A Ohristmas Fainglale

NEW VIC THEATRE

Welcome to the New Vic Theatre!

We want all our audiences to feel comfortable in the theatre.

This visual information pack contains everything you need to know about visiting the New Vic Theatre. We know that some audiences prefer to know what to expect in the performance before they arrive. This visual information pack will inform you about the lights, sounds and dramatic moments in The Nutcracker.

We also have relaxed performances at the New Vic. These are where we adjust the lights, sounds and dramatic moments for audiences who might prefer a quieter experience. For more information about when our relaxed performances are, visit here:

https://www.newvictheatre.org.uk/productions/the-nutcracker-a-christmas-fairytale/

About the Performance

NEW VIC THEATRE



This is a performance at the New Vic Theatre. It is performed in the round which means the audience sit in a circle around the actors.



This performance is a play. It tells the story of Marie and her quest to save the Sugar Plum Fairy with the help of her friend The Nutcracker. There is a live orchestra who play throughout. There is also lots of ballet dancing.



This performance is suitable for everyone of all ages.



The play is split into two parts called 'Acts'. Act 1 is about 40 minutes long. After Act 1 there is a 15-minute break called an interval. This is where you can go to the toilet or get a drink from the café. Act 2 is about 49 minutes long.

About the Performance



There are often lots of people watching the performance. When you arrive at the theatre, it can feel quite busy. There will be members of staff on hand to assist you.



If you are in trouble or need help, there will be members of staff available to assist you. You can spot them because they wear lanyards that look like this.



There will be an announcement to tell you when to take your seat inside the theatre.



When the performance starts, the lights in the theatre will fade down. It gets quite dark at moments during the play, but never for a long time.

About the Performance



The music in the play can get very loud, but never for a long time. If you want to wear ear protection, that's ok!



If you need to leave the theatre and find a quiet space, we support you. If you ask a member of staff, they can point you in the right direction.



During the play, there are some very dramatic fights. Some of these use swords which look real and make sharp metallic sounds. It can be a little bit frightening, but the actors have practiced these very carefully. The actors are all safe, and you will be safe in the audience too.



The performers love to hear you are enjoying the performance! Often, there is clapping at the end of a dance or at the end of the play. Please do show your appreciation during the performance.

About The Nutcracker

Nutcracker dolls are a Christmas tradition that began in Germany. They are often decorated to look like kings or soldiers.

There are lots of different versions of The Nutcracker story. It was made famous by a Russian composer called Tchaikovsky (chy-kof-skee). He was asked to turn the story into music for a ballet.

The New Vic's adaptation combines theatre, music and ballet all together to tell the story of Marie and her quest to save the sugar plum fairy.



The play begins on Christmas Eve at Uncle Drosselmeyer's (Dross-ell-my-er) house. Marie and her younger brother Fritz have fled home with their Mum to live in this new country which has different Christmas traditions.

Uncle Drosselmeyer gets presents out his magic bag for Marie and Fritz. He gives them a Sugar Plum Fairy for the top of the tree and a wooden Nutcracker painted like a soldier. He explains how the Nutcracker used to be a real soldier but was turned to wood by the wicked Mouse Queen.

Fritz accidently breaks the Nutcracker doll, and Marie shouts that she wishes he had died and not their sister Sasha. She leaves very upset.





In the next scene it is night-time. Marie comes downstairs to play with the Nutcracker. She hears a mouse squeaking. Suddenly, the clock strikes midnight and Uncle Drosselmeyer appears. Using magic, he makes the Christmas tree grow.

Marie is now the same size as her toys who all come to life and dance with her. The Mouse Queen arrives and threatens to chew up all of Marie's dolls. Suddenly, the Nutcracker appears, and a big battle takes place between the toys and the Mouse Queen. The Mouse Queen is winning until Marie threatens to chop off her tail.

The Mouse Queen scurries up the tree to capture the Sugar Plum Fairy. The Mouse has accidently turned the Nutcracker back into a human being. Him and Marie head up the Christmas tree to save Sugar Plum and save Christmas.

Their first stop is through a forest of Christmas Trees where they dance with the snowflakes.





Act 2 begins with Marie and the Nutcracker entering the Kingdom of Sweets. They must cross a lake made of lemonade and call a water taxi to help them. On the journey, their learn that the Mouse Queen has already arrived.

Marie and the Nutcracker enter Bonbonville, which is the capital city in this Kingdom. Everything is made from sweets and all the citizens are dressed in colourful sweet-like clothing.

However, because they don't have sugar paper passes, Marie and Nutcracker are thrown in jail by the Lemon Meringue Mayor. Marie gets upset that they won't be able to save Sugar Plum. She realises the prison bars are made from liquorish, and the two decide to eat their way out.

They disguise themselves as Glace Cherry Guards. They run through Bonbonville, which has now been eaten and torn to pieces by the Mouse Queen. They decide to head to the palace, where the King and Queen are wedding planning for Sugar Plum.





Marie and Nutcracker arrive at the palace where the King and Queen are wedding planning for Princess Sugar Plum They don't believe Nutcracker and his warnings about the Mouse Queen until she suddenly eats through the floor into the throne room.

The Mouse Queen attempts to grab Sugar Plum, but Nutcracker comes to the rescue. The two of them begin an epic fight until Marie suggests someone tries negotiating. The King isn't very good at this, and instead the mouse Queen grabs Sugar Plum and turns her all to wood.

The Nutcracker defeats Mouse Queen, but Sugar Plum is still cursed. He agrees to marry her to break the spell. Sugar Plum is turned human once more, but the curse passes to Nutcracker who turns back into wood.

The final scene of the play is back in the family home where Drosselmeyer finishes telling the story. Just then, Father returns home safely. Marie accepts that her sister Sasha can never come home. As the family go to eat their Christmas dinner, Sugar Plum and Nutcracker appear and dance together once more.









Franky Attard plays Marie.





Edwin Cheng plays plays Nutcracker





Clara Darcy plays Gingerbread, Soldier, Snowflake and Lemon Meringue Mayor.







Amy Harrison plays Rag Doll, Snowflake, Bonbonviller and Servant







Austin Garrett plays Teddy Bear, Snowflake, Bonbonviller and Archduke.







Matt Ganley plays Cymbal Monkey, King and ensemble roles.





Kaitlin Howard plays Mouse Queen.





Abigail Middleton plays Fritz, Envoy and ensemble roles.







Maeve Nolan plays China Doll, Sugar Plum and ensemble roles.







Kate Spencer plays Nastasia, Queen Clementina and ensemble roles.





Peter Watts plays Uncle Drosselmeyer.







Adam Scottland plays Glace Cherry Guard, Prince of Chocolate and ensemble roles.





Farhaan Shah is the Musical Director and Violinist





Benjamin Pinto plays the Clarinet and Bass Clarinet





Leila Marshall plays the Flute and Piccolo

What to Expect at the Theatre



The entrance to the theatre car park looks like this.



There are accessible parking spaces in the car park. You can pre-book these in advance by calling box office.



This is the main entrance into the theatre building.



You can collect your tickets from box office. It looks like this!



This is the gift shop where you can buy cards and Christmas treats!

What to Expect at the Theatre



These are the stairs that take you up to the theatre bar and café.



This is the café area where people gather before the show.



There is also a lift to the left of the stairs.



This is the lounge where you can sit if you need to leave the performance.



At the interval, you can buy snacks from this snack station.

For More Information contact us at Box Office:



01782 717 962



10:00am – 6:00pm Monday – Saturday



tickets@newvictheatre.org.uk