

CONEJO CIVIC BALLET COMPANY

and

BALLET ARTS

PRESENT



Swan Lake

Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza
Countrywide Performing Arts Center - Scherr Forum Theatre

Friday May 26, 2006 7:00 PM
Saturday May 27, 2006 2:30 PM

Swan Lake

MUSIC	Peter Tchaikovsky
CHOREOGRAPHY	Helena Pokorny (after Petipa and Ivanov)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Robin Twarowski
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	Eva Pokorny
BALLET MISTRESS	Helena Pokorny
STAGE MANAGER	Brett Weidlich
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR	Cindy Borbas

COSTUMES

Leigh Barry, Sue Hostetler, Custom Costumes by Armineh

Set decorations provided by Conejo Rental Center (Newbury Park)

CAST

ODETTE/ODILE	Sylvia Rotaru
PRINCE SIEGFRIED	Yuan-Ming Chang
QUEEN	Carol Garten
ROTHBART	Scott Pascal
JESTER	Sergei Domrachev

PAS DE TROIS Rachel Borbas, Mercedes King, Yuan-Ming Chang

LADIES OF THE COURT Sandra Jou, Linda Lewis, Lauren Smith, Marsha Weinstein

WALTZ Madeline Barry, Molly Bogeberg, Mimi Borbas, Mary Daniels, Shannon Eu, Maria Kovaleva, Alyssa Lewis, Bacall Michaels, Emma Murphy, Allison Ramiller, Samantha Sellers, Monica Simonds, Sophia Toporoff, Paige Weller

Mayson Aber, Dasha Gloutak, Hanna Hong, Ashlyn Lewis, Melissa Levinsohn, Anna Torraca, Arielle Yoon-Tobias
Julie Wang (Fri.) Allison Zhong (Sat.)

CAST

POLONAISE	Elizabeth Barham, Paige Ceylan, Avery Cohen, Juliana Distefano, Sally Gerster, Kaitlynn Lorrington, Lida Mazina, Kara Petros
	Meral Arik, Yasmin Arik, Olivia Copti, Rebecca Dixon, Megan King, Peyton Kropfl, Audrey Mathias, Madison Wright
SWANS: CORPS DE BALLET	Madeline Barry, Molly Bogeberg, Mimi Borbas, Rachel Borbas, Mary Daniels, Shannon Eu, Dasha Gloutak, Hanna Hong, Laurissa Jazwa, Mercedes King, Maria Kovaleva, Melissa Levinsohn, Alyssa Lewis, Bacall Michaels, Emma Murphy, Allison Ramiller, Samantha Sellers, Lauren Smith, Bianca Tartaglia, Sophia Toporoff, Paige Weller, Julie Wang, Allison Zhong
SWANS: PETITE PAS DE QUATRE	Mimi Borbas, Mercedes King, Maria Kovaleva, Paige Weller
SWANS: GRANDE PAS DE QUATRE	Molly Bogeberg, Mary Daniels, Alison Ramiller, Bianca Tartaglia
PAGES	Paige Ceylan, Avery Cohen, Juliana Distefano, Sally Gerster (Fri.) Kaitlynn Lorrington & Lida Mazina (Sat.) Elizabeth Barham & Kara Petros
QUEEN'S PAGE	Noah Bissonette
PRINCESS BRIDES	Madeline Barry, Rachel Borbas, Samantha Sellers, Monica Simonds, Sophia Toporoff, (Fri.) Bianca Tartaglia (Sat.) Mary Daniels
SPANISH (Choreography by Brett Weidlich)	Molly Bogeberg, Allison Ramiller (Fri.) Mary Daniels (Sat.) Bianca Tartaglia
MAZURKA (POLISH)	Mayson Aber, Alyssa Lewis, Ashlyn Lewis, Bacall Michaels, Allison Zhong (Fri.) Dasha Gloutak, Hanna Hong, Arielle Yoon- Tobias (Sat.) Melissa Levinsohn, Anna Torraca, Julie Wang
NEOPOLITAN (ITALIAN)	Mimi Borbas, Mercedes King, Maria Kovaleva, Paige Weller

*Special thanks to State Street Ballet Company of Santa Barbara
for their cooperation in this production.*

THE ARTISTS

EVA POKORNY - Artistic Director of Conejo Civic Ballet Company - is a graduate of the Vaganova Method, from City Ballet School, Zlin, Czechoslovakia. She danced with the National Ballet of Czechoslovakia for twenty years before moving to the United States. In addition to overseeing the productions of Conejo Civic Ballet Company, she teaches advanced ballet classes at Ballet Arts in Westlake Village where she is Faculty Director.

HELENA POKORNY - Choreographer/Ballet Mistress- was born in the Czech Republic and began dancing at the age of six. After moving to the United States she resumed her dance studies at Ballet Arts. Miss Pokorny has attended the School of American Ballet in New York and Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle as a scholarship student. After completing a three-year contract with the Prague National Ballet Theatre, Miss Pokorny returned to the United States to continue her career as a dancer. She shares her knowledge and love of dance with her students at Ballet Arts.

BRETT WEIDLICH - Choreographer/Stage Manager - was born in the Czech Republic and graduated from the National Ballet School. Receiving a full five-year scholarship to study at the Conservatoire of Rimsky-Korsakov in St. Petersburg, Russia, he received a masters degree in teaching and choreography. He has danced with the Prague National Ballet Theatre and the National Ballet Theatre in Mexico City. Mr. Weidlich has moved to the United States to pursue his career both as a dancer and teacher/choreographer at Ballet Arts.



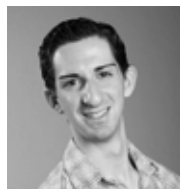
SYLVIA ROTARU (Odette/Odile) - Sylvia Rotaru is a native of Romania where she graduated from the Bucharest Ballet High School in 1992 and performed as a soloist with Bucharest National Opera since 1994. She has toured as a principal dancer in the U.S., Germany, Holland, Belgium and Italy. Her lead roles have been in Swan Lake, Cinderella, Paquita, La Bayadere, Nutcracker and Don Quixote. Silvia is currently a member of State Street Ballet of Santa Barbara.



SERGEI DOMRACHEV (Jester) - Sergei Domrachev was born in Russia. He graduated from the Perm Ballet Academy and joined the Moscow Classical Ballet as a soloist. He has danced many character roles that showcase his talent for comic acting including the Jester in Swan Lake, Benvolio and Mercutio in Romeo and Juliet, Gamash in Don Quixote and Puck in Midsummer Night's Dream. He was a member of the Los Angeles Classical Ballet prior to joining State Street Ballet.



YUAN-MING CHANG (Prince Siegfried) - Yuan-Ming Chang was born in Taiwan. He received his classical ballet training from the Joffrey Ballet School in New York, the Houston Ballet Academy in Texas as well as Cal Arts. He joined State Street Ballet in 2003 and has been seen in several roles including the Arabian dancer in Nutcracker, as well as several soloist roles in; Tango Rain, Estancia, and The Handkerchief. He has also appeared with the Houston Ballet in Cleopatra, Raymonda, Five Poems, and the Nutcracker.



SCOTT PASCAL (Rothbart) - Scott Pascal was born in Southern California where he received his dance education with Los Angeles Ballet Academy. He also trained at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. In 2004, Mr. Pascal joined State Street Ballet as an apprentice, dancing the role of the lead Chinese in The Nutcracker. As a company member, Scott danced the role of Demetrius in A Midsummer Nights Dream as well as doing many guestings.

SYNOPSIS

Act One

SCENE ONE: CASTLE GARDEN

In the castle garden the jester summons members of the court and children to an impromptu celebration on the eve of Prince Siegfried's twenty-first birthday. The Queen arrives and presents her son with a crossbow as a birthday gift. She tells him it is time for him to settle down and marry. Tomorrow evening at the grand ball to celebrate his birthday he must choose a bride. The Prince is not happy at the prospect of marriage, but being a dutiful son agrees to her wishes. When the Queen leaves the Jester advises the Prince to enjoy the rest of the day by dancing with the lovely girls who have come to wish him a happy birthday. The dancing distracts him for a time. As darkness falls, the Prince sees a flock of swans flying overhead and decides to go hunting.

SCENE TWO: A LAKE IN THE FOREST

The evil magician, Rothbart, appears and summons the swan maidens. The Prince arrives and is enchanted by the beautiful swans. Suddenly the Swan Queen arrives to protect the swan maidens. Siegfried assures her he will not harm them. The Swan Queen tells the Prince that she is Odette and that she and the other swan maidens are under the spell of Rothbart. By day they must live as swans on a lake formed by her mother's tears; only during the few hours between midnight and dawn are the swans allowed to take human form. She tells him that the spell can only be broken by a man who will swear undying love to her and only her. Siegfried vows to be that man. He asks her to come to the ball the following evening so that he can choose her as his bride. Rothbart overhears the plan. Sensing his return, the swan maidens try to conceal Odette from him. Rothbart invokes the spell and Odette is forced to once again become a swan and return to his power.

15 minute Intermission

Act Two

SCENE ONE: PALACE BALLROOM

The evening of the ball arrives with dancing, merriment and presents for the Prince. When the Queen tells Siegfried he must choose a bride, he can think only of Odette, disappointed she has not arrived. He tells his mother that all the princesses are lovely but he refuses to make a choice. The Queen is angry with his decision. Suddenly the heralds announce the arrival of new guests. A man enters with his daughter, Odile. To Siegfried she appears as the very image of Odette. The Prince tries to approach her but the father intervenes. They are presented to the Queen and she asks the man to sit with her and tell her about his lovely daughter. The man finally allows the Prince to dance with Odile and believing her to be Odette he tells the Queen he wants to choose her as his bride. The Queen agrees, but before he can ask her to marry him the father demands an oath from that he will swear to love her and only her forever. Siegfried swears eternal fidelity only to have Odile spurn his offer. In the distance the Prince sees a lone swan flying away from the castle and realizes he has been deceived by Rothbart. He flees the castle to find Odette and explain the tragedy that has befallen them.

SCENE TWO: A LAKE IN THE FOREST

Siegfried returns to the lake searching for Odette. She forgives him even though she and the other swan maidens are doomed to remain swans forever. Siegfried tries to console her and tells Odette he will never leave her. Rothbart appears. His temper flares when he finds Siegfried and Odette together. The Prince and Rothbart struggle. During their battle, Odette places herself in front of Siegfried and swears that she will not let Rothbart harm him. The power of her love diminishes Rothbart's strength. He struggles to gain control but the love of Odette and Siegfried is stronger than his magic. Rothbart dies and with his death the spell is broken.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Conejo Civic Ballet Company thanks the following people and organizations for helping to make this production possible.

Honorary Executive Board Members

Lorraine Kissinger, Colleen Briner-Schmidt,
Ann Oppenheim, Linda Peralta

Funding Provided by

Carol and Homer Garten
Alliance for the Arts
Community Events Endowment Fund
(City of Thousand Oaks)

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Conejo Rental Center

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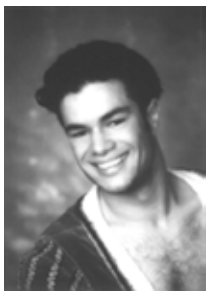
Intermediate thru Advanced

(Technique, Pointe, Repertoire, Pas de Deux)



Susan Clark - former Principal, Atlanta Ballet

Miss Clark joined the Milwaukee Ballet Company as a Principal Dancer in 1990 where she danced such notable roles as: Aurora in Sleeping Beauty, Odette/Odile in Swan Lake, Cinderella, and the Sugar Plum Fairy in The Nutcracker. She later took on the role of Ballet Mistress for the Company. Prior to Milwaukee, Miss Clark was a Principal Dancer with the Atlanta Ballet where she danced the lead roles of many classical and neoclassical ballets. She danced with Ballet Repertory in New York City and with Twyla Tharp in the film version of Hair. She was also a Prize Winner at the International Ballet Competitions in Osaka, Japan. Miss Clark continues her relationship with the Milwaukee Ballet teaching for their summer program.



Matt Bruno - first Soloist, Milwaukee Ballet

Matthew Bruno grew up in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. After beginning early training at the Milwaukee Ballet School, he continued with the School of American Ballet in New York and is a graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts. Mr. Bruno has danced with the Miami City Ballet working with its artistic director Edward Villela and performing his choreography, among others, in festivals such as the Spolito Festival in Charleston, South Carolina. He was most recently a first Soloist with the Milwaukee Ballet performing mainly principal roles under the direction of Michael Pink. Mr. Bruno has had the opportunity to perform leading roles in the great classic ballets at home and in guest performances throughout the nation. Among his favorite classical roles have been Franz in Coppelia and Colas in La Fille Mal Gardée. Mr. Bruno also truly excels in the contemporary repertoire.

Conejo Civic Ballet Company

presents

Nutcracker 2006

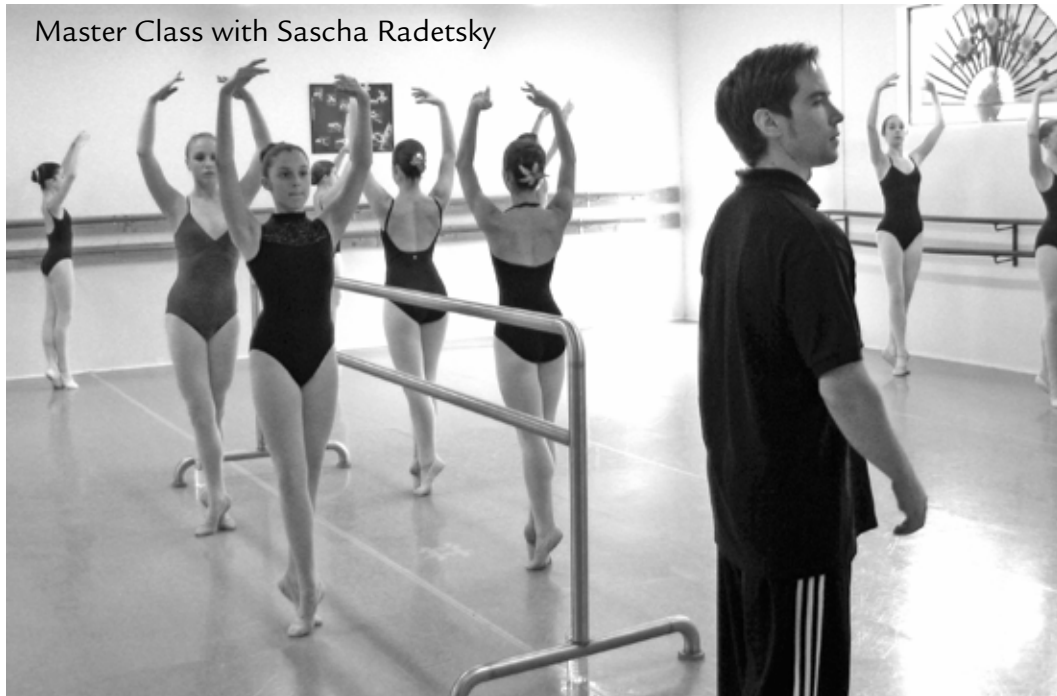
Sunday, December 3, 2006

Countrywide Performing Arts Center

Kavli Theatre

BALLET ARTS

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BALLET ARTS is committed to dance as a performing art. Professional quality dance productions provide students with stage experience and motivation to refine their dance technique. The discipline necessary to participate in a live stage performance is taught early and stage experience is accumulated as the student progresses, accepting more difficult roles. Structured classroom lessons and applied stage performance go hand in hand to reinforce the importance of good dance technique. We are the only dance school in the area that has a performing company and focuses entirely on stage performance, not diluting our training by supporting dance competitions. And it shows!

BALLET ARTS

The Official School of the Conejo Civic Ballet Company

31308 Via Colinas #101 • Westlake Village
(805) 495-7940 • www.BalletArts.org

Special Notice: Molly Bogeberg and Samantha Sellers are graduating from High School this year and will be attending college next year, so this will be their last performance with CCBC. Molly has been with us for 10 years and Samantha for 8. If you have been following our performances over the years, you will have noticed that both these dancers have attained secure technique and stage presence. And for all the potential ballerinas in the audience, this is your last chance to collect their autographs on your program before they leave for their next great adventure in life!