

# ***Feel more this festive season with English National Ballet's Nutcracker***

**London Coliseum: 11 December 2025 - 11 January 2026**

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

This Christmas, **English National Ballet** invites audiences to *feel more* with its magical production of **Nutcracker**. Continuing a cherished tradition, this refreshed version of the festive classic returns after a sold-out premiere last year, seen by over 90,000 people.

Co-choreographed by Artistic Director **Aaron S. Watkin** and Olivier Award-winner **Arielle Smith**, *Nutcracker* blends timeless tradition with fresh energy and colour – welcoming both long-time fans and first-time attenders into the magic.

Set to Tchaikovsky's sweeping score, performed live by English National Ballet Philharmonic under Music Director Maria Seletskaja, the production features over 100 dancers and musicians. With stunning sets and costumes by Dick Bird and lighting by Paul Pyant, every performance is a feast for the senses.

**Artistic Director, Aaron S. Watkin, said:**

*"Nutcracker has always been at the heart of English National Ballet's season. Its combination of tradition and wonder create a truly enchanting experience for audiences of all ages. We're thrilled to bring it back this Christmas and invite everyone to feel the joy, magic and emotion that Nutcracker inspires."*

*Nutcracker* follows Clara on her fantastical journey of discovery – from the streets of Edwardian London, through a dazzling ice realm, to a grand celebration arranged by the Sugar Plum Fairy in the Land of Sweets and Delights.

As part of its commitment to creating engaging, inclusive experiences, English National Ballet also offers series of associated events including a Relaxed Performance on 8 January, dynamic drawing, on-stage ballet classes, backstage tours (BSL-interpreted) and family workshops.

Charles Holloway OBE is the Lead Supporter of *Nutcracker*.

**-ENDS-**

**For further information, interview requests, and images, please contact Inês Carvalho, Press and Communications Manager, on [ines.carvalho@ballet.org.uk](mailto:ines.carvalho@ballet.org.uk)**

**Listings:**

***Nutcracker***

**London Coliseum**

Thursday 11 December 2025 – Sunday 11 January 2026

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

**Press night: London Coliseum, Thursday 11 December 2025**

**Principal Casting:**

***Nutcracker* by Aaron S. Watkin and Arielle Smith**

(Clara / Drosselmeyer / Nutcracker Prince / Sugar Plum Fairy / Sugar Plum Cavalier)

**Ivana Bueno / Junor Souza / Paulo Rodrigues\* / Sangeun Lee / Gareth Haw**

11 December 7.30pm, 13 December 7.30pm, 17 December 7pm, 19 December 7.30pm,  
22 December 7.30pm

**Katja Khaniukova / Ken Saruhashi / Miguel Angel Maidana / Emma Hawes / Aitor Arrieta**  
12 December 7.30pm, 14 December 2.30pm, 18 December 7.30pm, 20 December 7.30pm, 23 December 7.30pm

**Francesca Velicu / James Streeter\* / Noam Durand / Shiori Kase / Erik Woolhouse\***  
13 December 2.30pm, 16 December 7pm, 19 December 2.30pm, 24 December 1.30pm, 27 December 2.30pm

**Haruhi Otani / Fabian Reimair / Rentaro Nakaaki / Julia Conway / Daniel McCormick**  
17 December 1pm, 20 December 2.30pm, 23 December 2.30pm, 27 December 7.30pm

**Carolyne Galvao / Henry Dowden / Shunhei Fuchiyama / Fernanda Oliveira / Lorenzo Trossello**  
18 December 2.30pm, 22 December 2.30pm, 26 December 4pm, 28 December 2.30pm

**Chloe Keneally\* / James Streeter / Martinho Santos\* / Emily Suzuki\* / Eric Snyder\***  
29 December 2.30pm

**Georgia Bould / Jose María Lorca Menchón\* / Rhys Antoni Yeomans / Katja Khaniukova / Ken Saruhashi**  
29 December 7.30pm, 2 January 7.30pm, 7 January 7pm, 10 January 2.30pm

**Ashley Coupal\* / Fabian Reimair / Rodrigo Pinto\* / Precious Adams / Gareth Haw**  
30 December 2.30pm, 6 January 7.30pm, 9 January 7.30pm

**Swanice Luong / Junor Souza / Thiago Silva / Ivana Bueno / Paulo Rodrigues\***  
30 December 7.30pm, 3 January 7.30pm, 8 January 7pm, 10 January 7.30pm

**Carolyne Galvao / Henry Dowden / Shunhei Fuchiyama / Emily Suzuki / Eric Snyder**  
31 December 1.30pm

**Chloe Keneally / James Streeter / Martinho Santos / Anna Nevzorova\* / Elvis Nudo\***  
3 January 2.30pm, 8 January 1pm, 11 January 1.30pm

**Ashley Coupal / Fabian Reimair / Rodrigo Pinto / Emily Suzuki / Eric Snyder**  
4 January 2.30pm

\*Debut

### **Notes to Editors**

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

Ballymore is Principal Building Partner of English National Ballet.

### **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; its distinguished orchestra, English National Ballet Philharmonic; its digital platforms Ballet on Demand and BalletActive; being a UK leader in creative learning and engagement practice, building innovative partnerships to deliver flagship programmes such as Dance for Parkinson's; and through talent development initiatives including Ballet Futures which looks to create a more diverse and inclusive future for the artform.

English National Ballet continues to add ground-breaking new works to its repertoire whilst celebrating the tradition of great classical ballet, gaining acclaim for artistic excellence and creativity. 2019 saw the Company enter a new chapter in its history with a move to a purpose-built state-of-the-art home in east London, allowing a renewed commitment to creativity, ambition, and connection to more people, near and far, than ever before.