

# English National Ballet Nutcracker Delights London Coliseum

Thursday 17 December 2020 - Sunday 3 January 2021

[www.ballet.org.uk/nutcracker-delights](http://www.ballet.org.uk/nutcracker-delights)

Making their return to stage, English National Ballet performs *Nutcracker Delights* at the **London Coliseum** this Christmas, now opening **Thursday 17 December** and running until Sunday 3 January 2021.



*Nutcracker Delights* is a special 75-minute version of the festive classic which sees the Company perform a selection of the ballet's most popular moments and iconic scenes, from Snowflakes and hot air balloon rides to the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy, accompanied by Tchaikovsky's famous score played live by musicians from English National Ballet Philharmonic.

**Tamara Rojo CBE, English National Ballet's Artistic Director said:** "English National Ballet has performed a version of *The Nutcracker* every year since the Company was founded in 1950 and I'm so pleased that, despite the challenges faced, we have been able to find a way for the tradition to live on, in this, our 70th Anniversary year. It's more important than ever that we are able to bring audiences some festive joy this Christmas and we cannot wait to return to the stage next month."

Opening night will see Natascha Mair's first performance with English National Ballet. Natascha, who has previously performed with Vienna State Opera Ballet, has joined the Company as Principal and will be debuting in the role of Clara and will also perform the role of Sugar Plum Fairy later in the run.

Also performing in the iconic roles of Clara and Sugar Plum Fairy are Lead Principals Erina Takahashi and Fernanda Oliveira, Principal Shiori Kase and First Soloists Emma Hawes and Katja Khaniukova. Lead Principals Joseph Caley, Jeffrey Cirio, Isaac Hernández and Francesco Gabriele Frola will perform the role of Prince, whilst First Soloist Junor Souza will dance both Prince and Nutcracker. First Soloist Aitor Arrieta, Soloist Skyler Martin and Artist of the Company Fernando Carratalá Coloma dance the role of Nutcracker.

**Principal Casting**  
**(in the order of Clara, Sugar Plum Fairy, Prince, Nutcracker)**

**Thursday 17 December**

Natascha Mair\*, Erina Takahashi, Joseph Caley, Aitor Arrieta

**Friday 18 December**

Katja Khaniukova, Fernanda Oliveira, Francesco Gabriele Frola, Junor Souza

**Saturday 19 December (mat)**

Erina Takahashi, Shiori Kase, Isaac Hernández, Skyler Martin

**Saturday 19 December**

Erina Takahashi, Shiori Kase, Isaac Hernández, Skyler Martin

**Monday 21 December (mat)**

Emma Hawes, Katja Khaniukova, Jeffrey Cirio, Fernando Carratalá Coloma

**Monday 21 December**

Emma Hawes, Katja Khaniukova, Jeffrey Cirio, Fernando Carratalá Coloma

**Tuesday 22 December (mat)**

Natascha Mair, Erina Takahashi, Joseph Caley, Aitor Arrieta

**Tuesday 22 December**

Natascha Mair, Erina Takahashi, Joseph Caley, Aitor Arrieta

**Wednesday 23 December (mat)**

Fernanda Oliveira, Emma Hawes, Junor Souza, Fernando Carratalá Coloma

**Wednesday 23 December**

Fernanda Oliveira, Emma Hawes, Junor Souza, Fernando Carratalá Coloma

**Thursday 24 December (mat)**

Erina Takahashi, Shiori Kase, Isaac Hernández, Skyler Martin

**Saturday 26 December (mat)**

Katja Khaniukova, Fernanda Oliveira, Francesco Gabriele Frola, Junor Souza

**Sunday 27 December (mat)**

Natascha Mair, Erina Takahashi, Joseph Caley, Aitor Arrieta

**Tuesday 29 December**

Emma Hawes, Katja Khaniukova, Jeffrey Cirio, Fernando Carratalá Coloma

**Wednesday 30 December**

Shiori Kase, Natascha Mair, Isaac Hernández, Skyler Martin

**Thursday 31 December (mat)**

Emma Hawes, Katja Khaniukova, Jeffrey Cirio, Fernando Carratalá Coloma

**Saturday 2 January (mat)**

Katja Khaniukova, Fernanda Oliveira, Francesco Gabriele Frola, Junor Souza

**Saturday 2 January**

Katja Khaniukova, Fernanda Oliveira, Francesco Gabriele Frola, Junor Souza

**Sunday 3 January (mat)**

Shiori Kase, Natascha Mair, Isaac Hernández, Skyler Martin

\*Debut in role with English National Ballet

Casting is subject to change. Please see [www.ballet.org.uk](http://www.ballet.org.uk) for up-to-date casting.

All rehearsals and performances are in strict compliance with the UK Government's COVID-19 guidance. To find out more about how English National Ballet is working with the London Coliseum to create socially distanced performances, visit [www.ballet.org.uk/nutcracker-delights](http://www.ballet.org.uk/nutcracker-delights)

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English National Ballet is a National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England.

English National Ballet is grateful for the generous grant it has been awarded through the Government's Culture Recovery Fund, which allows it to continue to create, perform and serve its audiences.

NatWest is Principal Partner of English National Ballet.

For further information and images, please contact Laura Nixon, Senior Press Officer, on [laura.nixon@ballet.org.uk](mailto:laura.nixon@ballet.org.uk) or 07741659109

**Notes to Editors**

**Listings information**

***Nutcracker Delights***

**London Coliseum**

Thursday 17 December 2020 – Sunday 3 January 2021

Press night: Thursday 17 December, 7.30pm

Box Office: [www.ballet.org.uk/nutcracker-delights](http://www.ballet.org.uk/nutcracker-delights)

This performance runs for approximately 75 minutes with no interval.

Presented by English National Ballet Enterprises Ltd

### **About English National Ballet**

English National Ballet has a long and distinguished history. Founded in 1950 as London Festival Ballet by the great English Dancers Alicia Markova and Anton Dolin, it has been at the forefront of ballet's growth and evolution ever since.

English National Ballet brings world class ballet to the widest possible audience through performances across the UK and on eminent international stages including The Bolshoi Theatre and Palais Garnier; its distinguished orchestra, English National Ballet Philharmonic; and being a UK leader in creative learning and engagement practice, building innovative partnerships to deliver flagship programmes such as English National Ballet's Dance for Parkinson's.

Under the artistic directorship of Tamara Rojo CBE, English National Ballet has introduced ground-breaking new works to the Company's repertoire whilst continuing to honour the tradition of great classical ballet, gaining acclaim for artistic excellence and creativity. 2019 saw English National Ballet enter a new chapter in its history with a move into a purpose-built state-of-the-art home in East London which brings a renewed commitment to, and freedom for, creativity, ambition, and connection to more people, near and far, than ever before.

[www.ballet.org.uk](http://www.ballet.org.uk)

### **About Arts Council England**

Arts Council England is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to visual art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2018 and 2022, we will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country.

[www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)