



# BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

**sunderland  
empire**

*The West End of the North East*

Friday 29 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** Momoko Hirata

**The Beast** César Morales

**The Merchant, Belle's father** Michael O'Hare

**Fière** Laura Purkiss

**Vanité** Samara Downs

*Belle's sisters*

**Monsieur Cochon** James Barton

**Wild Girl** Yaoqian Shang

**Vixen** Beatrice Parma

**Raven** Tzu-Chao Chou

**Woodsman** Jonathan Payn

**Bailiff** Lachlan Monaghan

**Grandmère** Laura Purkiss

**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.

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)