BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

PRESS RELEASE

• BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET'S SPECTACULAR *NUTCRACKER* COMES TO BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME THIS NOVEMBER AHEAD OF ITS ANNUAL RUN AT THE ROYAL ALBERT BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

The Nutcracker images here

This year sees the first performances outside London of Birmingham Royal Ballet's spectacular Royal Albert Hall production of *The Nutcracker* when performances take place at the Birmingham Hippodrome from 20 November - 11 December.

After 30 years, Sir Peter Wright's legendary production will be undergoing a major renovation. It will return, refreshed and revitalised, to Birmingham Hippodrome's stage in November 2022, allowing this unique opportunity to present a special adaptation of Sir David Bintley's London production on the company's home stage for one year only.

The show opens on a wintry soundscape - the Dickensian tones of Simon Callow as Drosselmeyer echo across the auditorium as he introduces the story and Tchaikovsky's glorious score is placed at the centre of the action, with the orchestra out of the pit and on a platform raised above the stage.

Scenery designer Dick Bird's wall of mirrors reflects spectacular scenic elements that bring the 19th century to vivid life, such as Drosselmeyer's toyshop, the Stahlbaum's beautifully decorated Christmas tree, and the scary midnight world in which King Rat battles the Nutcracker doll and his band of toy soldiers – all enhanced by beautiful projections, conjured up by the award-winning 59 Productions.

Birmingham Royal Ballet's dancers and the Royal Ballet Sinfonia weave their magic with the timeless choreography and glorious Tchaikovsky score to create a quintessential Christmas treat for all the family.

The Royal Albert Hall welcomes the production back for a fourth year for just seven performances from 28 - 31 December.

/Ends

Media enquiries and for media interested in attending this event please contact <u>clair@breadandbutterpr.uk</u> / 07957 727 534 <u>amy@breadandbutterpr.uk</u> /

Listings

THE NUTCRACKER

Birmingham Hippodrome

Saturday 20 November - Saturday 11 December On sale brb.org.uk/nutracker

Royal Albert Hall

Tuesday 28 - Friday 31 December On sale brb.org.uk/rahnutcracker

Notes to Editors:

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Based at Birmingham Hippodrome, Birmingham Royal Ballet is the United Kingdom's leading touring ballet company performing a range of traditional, classical and heritage ballets as well as ground-breaking new works with the aim of encouraging choreographers of the future.

The Company's Director since January 2020 is the internationally renowned Carlos Acosta.

Birmingham Royal Ballet standardly performs at Birmingham Hippodrome for approximately ten weeks of the year and the remainder of the year tours throughout the United Kingdom and overseas. On average, the Company performs 175 shows a year nationally and internationally.

The Royal Ballet Sinfonia is Birmingham Royal Ballet's permanent orchestra, it is also Britain's busiest ballet orchestra. The Sinfonia also plays frequently for The Royal Ballet and other leading ballet companies, including performances withParis Opéra Ballet, New York City Ballet, Australian Ballet, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, the Kirov, Norwegian Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and La Scala Ballet.