

## About Nutcracker

### HISTORY

*"..what comes out is colorless, dry, hasty and wretched. ..I am deeply convinced that nothing good will come out of all my excessive efforts, either for the theatre or me."*

These are Tchaikovsky's words written in 1891 about one of his most enduring ballets while struggling with the composition which presented numerous difficulties. But before you rush to the box office to return your tickets, Tchaikovsky's last word on Nutcracker is his music and his music belies his written words. The difficulties presented by a libretto that does not have the traditional dramatic elements found in most ballets and operas were overcome by composing a score that creates a childlike atmosphere. The story is originally from a tale by E.T.A. Hoffman. The ballet libretto synopsis follows:

### ACT ONE

On Christmas Eve, a time when dreams may become reality, the Stahlbaum Family prepares for their holiday party. When the guests arrive the children run to admire the beautiful Christmas tree and examine the shiny packages. Clara's Godfather, Herr Drosselmeyer, arrives and delights the guests with mechanical dolls he has invented. Drosselmeyer presents Clara with a special gift, a Nutcracker Doll. Clara is fascinated with her Nutcracker and shows it to all her friends. Her brother, Fritz, becomes jealous of the attention Clara receives and tries to take the Nutcracker from her. During the struggle the Nutcracker breaks. Drosselmeyer repairs the broken Nutcracker by making a bandage from his handkerchief. He promises Clara that if she takes good care of the Nutcracker he will be better in the morning.

Soon after the party comes to an end. The guests bid good night to their hosts and take their tired children home. Clara awakens during the night and tiptoes downstairs to check on her Nutcracker. She notices an ominous shadow on the wall. Drosselmeyer appears and casts a spell on Clara. Soon the living room is filled with large darting mice and the Christmas tree grows taller and the Nutcracker comes to life. A battle ensues between the mice and their evil Mouse King, and Fritz's toy soldiers led by the Nutcracker. Fearing that the Nutcracker is losing the battle, Clara throws a shoe at the Mouse King and he is transformed into a tiny mouse. Clara discovers that her Nutcracker Prince has been mortally wounded.

Clara grieves for her beloved Nutcracker. Suddenly Drosselmeyer appears and the Nutcracker revives and appears as a handsome prince. Drosselmeyer sends Clara and her Nutcracker Prince off into the snowy night to begin their magnificent adventure.

*15 min. Intermission*

### ACT TWO

The Nutcracker Prince takes Clara to the magical Kingdom of Sweets where they are greeted by Drosselmeyer who presents her with a vast array of mechanical dolls. To Clara's delight, the dolls are transformed into people representing a variety of nations. Each of the representatives present Clara and her Prince with a sweet treat from their nation. Clara and her Prince join in the festivities by dancing with the lovely blossoms in the Waltz of the Flowers. Clara is surprised to see members of the kingdom drifting away. As her dream comes to an end she is awakened by her mother.

# The NUTCRACKER



presented by

**CONEJO CIVIC BALLET COMPANY**

&

**BALLET ARTS**

Bank of America Performing Arts Center  
Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza - Kavli Theater  
Sunday Dec. 11, 2011 2:30 PM

# THE NUTCRACKER

Music	<i>Peter Tchaikovsky</i>
Choreography	<i>Maria Tikhomirova &amp; Enton Hoxha</i>
Stage Direction	<i>Enton Hoxha &amp; Maria Tikhomirova</i>
Executive Director	<i>Robin Twarowski</i>
Ballet Mistress	<i>Helena Pokorny-Jones</i>
Technical Assistant	<i>Brett Weidlich</i>
Rehearsal Supervisors	<i>Linda Lewis, Linda Poff, Melisa Sutherland</i>

## COSTUMES & PROPS

Erin Coutts, Grace Crocker, Susan Farnsworth-Leong, Heather Hill, Connie Hong, Sue Hostetler, Deena Kernan, Dzieszma Teteris, Yvonne Thomas

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**Alliance for the Arts & Community Events Endowment Fund.**

## CAST

Young Clara	<i>Lauren Crocker</i>
Fritz	<i>Casey Monahan</i>
Clara's Mother	<i>Linda Lewis</i>
Clara's Father	<i>Pavlo Ryabokon</i>
Drosselmeyer	<i>Dimitri Bagramyan</i>
Harlequin Doll	<i>Arman Avedisova</i>
Ballerina Doll	<i>Annie Cheng</i>
Grandfather	<i>Luke Fuller</i>
Grandmother	<i>Maria Tikhomirova</i>
Mouse King	<i>Luke Fuller</i>
Nutcracker Prince	<i>Kenny Borchard</i>
Dream Clara	<i>Annia Hidalgo</i>
Cavalier	<i>Roberto Almaguez</i>
Butterfly	<i>Mya Campbell</i>
Solo Mouse	<i>Kayla Jou</i>
Maids	<i>Brigit Larson, Alexis Carranza</i>
Party Parents	<i>Sergio Barrientos, Jennifer Carroll, Luke Fuller, Anna Gumberg, Briant Leytman, Eugeny Popov, Natasha Shevchenko, Melisa Sutherland, Luis Vazquez</i>
Party Girls	<i>Jordan Coutts, Samantha Farnsworth, Natalie Hadek, Victoria Jiang, Elaina McCormick, Katherine Morris</i>
Party Boys	<i>Amy Fang, Ashley Jou, Jade Kinomoto, Annie Nisnevich, Sonia Romanova, Amanda Yao</i>

## CAST (cont'd)

Mice	<i>Francesca Blackett, Guinevere Buchanan, Mya Campbell, Sue Warford-Crowe, Caroline Dority, Annika Goss, Sophia Hillman, Kayla Jou, Charlotte-Rose McCormick, Elaina McCormick, Annie Nisnevich, Caelyn Pender, Sonia Romanova, Callie Sutherland, Annija Teteris, Ashley Thomas, Sarena Wapnick</i>
Soldiers	<i>Mary Bissonette, Jenny Cheng, Amy Fang, Jade Kinomoto, Kailey Konkel, Brigit Larson, Allison Liang, Casey Monahan, Katherine Morris, Amanda Yao, Angela Zheng</i>
Snow Princesses	<i>Annie Cheng, Lauren Crocker</i>
Snow Maidens	<i>Jessica Bevan, Alexis Carranza, Jenny Cheng, Juliana Distefano, Alexa Kernan, Allison Liang, Audrey Mathias, Katherine Morris, Melisa Sutherland, Amanda Yao, Angela Zheng, Allison Zhong</i>
Snowflakes	<i>Karyss Amato, Kylee Anthony, Jesseca Bubany, Jodi Chung, Symone Craven, Vila Elliot, Sehlara Fodor, Maya Goldstein, Brianna Hill, Maddy Marder, Melia Nordquist, Kiersten Roth, Sage Ruby, Rachel Shi, Shivani Thomas, Taylor Thomas, Lillian Woodard, Maya Yie</i>
Guardian Angels	<i>Jordan Coutts, Samantha Farnsworth-Leong, Elaina McCormick, Sonia Romanova</i>
Angels	<i>Kylee Anthony, Janelle Batiste, Guinevere Buchanan, Madalyn Buckle, Emma Campbell, Natalie Carroll, Karis Chang, Duna Divito, Victoria Dority, Christy Gibson, Madison Hayward, Peyton Hayward, Isabel Hernandez, Sofia Hillman, Ava Holtzkamp, Paige Konkle, Charlotte-Rose McCormick, Meriel McCormick, Molly Norton, Emma Poff, Sarah Poff, Camber Strobe, Caroline Trilling, Lauren Yamane</i>
Spanish	<i>Audrey Mathias</i> <i>Mary Bissonette, Amy Fang, Samantha Farnsworth-Leong, Natalie Hadek, Victoria Jiang, Ashley Jou, Casey Monahan, Katherine Morris</i>
Arabian	<i>Jessica Bevan, Pavlo Ryabokon</i> <i>Alexis Carranza, Lauren Crocker, Brigit Larson, Kailey Konkel, Melisa Sutherland, Angela Zheng, Allison Zhong</i>
Russian	<i>Arman Avedisova, Dimitri Bagramyan, Lauren Crocker, Alexa Kernan</i>
Chinese	<i>Annie Cheng, Allison Liang</i> <i>Jenny Cheng, Jordan Coutts, Kayla Jou, Jade Kinomoto, Elaina McCormick, Annie Nisnevich, Sonia Romanova, Callie Sutherland</i>
French	<i>Juliana Distefano, Kenny Borchard</i> <i>Lambs: Emma Campbell, Natalie Carroll, Ava Holtzkamp, Lauren Yamane</i>
Italian	<i>Guinevere Buchanan, Madalyn Buckle, Victoria Dority, Madison Hayward, Sofia Hillman, Paige Konkle, Charlotte-Rose McCormick, Emma Poff, Sarah Poff, Ashley Thomas, Eliza Cohen, Simona Konstantinovskaya</i>
Pas De Deux	<i>Roberto Almaguez, Annia Hidalgo</i>
Waltz of the Flowers	<i>Alexa Kernan, Allison Zhong</i> <i>Jessica Bevan, Alexis Carranza, Annie Cheng, Jenny Cheng, Lauren Crocker, Juliana Distefano, Allison Liang, Audrey Mathias, Katherine Morris, Melisa Sutherland, Amanda Yao, Angela Zheng</i>
Waltz Blossoms	<i>Francesca Blackett, Mya Campbell, Caroline Dority, Annika Goss, Caelyn Pender, Callie Sutherland, Annija Teteris, Ashley Thomas, Sarena Wapnick, Sue Warford-Crowe</i>