12-14-1997

Nutcracker

Salt Creek Ballet

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The Nutcracker

Featuring Principle Dancers of
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December 14th, 1997 1 P.M. & 5 P.M

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Salt Creek Ballet
Twelfth Annual

The Nutcracker
Patricia Sigurdson
Artistic Director

Hinsdale Central Auditorium
Saturday, November 29, 1:00 and 5:00
Sunday, November 30, 1:00
with the Salt Creek Ballet Symphony Orchestra

Paramount Arts Centre
Aurora
Saturday, December 6
1:00 and 5:00
with the Salt Creek Ballet Symphony Orchestra

Center for the Performing Arts
 Governors State University
Sunday, December 14
1:00 and 5:00

featuring guest artists from

American Ballet Theatre
Yan Chen ~ Angel Corella ~ Ethan Stiefel

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The Nutcracker
Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Staged and Choreographed by Dace Dindonis
Sets Designed and Executed by David Higgins

Act I
The Von Stahlbaums are getting ready to receive their party guests who arrive, family by family, bearing gifts for the hosts' children, Clara and Fritz. The presents are all carefully placed beneath the Christmas tree and given to the children as they step up. Dr. Drosselmeyer, the most mysterious man in the whole town, arrives with a marvelous group of mechanical dolls and a fine nutcracker for Clara.

Fritz is jealous of Clara's new toy and snatches it from her. Spurred on by the other boys, he plays with it so energetically that he breaks it! Drosselmeyer restores the nutcracker to health and returns it to Clara. The guests perform a contredanse, after which they depart and the hosts prepare for bed.

Clara returns after everyone is asleep and is startled by mice which have grown to life-size!

Dr. Drosselmeyer reappears and magically causes wondrous things to happen. The tree grows, the toys come to life, and the Nutcracker becomes life size to protect Clara from the mice. A furious battle ensues between the toy soldiers led by the Nutcracker and the mice led by their king. At the height of the battle Clara strikes the mouse king with her shoe and the defeated mice flee.

The Nutcracker, released from a spell, turns into a handsome prince and takes Clara on a magical trip through the Kingdom of Snow and beyond.

Act II
Clara's voyage takes her to the Kingdom of Sweets where she is greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy. A series of entertaining divertissements are ordered and the Sugar Plum Fairy dances with the Prince. When the festivities are over, everyone bids good-bye to Clara who sorrowfully makes her journey homeward.

Please no flash photography. A flash pot will be used during performances.

THE CAST

Counselor Von Stahlbaum: Michael Toon
Frau Von Stahlbaum: Pilar Garcia
Their Daughter, Clara: Julie Janowitz (11/29&30)
Their Son, Fritz: J. Andrew Haried (11/29&30)

Guests:
Alexandra Berger (11/29&30)
Jane McConnell (12/6&14)

Children of the Guests:
Sarah Buckley, Aliya Carey, Andrea Dres, Margaret Matray, Natasha Niedbalec, Danah Sivik, Theodora Tzinares, Lela Wernert (11/29&30)

Columbine and Harlequin: Tracey Maradei, Arturo Alvarez
Soldier Dolls: Jennifer Janowitz, Nizam Kaiser
King of the Mice: Paul Arnold
Mice: Alexandria Bellinder, Ashley Hoffman (11/29&30), Carolyn Kron, Jamie Patzer, Jenna Sticken, Lauren Suahjda, Paige Wolfe (12/6&14)
Soldiers: Christopher Cesca, Daniel Getta, Alexander Haried, J. Andrew Haried, Omeed Javidan, Kevin Kron, Ronald Neurauter, Brendan Sweeney

The Nutcracker: Arturo Alvarez
The Nutcracker Prince: Ethan Stiefel (11/29&30, 12/6)
Angel Corella (12/6)
The Snow Queen: Erica Edwards (11/29&30)
Sara Blankenship (12/6&14)
The Snow King: David Tschudy (11/29&30)
Jorge Rios (12/6&14)
Snow Scene Singers
Members of the Tower Chorale under the direction of James Winfield (11/29&30)
Members of the First Presbyterian Church of Aurora Choir under the direction of Karen Roberts. (12/6)
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Keriann Kushner, Brooke LeBan, Julie McCloud, 
Rebecca Palak, Mary Shain (12/6&14)

Sugar Plum Fairy:
Yan Chen

Spanish Dance:
Lacey Soltysiatk (11/29&30) 
Erica Edwards (12/6&14)

Arabian Dance:
Tracey Maradei, Arturo Alvarez

Chinese Dance:
Jennifer Blake, Kate Rowan

Russian Dance:
Alexandra Berger, Jennifer Janowitz 
Mark Wasylyszn

Mirlitons:
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Mother Ginger:
Pilar Garcia

Her Children:
Elle Austin Carpenter, Caitlin Fitzgibbons, 
Madeline Hines, Maggie Hines, Amanda 
Izquierdo, Analisa Niedbalec, Stephanie Stefanik, 
Courtney Suhajda (11/29&30)

Cailley Chakeen, Julia D'Angelo, Juliana Farley, 
Kelly Rene Gedwill, Victoria Canaday Howard, 
Julie Karaba, Gabriella March, Devon Whiteway (12/6&14)

Special Acrobats:
Annie Bere, Mary Nash (11/29&30) 
Trisha Evason, Rachael Huske (12/6&14)

Waltz of the Flowers:
Erica Edwards (11/29&30) 
Lacey Soltysiatk (12/6&14) 
Hayley Nelson, Jason T. Wiser 
Cari McLean, David Tschudy 
Jennifer Blake, Elise Bukowski, Jennifer Janowitz, 
Jane McConnell, Kate Rowan

Pas de Deux:
Yan Chen, Ethan Stiefel (11/29&30, 12/6) 
Yan Chen, Angel Corella (12/14)

Waltz Finale and 
Apotheosis:
The Company
Dear Friend of the Salt Creek Ballet:

It has been another outstanding year for Salt Creek Ballet! As 1997 comes to a close, it seems an appropriate time to celebrate the achievements of the past twelve months and look ahead to the plans that are about to unfold:

- The 1996-97 performance season delighted and entertained audiences and critics alike!
- Salt Creek Ballet ended its 1996-97 fiscal year on sound financial footing.
- Fall enrollment is healthy, with a record number of new and returning students.
- The school facilities look better than ever, with a new floor and updated furniture.
- The Nutcracker sets have been professionally refurbished for the holiday performances!

In the year ahead there is much to anticipate and the ballet is ready to proceed full speed ahead:

- In keeping with tradition, Thanksgiving weekend marks the beginning of the Nutcracker tour. Guest artists from American Ballet Theatre will perform with Salt Creek’s highly trained corps of dancers and Salt Creek Ballet’s Symphony Orchestra will accompany select performances.
- The Spring production of Coppélia will be performed at the College of DuPage. Bringing this complex production to the stage will fulfill a long range goal of our Artistic Director.
- This year will herald the introduction of Salt Creek Ballet’s Studio Ensemble. The Studio Ensemble will focus on community outreaches and provide increased performance opportunities for our students.
- Outreach programs to the elderly and disadvantaged will remain a critical focus for Salt Creek. Building audiences and reaching underserved populations is part of our stated mission.
- Maintaining a safe environment for our students remains a high priority. The installation of a security system is a much needed capital improvement that cannot be deferred.
- Office equipment such as computers and an adequate phone system is critical to the smooth functioning of the administrative office and will allow us to better serve the families that utilize the studio.

Choreography, stage sets, costumes, symphony orchestras, world renowned guest artists, highly trained faculty, and the maintenance of an efficient, pleasant, spacious and safe studio do not come without significant cost!

As plans for the future unfold, the ballet counts on the continued support of friends for the funding of its programs. I hope you will help us now with a contribution to support our 1997-98 efforts. On behalf of Salt Creek Ballet’s Board of Directors, I thank you for your generosity and extend our warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Carol K. Yeager
President

Your tax deductible contribution may be sent to Salt Creek Ballet, 98 East Naperville Rd., Westmont, IL 60559.

Special thanks to our many volunteers without whose help these productions would not be possible.
GUEST ARTISTS

YAN CHEN - Sugar Plum Fairy - American Ballet Theatre - Born in China, Yan Chen received her dance training at the Shanghai Dance School. She also studied as an exchange student at the San Francisco Ballet School. In 1986, she was a prize winner at the Prix de Lausanne. Prior to joining American Ballet Theatre in 1993, Ms. Chen was a Principal dancer with The Washington Ballet for five years. Ms. Chen received critical acclaim for her alluring innocence and dramatic depth in her debut as Juliet in Romeo and Juliet and was praised for her playful musicality as Swanilda in Coppelia. She excels in such roles as the Corsaire Pas de Deux, the Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux, the Don Quixote Pas de Deux and Variations on America. She brings lyrical beauty to the lead role in Cinderella and a unique flair to Princess Florine in The Sleeping Beauty. Other roles include the Peasant Pas de Deux in Giselle, the Nocturne, Mazurka, and Waltz in Les Sylphides. Diamonds in The Sleeping Beauty, the Spring Fairy in Cinderella and Polynymphia in Apollo. She created the role of Clara in Kevin McKenzie's The Nutcracker and featured roles in Twyla Tharp's How Near Heaven, Lar Lubovitch's Otherlo, James Kudelka's Cruel World, Antony Tudor's The Leaves are Fading and in Clark Tippet's Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1.

ETHAN STIEFEL - Prince - American Ballet Theatre - Mr. Stiefel began his dance training at the age of eight. He studied for two years at the Milwaukee Ballet School and subsequently at the Pennsylvania Youth Ballet before attending the School of Classical Ballet under Mikhail Baryshnikov in New York as well as on scholarship at the School of American Ballet. He won a medal in the Prix de Lausanne in 1989 and was the recipient of the Princess Grace Foundation-USA grant in 1991. At 16 he joined the corps of the New York City Ballet. In 1992 Mr. Stiefel took a leave of absence from NYCB to work with the Zuerich Ballet. He returned to NYCB one year later and was promoted to Principal dancer in 1995. He recently became a Principal dancer with American Ballet Theatre. Mr. Stiefel has danced principal roles in many of the Balanchine ballets including: A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Four Temperaments, Apollo, Symphony in Three Movements, Stars and Stripes, Harlequinade, Theme and Variations, Divertimento #15, Valse Fantasie, Symphony in C Tarentella, Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux and Chacone. His Jerome Robbins repertoire includes: Dances at a Gathering, West Side Story Suite, The Goldberg Variations, Interplay, The Cage, and Quiet City. Peter Martins created for him Fearful Symmetries, Ash, Tchaikovsky Pas de Quatre and Mozart Piano Concerto as well his production of The Sleeping Beauty. Mr. Stiefel has danced leading roles in classics such as Swan Lake, The Sleeping Beauty, La Bayadere and Coppelia. He has had works created on him by such noted choreographers as William Forsythe, Kevin O'Day, Berndt Bienert, Robert La Fosse and Richard Tanne.

ANGEL CORELLA - Prince - American Ballet Theatre - Born in Madrid, Mr. Corella began his studies in Colmenar Viejo and later studied in Madrid with Karemia Morena. In 1991 he won First Prize in the National Ballet competition of Spain. He won the Grand Prix and Gold Medal at the Concours International de Danse de Paris, dancing the pas de deux from Don Quixote and Le Corsaire. In 1995 Mr. Corella joined American Ballet Theatre as a Soloist. His repertoire with ABT includes Solor in La Bayadere (The Kingdom of the Shades), the Prince and the Jester in Cinderella, Franz in Coppelia, Basil in Don Quixote, a sailor in Fancy Free, Camille in The Merry Widow, Cassio in Otello, Romeo and Benvolio in Romeo and Juliet, the Bluebird and Gold in The Sleeping Beauty, and leading roles in Americas We, Ballet Imperial, A Brahms Symphony, The Leaves Are Fading, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Stepping Stones, the Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux, Theme and Variations and Variations on 'America'. At a Gala in London in the presence of Queen Elizabeth II and Princess Margaret, he dance the Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux with Paloma Herrera. Mr. Corella was appointed Principal Dancer in August, 1996.
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**PILAR GARCIA** - Frau Von Stahlbaum, Mother Ginger - has acted in regional theaters all over the country as well as the Young Vic in London, with Broadway's internationally acclaimed Swiss masque mime show, Mummenschanz, The Classic Stage Company (CSC), the famed children's theater, The Paper Bag Players, and the Richard Morse Mime Theater. Miss Garcia has taught mime/movement at New York's Herbert Berghof Acting Studios, The American Academy of Dramatic Art and Stella Adler's Acting Conservatory. Privately she has helped actors with mime and movement such as Philip Anglim in Broadway's The Elephant Man, and dancers with mime and acting such as Gelsey Kirkland in The Nutcracker. Currently she is teaching dance at the School of Salt Creek Ballet.

**DAVID GOULD** - Dr. Drosselmeyer - has forged a varied acting career in the Chicago area, with credits in theater, TV, film, and the occasional foray into the dance world. He has been seen at Drury Lane Oakbrook in Anything Goes, Something's Afoot, Rumpelstiltskin, and Damn Yankees. He has also appeared regularly with the children's theater company based at the Pickwick Theatre in Park Ridge. TV-commercial watchers may have seen him as one of the dancing butchers for Eagle Five-Star Meats. One of his favorite roles is Dr. Coppélius which he has performed several times at the Beverly Arts Center; he is pleased to include Drosselmeyer to his list of character ballet roles.

**JORGE RIOS** - Lead Waltz - a native of Puerto Rico, Mr. Rios has danced with Ballets de San Juan, Eugene Ballet, Lake Erie Ballet Company and North Carolina Dance Theatre. He has taught ballet in many schools both in Puerto Rico and the U.S. He has won awards for his achievements in dance and choreography as well as in gymnastics. Most recently, Mr. Rios is graduate student at Northern Illinois University in the field of Motor Development and Physical Education.

**DAVID TSCHUDY** - Snow King - from Wilmette, Illinois, Mr. Tschudy began his training with Anida Sedala studying the Cecchetti Method of Ballet and currently holds a Grade V teacher's certificate. David freelances and teaches in the Chicago area and has been seen in many productions. He is very pleased to be dancing and working with the Salt Creek Ballet and its directors, with its wonderful, focused and committed atmosphere of excellence.
Maestro Squires is the Music Director and Conductor of the Illinois Chamber Symphony. A member of the artist faculty of the Northern Illinois University School of Music since 1982, he was appointed Assistant Chair in the summer of 1989. A member of the conducting staff, he has conducted the award-winning Philharmonic, Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds. His ensembles have continually achieved national acclaim through recording competitions, special performances and world premieres. He received his training at the Preparatory School of the Eastman School of Music and the Crane School of Music in his home state of New York. He then pursued both trumpet performance and instrumental conducting at California State University at Northridge, studying trumpet with Anthony Plog and conducting with Lawrence Christiansen and David Whitwell. In 1979 he received his Masters degree—with high honors and a double major. In 1986 he was selected from an international pool of young conductors to study with Helmuth Rilling, Director of the International Bach Academy, Stuttgart, Germany.
Salt Creek Ballet

Salt Creek Ballet celebrates its twelfth year with a history of critically acclaimed performances to tens of thousands of viewers. Its annual Nutcracker is a major holiday event in Hinsdale and Aurora with a new tradition at Governors State University. Many of our performances are accompanied by the Salt Creek Ballet Orchestra. As a member of Regional Dance America, Salt Creek Ballet appears in different cities at the Mid-States Regional Festival each year. Repertory includes traditional classical works plus original ballet and jazz works by both resident and guest choreographers.

Salt Creek Ballet’s spacious studio, with the finest spring-built floors, accommodates expanded classes at all levels including Classical Ballet, Jazz, Spanish, Modern, Pas de Deux, and Character.

Salt Creek Ballet dancers are pre-professionals drawn from the best Chicago area talent. Many are products of the School of the Salt Creek Ballet. Nationally known guest artists, choreographers and designers regularly work with Salt Creek to provide dancers and audiences alike with a level of performance usually associated with top professional companies.

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FOR SALT CREEK BALLET

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May, 1998

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