

Brass instruments are a vital part of the festive fabric of Christmas, and Tchaikovsky's iconic ballet *The Nutcracker* is made even more joyful with the brassy brilliance of Septura. Narrated by pre-eminent actor Derek Jacobi, *The Nutcracker* is set on Christmas Eve, with music both rapturous and fantastical. It tells the story of how young Clara's favourite present, a nutcracker shaped like a little man, turns into a handsome prince at midnight. Septura has been acclaimed by *Brass Band World* for its 'stylistic perfection' and 'beautifully portrayed artistry' (Music for Brass Septet • 2, Naxos 8.573386).

Pyotr Il'yich  
**TCHAIKOVSKY**  
(1840–1893)

**1–47 The Nutcracker (1892) 65:24**

arr. Matthew Knight and Simon Cox (2017/19)

Text: Matthew Knight, based on Alexandre Dumas' adaptation  
of E.T.A Hoffmann's *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King*

**Derek Jacobi, Narrator**

**Septura**

**Huw Morgan, Trumpet in E flat**

**Alan Thomas, Simon Cox, Trumpets in B flat**

**Matthew Gee, Matthew Knight, Trombones**

**Daniel West, Bass Trombone • Peter Smith, Tuba**

**Scott Lumsdaine, Percussion**

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet. The narrated texts are included in the booklet and may also be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/574157.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/574157.htm)

Recorded: 31 May to 2 June 2019 at St Jude's Church, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London, UK

Producer and engineer: Phil Rowlands • Co-producer and editor: Jim Unwin

Booklet notes: Matthew Knight • Publisher: Resonata Music

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**DDD**

8.574157

Playing Time

65:24

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