



# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

**sunderland  
empire**

*The West End of the North East*

Thursday 28 March 2019

PLEASE DO NOT VIEW THIS CAST SHEET DURING A PERFORMANCE

## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

**Choreography** David Bintley

**Music** Glenn Buhr

**Designs** Philip Prowse

**Lighting** Mark Jonathan

**Belle** Karla Doorbar

**The Beast** Mathias Dingman

**The Merchant, Belle's father**

Valentin Olovyannikov

**Fière** Laura Purkiss

**Vanité** Céline Gittens

*Belle's sisters*

**Monsieur Cochon** Tom Rogers

**Wild Girl** Laura Day

**Vixen** Reina Fuchigami

**Raven** Lachlan Monaghan

**Woodsman** Rory Mackay

**Bailiff** James Barton

**Grandmère** Beatrice Parma

**Hunters, Birds of the Air, Birds of the Forest,**

**Court Beasts, Wedding Guests**

**Artists of Birmingham Royal Ballet**

*Students on the John Pinder Studentship programme appear by permission of the Principal and the Artistic Director of Elmhurst Ballet School*

## ROYAL BALLET SINFONIA

*Conductor* Paul Murphy

*Leader* Robert Gibbs



### APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

*Act I* 47 minutes

*Interval* 25 minutes

*Act II* 47 minutes

*The performance will end at*

*approximately 9.35pm*

## THE STORY

### PROLOGUE

A cruel Prince is cursed as he hunts a Vixen, becoming a terrible Beast, whilst the Vixen is transformed into a Wild Girl.

### ACT I

Belle's father, a Merchant, believing his fortune lost at sea,

accepts money from the rich Monsieur Cochon to pay bailiffs,

but Cochon is motivated by his desire to marry one of the sisters.

The Merchant's ships are then sighted and he leaves to meet

them, promising his daughters gifts; Belle asks for a single rose.

Robbed during a storm, the Merchant takes refuge in a castle.

The next morning, he finds his trunk returned and full of gifts for

his daughters. Remembering Belle, as he leaves, he picks a rose.

Outraged at the theft, a monstrous Beast appears: in return for

his life, the Merchant must send his youngest daughter to the

castle. Wanting to save her father, Belle agrees.

### ACT II

Every night for months the Beast asks Belle to marry

him, but is turned down each time. The Beast throws an

extravagant ball and once again asks Belle for her hand.

She refuses again and the Beast descends into a rage.

Belle asks to leave to see her father. The Beast agrees, but

gives her another rose: she must return before the rose

dies, or he too will die. Belle arrives home to find wedding

preparations under way, but the greedy Cochon has yet

to decide which sister he wants as his wife! Explaining her

situation to her jealous sisters, Belle is detained by them

whilst, back at his castle, the Beast begins to die.

Returning at the last minute, Belle declares her love for the

Beast whereupon the curse is lifted and he transforms back

into a handsome Prince.

COMING NEXT FROM BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

## SWAN LAKE

12- 14 MARCH 2020

The greatest romantic ballet

## FIRST STEPS: SWAN LAKE

FRIDAY 13 MARCH

An interactive show for children

[brb.org.uk/swanlake](http://brb.org.uk/swanlake)