has little effect so Alice intervenes: he is innocent, she insists; if anyone is guilty, it is she. Together they deliver a final testimony winning the hearts of all but the Queen, who seizes an axe. A chase ensues.

With no escape in sight, Alice pushes a witness over. He falls on top of another, who then falls on another, until the entire court collapses: they're only playing cards, after all.

And in the midst of the chaos, Alice wakes up.

Nicholas Wright

Cast

ALICE	LAUREN CUTHBERTSON
JACK/THE KNAVE OF HEARTS	FEDERICO BONELLI
LEWIS CARROLL/THE WHITE RABBIT	JAMES HAY
MOTHER/THE QUEEN OF HEARTS	LAURA MORERA
FATHER/THE KING OF HEARTS	CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS
MAGICIAN/THE MAD HATTER	STEVEN MCRAE
RAJAH/THE CATERPILLAR	FERNANDO MONTAÑO
THE DUCHESS	GARY AVIS
VICAR/THE MARCH HARE	PAUL KAY
VERGER/THE DORMOUSE	ROMANY PAJDAK
THE COOK	KRISTEN MCNALLY
FOOTMAN/FISH	TRISTAN DYER
FOOTMAN/FROG	DAVID YUDES
ALICE'S SISTERS	MEAGHAN GRACE HINKIS, BEATRIZ STIX-BRUNELL
BUTLER/EXECUTIONER	HARRY CHURCHES
WONDERLAND CHARACTERS	ARTISTS OF THE ROYAL BALLET

REFER TO YOUR DIGITAL PROGRAMME FOR THE FULL CAST AND LATEST INFORMATION.
CASTING IS CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING. DETAILS OF LIVE PERFORMANCES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.