



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

Approximate timings

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

Act I 55 minutes

Interval 30 minutes

Act II 55 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 9.50pm

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

DIGITAL PROGRAMME

Royal Opera House Digital Programmes bring together a range of specially selected films, articles, pictures and features to bring you closer to the production. Use promo code 'FREENUT' to claim yours for free. Visit roh.org.uk/publications to find out more.

2016/17 LIVE CINEMA SEASON

IL TROVATORE TUESDAY 31 JANUARY 2017

WOOLF WORKS WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2017

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2017

MADAMA BUTTERFLY THURSDAY 30 MARCH 2017

JEWELS TUESDAY 11 APRIL 2017

**THE DREAM/SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS/
MARGUERITE AND ARMAND** WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE 2017

OTELLO WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE 2017

POINTE SHOES APPEAL

Each year The Royal Ballet dances through more than 6,000 pairs of pointe shoes. You can help support their extraordinary work at roh.org.uk/pointe

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THE NUTCRACKER

BALLET IN TWO ACTS

CHOREOGRAPHY **PETER WRIGHT** AFTER LEV IVANOV
MUSIC **PYOTR IL'YICH TCHAIKOVSKY**
ORIGINAL SCENARIO **MARIUS PETIPA** AFTER E.T.A. HOFFMANN'S
NUSSKNACKER UND MAUSEKÖNIG

PRODUCTION AND SCENARIO **PETER WRIGHT**
DESIGNER **JULIA TREVELYAN OMAN**
LIGHTING DESIGNER **MARK HENDERSON**
PRODUCTION CONSULTANT **ROLAND JOHN WILEY**
STAGING **CHRISTOPHER CARR**

BALLET MISTRESS **SAMANTHA RAINE** BALLET MASTER **JONATHAN HOWELLS**
ASSISTANT BALLET MISTRESS **SIAN MURPHY**
PRINCIPAL COACHING **ALEXANDER AGADZHANOV, DARCEY BUSSELL,
CHRISTOPHER CARR, RICARDO CERVERA, LESLEY COLLIER, JONATHAN COPE,
VIVIANA DURANTE, JONATHAN HOWELLS, CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS**
BENESH NOTATORS **MAYUMI HOTTA, LORRAINE GREGORY**

CONDUCTOR **BORIS GRUZIN**

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
CONCERT MASTER **PETER MANNING**

DIRECTED FOR THE SCREEN BY **ROSS MACGIBBON**

LIVE FROM THE
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 2016, 7.15PM

Synopsis

Drosselmeyer, a timeless magician and creator of mechanical toys and clocks, was once employed in a royal palace where he invented a trap that killed off half the mouse population. In revenge the wicked Queen of the Mice cast a spell over Drosselmeyer's nephew, Hans-Peter, which transformed him into an ugly Nutcracker Doll. The only way to break the spell was for the Nutcracker to slay the Mouse King, thereby committing an act of great bravery, and for a young girl to love and care for him in spite of his awful appearance.

When Drosselmeyer is invited to entertain the guests at a Christmas party that his friends, the Stahlbaums, are giving, he decides that this could well be the opportunity he has been looking for.

Their daughter, Clara, is a little younger than Hans-Peter imprisoned in the Nutcracker, and what better time than Christmas, when the mice are busy stealing the leftovers, for a confrontation between the Mouse King and the Nutcracker? He decides to put the Nutcracker in the tender care of Clara and makes a special Christmas Angel to guide her through her task.

When all the guests have departed and the house is asleep, Clara, in search of the Nutcracker, creeps downstairs and discovers Drosselmeyer waiting for her. He draws her into his own special world of fantasy where time is suspended, and exerts all his powers to transform the living room into a great battlefield and summons the Mouse King. In the ensuing fight between the mice and the toy soldiers the Nutcracker slays the Mouse King, but only through the intervention of Clara, who, out of compassion, saves the Nutcracker's life. Transformed into his real self, he dances with Clara and they find themselves in the Land of Snow. Drosselmeyer then sends them on a magic journey to the Sugar Garden in the Kingdom of Sweets where they meet the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Prince.

Freed at last from his imprisonment inside the Nutcracker, Hans-Peter recounts to the Sugar Plum Fairy his great adventure and how Clara saved his life. They then join in a magnificent entertainment put on by Drosselmeyer to honour them for their bravery.

Returning to reality, Clara runs out into the street in search of Drosselmeyer and encounters a strangely familiar young man, while back in his workshop Drosselmeyer prays that his efforts will be rewarded. His nephew returns; the spell has indeed been broken.

Peter Wright

REFER TO YOUR DIGITAL PROGRAMME TO VIEW
THE FULL CAST AND LATEST INFORMATION.
DETAILS OF THE LIVE PERFORMANCE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Cast

HERR DROSSELMAYER	GARY AVIS
CLARA	FRANCESCA HAYWARD
HANS-PETER/THE NUTCRACKER	ALEXANDER CAMPBELL
THE SUGAR PLUM FAIRY	LAUREN CUTHBERTSON
THE PRINCE	FEDERICO BONELLI
ACT I	
DROSSELMAYER'S ASSISTANT	LUCA ACRI
DR STAHLBAUM	CHRISTOPHER SAUNDERS
MRS STAHLBAUM	ELIZABETH MCGORIAN
FRITZ	CASPAR LENCH
CLARA'S PARTNER	TRISTAN DYER
GRANDMOTHER	KRISTEN MCNALLY
GRANDFATHER	ALASTAIR MARRIOTT
DANCING MISTRESS	CHRISTINA ARESTIS
CAPTAIN	JOHANNES STEPANEK
HARLEQUIN	FERNANDO MONTAÑO
COLUMBINE	LETICIA STOCK
SOLDIER	MARCELINO SAMBÉ
VIVANDIÈRE	MAYARA MAGRI
ST NICHOLAS	LUKAS BJØRNEBOE BRÆENDSRØD
MOUSE KING	NICOL EDMONDS
SNOWFLAKES	ARTISTS OF THE ROYAL BALLET
SINGERS	LONDON ORATORY JUNIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR, CHARLES COLE
ACT II	
SPANISH DANCE	CHRISTINA ARESTIS, JOHANNES STEPANEK, TARA-BRIGITTE BHAVNANI, ERIC UNDERWOOD, TIERNEY HEAP, FERNANDO MONTAÑO
ARABIAN DANCE	ITZIAR MENDIZABAL, RYOICHI HIRANO, REECE CLARKE, NICOL EDMONDS
CHINESE DANCE	LUCA ACRI, MARCELINO SAMBÉ
RUSSIAN DANCE	TRISTAN DYER, PAUL KAY
DANCE OF THE MIRLITONS	MEAGHAN GRACE HINKIS, MAYARA MAGRI, EMMA MAGUIRE, LETICIA STOCK
ROSE FAIRY	YUHUI CHOE
HER ESCORTS	MATTHEW BALL, JAMES HAY, TOMAS MOCK, VALENTINO ZUCCHETTI
LEADING FLOWERS	CLAIRE CALVERT, HELEN CRAWFORD, HIKARU KOBAYASHI, BEATRIZ STIX-BRUNELL
ARTISTS OF THE ROYAL BALLET STUDENTS OF THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL	