HANCHER AUDITORIUM

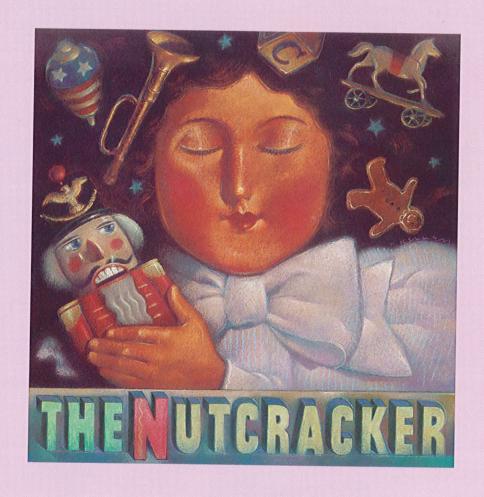
AND

THE JOFFREY BALLET

PRESENT

THE WORLD PREMIERE

OF



DECEMBER 10-12, 1987

Iowa's Holiday Gift To The Nation

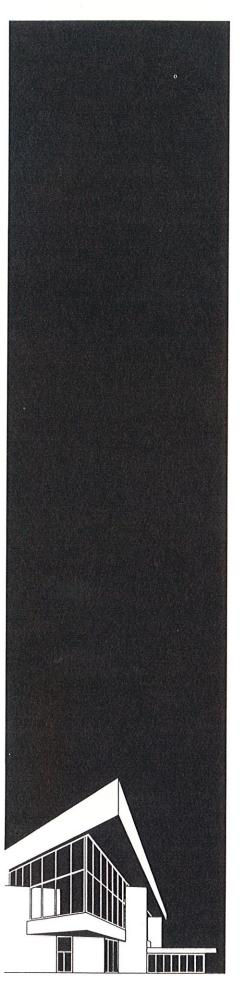


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Cover



HANCHER PRESENTS

Hancher Auditorium Iowa Center for the Arts The University of Iowa

Landmark Event

THE JOFFREY BALLET

ROBERT JOFFREY
Artistic Director

GERALD ARPINO
Associate Director

PENELOPE CURRY Executive Director

Beth Bartholomew • Mary Barton • Cameron Basden • Linda Bechtold Dawn Caccamo • Leslie Carothers • Jill Davidson • Deborah Dawn Jodie Gates • Charlene Gehm • Cynthia Giannini • Kathryn Ginden Meg Gurin • Jennifer Habig • Julie Janus • Tina LeBlanc • Valerie Madonia Elizabeth Parkinson • Victoria Pasquale • Beatriz Rodriguez • Kim Sagami Johanna Snyder • Carole Valleskey • Patrick Corbin • Carl Corry Glenn Edgerton • Mark Goldweber • Jerel Hilding • Philip Jerry Douglas Martin • Parrish Maynard • Tom Mossbrucker Peter Narbutas • Raymond Perrin • Brent Phillips • Roger Plaut Joseph Schnell • John Sheaffer • Edward Stierle Tyler Walters • Ashley Wheater • Mark Wuest

SCOTT BARNARD

Ballet Master

ALLAN LEWIS

Music Director and

Conductor

JOHN MINER Conductor

JENNIFER TIPTON
Lighting Designer

THOMAS SKELTON Lighting Designer

THE JOFFREY II DANCERS
RICHARD ENGLUND, Director
JEREMY BLANTON, Associate Director

The Joffrey Ballet is supported, in part, with public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts.

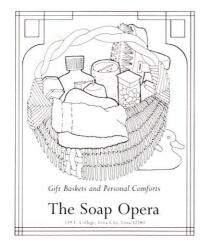
The Joffrey Ballet is sponsored, in part, by Philip Morris Companies Inc.

The Joffrey Ballet extends special thanks to Merrill Lynch & Company, Inc.

The Joffrey Ballet is a member of the National Corporate Fund for Dance, Inc.

Hancher's performances of The Nutcracker are supported, in part, by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency and by Arts Midwest members and friends in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. This project is supported by the Hancher Auditorium Enrichment Fund and other private contributions.

Mark Goldweber as the Nutcracker. Photo by Herbert Migdoll.



THE NUTCRACKER

A Ballet in Two Acts based on E. T. A. Hoffmann's The Nutcracker and the Mouse King (1816) World Premiere

A Robert Joffrey Production
This collaboration is conceived and directed by Robert Joffrey
Choreography for "Waltz of the Snowflakes" and "Waltz of the Flowers" by
Gerald Arpino

Staged by George Verdak* and Scott Barnard

Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Scenery by Oliver Smith

Costumes by John David Ridge

Creative Design for The Mice, Mother Ginger, and Clara's Horse by

Kermit Love

Lighting by Thomas Skelton

Conducted by Allan Lewis

*After the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo 1940 production that was revived by Alexandra Fedorova from the original Petipa/Ivanov production for the Maryinsky Ballet.

SYNOPSIS

ACT I

Scene 1. It is Christmas Eve in an American city in the 1850s. Mayor and Mrs. Stahlbaum and their servants are preparing for a party. The two children, Clara and Fritz, join their parents in the parlor and exclaim over the tree and its treasures. Soon their guests arrive laden with gifts. The last to appear are the mysterious Dr. Drosselmeyer, Clara and Fritz's godfather, and his nephew. They have brought many wonderful gifts and surprises for the Stahlbaums and their friends. Young and old are delighted and amused by the mechanical dolls—Columbine and Harlequin, the Vivandiere and the Soldier—who dance for the guests. As a special gift for Clara, Dr. Drosselmeyer has brought a Nutcracker. Fritz, who with his friends has been teasing the girls, grabs it away and accidentally breaks it. Godfather Drosselmeyer bandages the Nutcracker and comforts the heartbroken Clara. But now it grows late, the guests take their leave, and the family goes upstairs to bed.

Scene 2. It is midnight. Everyone is sleeping but Clara, who has returned to the parlor to fetch her Nutcracker from under the tree. She hears a noise. A small mouse scurries by, then another. The mice begin to tease her, but Godfather Drosselmeyer has returned to shoo them away and transform the small Nutcracker into a life-size Nutcracker Doll. All at once, the parlor disappears, and the Christmas tree grows before our very eyes. The toy soldiers that have been standing guard under the tree have also grown to life-size. The Nutcracker Doll summons the soldiers to battle with the mice, who are now led by the seven-headed Mouse King. Clara returns with her Godfather Drosselmeyer, and, just in time, she throws her slipper at the Mouse King and saves the Nutcracker Doll. With Clara's kiss, he is transformed into the Nutcracker Prince, who bears a striking resemblance to Dr. Drosselmeyer's nephew.

Scene 3. Godfather Drosselmeyer leads Clara and the Nutcracker Prince into the Land of Snow. Here they meet the Snow Queen and King, who look remarkably like Clara's Mother and Father, and the Snow Prince, who looks just like Fritz. The enchanted journey continues to the Kingdom of Sweets.

Intermission

ACT II

The Sugar Plum Fairy welcomes Clara, the Nutcracker Prince, and Dr. Drosselmeyer to the Kingdom of Sweets. Gifts are presented to Clara, and the subjects of this enchanted kingdom—all the dolls from under her tree and all the flowers from her Victorian bouquet—have grown to life-size and dance in her honor. But all dreams must come to an end, and children must return home to their loving families. So Clara too must depart the land of her dreams and return home to her waiting family.

PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 9, 1987—1:00 p.m. Open Rehearsal

This special open rehearsal of **The Nutcracker** has been made possible by a generous gift from Target Stores of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

PROGRAM

Thursday, December 10, 1987-8:00 p.m.

ACT I Scene I. A Victorian Parlour

Dr. Drosselmeyer, Godfather of Clara and Fritz Alexander Grant
His Nephew (The Nutcracker Prince)
Clara
Fritz
Parents of Clara and Fritz:
Mayor Stahlbaum
Mrs. Stahlbaum Leslie Carothers
Grandmother
Grandfather
Maiden Aunts
Governess
Guests
Elizabeth Parkinson, Victoria Pasquale, Kim Sagami, Johanna Snyder
Robert Conn, Brent Phillips, Roger Plaut, Joseph Schnell,
John Sheaffer, Adam Sklute, Tyler Walters
Their Children:
Girls Molly Chehak, Kimberly Durham, Carrie Hughes, Talaye Jaeger
Amy Loffredo, Amanda Sales, Kathy Sheehan, Sheilah Lynch
Boys Elisa Altorfer, Christene Davenport, Chari Davis, Lindsay Ellsworth
Amy Estlund, Jessica Lee, Jeffrey Maxted, Paul Mineck
Servants
Maids
Mechanical Dolls:
Columbine
HarlequinJerel Hilding
Vivandiere
Soldier
Scene II. The Magical Battleground

Nutcracker Prince. Glenn Edgerton
King of Mice Parrish Maynard

First Battalion of Mice	
Shane Gregory, Brent Phillips, Joseph Schnell, Adam Sklute	
Second Battalion of Mice Elisa Altorfer, Elizabeth Brown, Lindsay Ellsworth,	
James Frankfurt, Kelli Jasiewicz, Aimee Langlas, Jessica Lee, Ryan McBride	
Cavalry Mice Megan Blair, Stephanie Henn, Rachael Lu, Gretchen Zimmerman	
Officers	
Roger Plaut, Mark Wuest	
Soldiers Molly Chehak, Christene Davenport, Chari Davis, Kimberly Durham,	
Amy Loffredo, Kimberly Martins, Shanna Morrissey, Jamie O'Dell,	
Anny Lonredo, Kimberry Martins, Shaina Morrissey, Jaime O'Den,	
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse	
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse Dolls under the Tree:	
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse Dolls under the Tree: Spanish Doll	
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse Dolls under the Tree: Spanish Doll	
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse Dolls under the Tree: Spanish Doll Sheilah Lynch Arabian Doll John MacMillan Chinese Dolls Amy Estlund, Talaye Jaeger	
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse Dolls under the Tree: Spanish Doll Sheilah Lynch Arabian Doll John MacMillan Chinese Dolls Amy Estlund, Talaye Jaeger Russian Doll Danielle Rieck	
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse Dolls under the Tree: Spanish Doll Sheilah Lynch Arabian Doll John MacMillan Chinese Dolls Amy Estlund, Talaye Jaeger	
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse Dolls under the Tree: Spanish Doll Sheilah Lynch Arabian Doll John MacMillan Chinese Dolls Amy Estlund, Talaye Jaeger Russian Doll Danielle Rieck Gingerbread Man Amanda Sales	



Mary Barton as Clara. Photo by Herbert Migdoll.



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Scene III. The Land of Snow

Snow Queen
Snow King
Snow Prince
Snowflakes Cameron Basden, Jill Davidson, Deborah Dawn, Cynthia Giannini,
Kathryn Ginden, Meg Gurin, Jennifer Habig, Julie Janus,
Valerie Madonia, Elizabeth Parkinson, Victoria Pasquale, Kim Sagami
Snow Winds Douglas Martin, Tom Mossbrucker, Roger Plaut,
John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters, Mark Wuest
Snow Trees

Sara Curtin-Mosher, Erin Engelbart, Carrie Hughes, Lydia Lyman, Maggie Marlin, Jenna Martin, Sara Olson, Chris Parizek, Bethea Woodsmall

Enchanted Journey to the Kingdom of Sweets

INTERMISSION

ACT II The Kingdom of Sweets

Sugar Plum Fairy	
Divertissements	
Chocolate from Spain Coffee from Arabia Tea from China Nougats from Russia Linda Bechtold, Patrick Corl Marzipan Shepherdesses Dawn Caccan Mother Ginger and her Polichinelles Carrie Hughes Aimee Langlas Jessica	Julie Janus, Tom Mossbrucker Cynthia Giannini, Edward Stierle bin, Carl Corry, Raymond Perrin no, Cameron Basden, Meg Gurin Francis Kane Lindsay Ellsworth, Amy Estlund,

Waltz of the Flowers, a Victorian Bouquet

Pansy Deborah Dawn
Rose
Dahlia
Rhododendron
Blue Bell
Carnation
Clematis
Columbine
Cornflower
Iris
Morning Glory
Peony Jennifer Mattingly
Cavaliers Douglas Martin, Parrish Maynard, John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters
Grand pas de Deux

Sugar Plum Fairy	 Dawn Caccamo
Nutcracker Prince	 Glenn Edgerton

Finale

The Entire Cast



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Hancher Café

On the mezzanine

PROGRAM

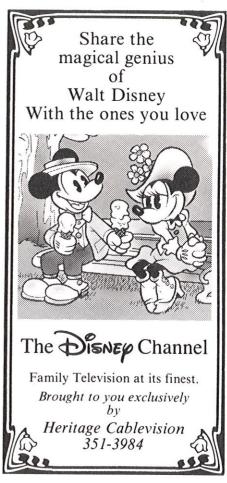
Friday, December 11, 1987-2:00 p.m.

Conducted by John Miner

ACT I

Scene I. A Victorian Parlour

Dr. Drosselmeyer, Godfather of Clara and Fritz
Parents of Clara and Fritz: Mayor Stahlbaum Mrs. Stahlbaum Grandmother Grandfather Maiden Aunts Governess Cameron Basden
Guests
Girls Stephanie Henn, Kelli Jasiewicz, Aimee Langlas, Shanna Morrissey, Jamie O'Dell, Kristen Richardson, Lisa Stackhouse, Gretchen Zimmerman Boys Megan Blair, Elizabeth Brown, Chari Davis, James Frankfurt, John MacMillan, Kimberly Martins, Ryan McBride, Amanda Spillers Servants
Maids Beth Bartholomew, Linda Bechtold Mechanical Dolls: Columbine
Harlequin. Jerel Hilding Vivandiere . Cynthia Giannini Soldier . Patrick Corbin
Scene II. The Magical Battleground
Nutcracker Doll
Shane Gregory, Brent Phillips, Joseph Schnell, Adam Sklute Second Battalion of Mice Elisa Altorfer, Elizabeth Brown, Lindsay Ellsworth,
Amy Estlund, Aimee Langlas, Jessica Lee, Sheilah Lynch, Jeffrey Maxted Cavalry Mice Megan Blair, Stephanie Henn, Rachael Lu, Gretchen Zimmerman Officers Robert Conn, Patrick Corbin, Raymond Perrin, Roger Plaut, Mark Wuest Soldiers Molly Chehak, Christene Davenport, Chari Davis, Kimberly Durham, Amy Loffredo, Kimberly Martins, Shanna Morrissey, Jamie O'Dell,
Kristen Richardson, Kathy Sheehan, Amanda Spillers, Lisa Stackhouse Dolls under the Tree:
Spanish Doll Kelli Jasiewicz Arabian Doll John MacMillan Chinese Dolls Talaye Jaeger, Ryan McBride Russian Doll Danielle Rieck Gingerbread Man Amanda Sales Pierrot Paul Mineck Punch James Frankfurt
Scene III. The Land of Snow
Snow Queen
Jenna Martin, Sara Olson, Chris Parizek, Bethea Woodsmall Enchanted Journey to the Kingdom of Sweets



INTERMISSION

ACT II The Kingdom of Sweets

. Leslie Carothers

Mariandan Crant

Nutcracker Prince
Divertissements
Chocolate from Spain Jodie Gates Coffee from Arabia Julie Janus, Tom Mossbrucker Tea from China Cynthia Giannini, Edward Stierle Nougats from Russia Linda Bechtold, Patrick Corbin, Carl Corry, Raymond Perrin Marzipan Shepherdesses Dawn Caccamo, Cameron Basden, Meg Gurin Mother Ginger Francis Kane and her Polichinelles Megan Blair, Elizabeth Brown, Stephanie Henn,
Kelli Jasiewicz, Danielle Rieck, Amanda Sales, Lisa Stackhouse, Gretchen Zimmerman

Waltz of the Flowers, a Victorian Bouquet

Pansy
Rose
Dahlia
Rhododendron
Blue Bell
CarnationElizabeth Parkinson
Clematis
Columbine
Cornflower
Iris
Morning Glory
Peony Jennifer Mattingly
Cavaliers Douglas Martin, Parrish Maynard, John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters
Consorts
Joseph Schnell, Adam Sklute, Mark Wuest

Grand pas de Deux

Sugar Plum Fairy	 Leslie Carothers
Nutcracker Prince	 Ashley Wheater

Finale

The Entire Cast

PROGRAM Friday, December 11, 1987—8:00 p.m.

ACT I Scene I. A Victorian Parlour

Dr. Drosselmeyer, Godfather of Clara and Fritz Alexander Grant
His Nephew (The Nutcracker Prince) Tom Mossbrucker
Clara
Fritz
Parents of Clara and Fritz:
Mayor Stahlbaum
Mrs. Stahlbaum
Grandmother
Grandfather Paul Shoemaker
Maiden Aunts
Governess
Guests
Elizabeth Parkinson, Victoria Pasquale, Kim Sagami, Johanna Snyder,
Robert Conn, Brent Phillips, Roger Plaut, Joseph Schnell,
John Sheaffer, Adam Sklute, Tyler Walters





Their Children: Girls Stephanie Henn, Kelli Jasiewicz, Aimee Langlas, Shanna Morrissey, Jamie O'Dell, Kristen Richardson, Lisa Stackhouse, Gretchen Zimmerman Boys Megan Blair, Elizabeth Brown, Chari Davis, James Frankfurt, John MacMillan, Kimberly Martins, Ryan McBride, Amanda Spillers Servants Douglas Martin, Mark Wuest Maids Beth Bartholomew, Linda Bechtold Mechanical Dolls: Columbine Carole Valleskey Harlequin Jerel Hilding Vivandiere Jodie Gates Soldier Raymond Perrin
Scene II. The Magical Battleground
Nutcracker Doll
Dolls under the Tree: Spanish Doll Kelli Jasiewicz Arabian Doll John MacMillan Chinese Dolls Talaye Jaeger, Ryan McBride Russian Doll Danielle Rieck Gingerbread Man Amanda Sales Pierrot Paul Mineck Punch James Frankfurt
Scene III. The Land of Snow

Snow Queen
Snow King
Snow Prince
Snowflakes Cameron Basden, Jill Davidson, Deborah Dawn, Cynthia Giannini,
Kathryn Ginden, Meg Gurin, Jennifer Habig, Julie Janus,
Valerie Madonia, Elizabeth Parkinson, Victoria Pasquale, Kim Sagami
Snow Winds Douglas Martin, Parrish Maynard, Roger Plaut,
John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters, Mark Wuest
Snow Trees Vanessa Androus, Rachel Conybeare, Brooke Crowley,
Sara Curtin-Mosher, Erin Engelbart, Carrie Hughes, Lydia Lyman, Maggie Marlin,
Jenna Martin, Sara Olson, Chris Parizek, Bethea Woodsmall

Enchanted Journey to the Kingdom of Sweets

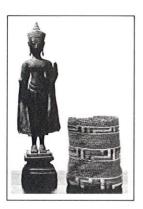
INTERMISSION

ACT II The Kingdom of Sweets

Sugar Plum Fairy	. Tina LeBlanc
Nutcracker Prince	Mossbrucker

Divertissements

Chocolate from Spain	ıez
Coffee from Arabia	
Tea from China	oer
Nougats from Russia Johanna Snyder, Patrick Corbin, Carl Corry, Raymond Perr	rin
Marzipan Shepherdesses Cynthia Giannini, Meg Gurin, Jennifer Hab	oig
Mother Ginger	ine
and her Polichinelles Megan Blair, Elizabeth Brown, Stephanie Her	nn,
Kelli Jasiewicz, Danielle Rieck, Amanda Sale	es,
Lisa Stackhouse Gretchen Zimmerm	an



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Waltz of the Flowers, a Victorian Bouquet

Dehorah Danus
Pansy Deborah Dawn
Rose
Dahlia
Rhododendron
Blue Bell
CarnationElizabeth Parkinson
Clematis
Columbine
Cornflower
Iris Linda Bechtold
Morning Glory
Peony
Cavaliers Parrish Maynard, John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters, Mark Wuest
Consorts Robert Conn, Shane Gregory, Brent Phillips,
Roger Plaut, Joseph Schnell, Adam Sklute

Grand pas de Deux

Sugar Plum Fairy				 									٠							Tina	Le	Blai	nc
Nutcracker Prince .	 	12 15	. 02													. 1	o	m	1	Mos	sbr	uck	er

Finale

The Entire Cast

PROGRAM Saturday, December 12, 1987—2:00 p.m.

Conducted by John Miner

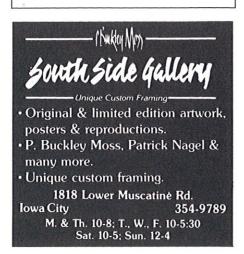
ACT I Scene I. A Victorian Parlour

Dr. Drosselmeyer, Godfather of Clara and Fritz
His Nephew (The Nutcracker Prince)Ashley Wheater
Clara Mary Barton
Fritz Edward Stierle
Titz Edward Stieffe
Parents of Clara and Fritz:
Mayor Stahlbaum
Mrs. Stahlbaum
Grandmother
Grandfather
Maiden Aunts
Governess
Guests
Elizabeth Parkinson, Victoria Pasquale, Kim Sagami, Johanna Snyder,
Robert Conn, Raymond Perrin, Roger Plaut, Joseph Schnell,
John Charffor Adam Chluta Tylon Walton

DUPONT D'ISIGNY Fine French Caramels



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Scene III. The Land of Snow

Snow Queen
e
Snow Prince
Snowflakes Cameron Basden, Jill Davidson, Cynthia Giannini, Kathryn Ginden,
Meg Gurin, Jennifer Habig, Julie Janus, Valerie Madonia,
Elizabeth Parkinson, Victoria Pasquale, Kim Sagami, Johanna Snyder
Snow Winds Parrish Maynard, Tom Mossbrucker, Roger Plaut,
John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters, Mark Wuest
Snow Trees
Sara Curtin-Mosher, Erin Engelbart, Carrie Hughes, Lydia Lyman, Maggie Marlin, Jenna Martin, Sara Olson, Chris Parizek, Bethea Woodsmall
J

Enchanted Journey to the Kingdom of Sweets

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ACT II The Kingdom of Sweets

Tutchere Timec.
Divertissements
Chocolate from Spain
Coffee from Arabia
Tea from China
Nougats from Russia Linda Bechtold, Patrick Corbin, Carl Corry, Raymond Perrin
Marzipan Shepherdesses Tina LeBlanc, Cameron Basden, Meg Gurin
Mother Ginger Francis Kane
and her Polichinelles Elisa Altorfer, Lindsay Ellsworth, Amy Estlund,
Carrie Hughes, Aimee Langlas, Jessica Lee, Rachael Lu, Sheilah Lynch

Waltz of the Flowers, a Victorian Bouquet

Pansy Deborah Dawn
Rose
Dahlia
Rhododendron
Blue Bell
Carnation
Clematis
Columbine
Cornflower
IrisJohanna Snyder
Morning Glory
Peony
Cavaliers Douglas Martin, Parrish Maynard, John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters
Consorts Robert Conn, Brent Phillips, Roger Plaut,
Joseph Schnell, Adam Sklute, Mark Wuest

Grand pas de Deux

Sugar Plum Fairy		 	 		 					9 5	•		 ·	. Leslie C	arothers
Nutcracker Prince	ē	 	 								7.			. Ashley \	Wheater

Finale

The Entire Cast



Mark Goldweber as the Nutcracker. Photo by Herbert Migdoll.



PROGRAM

Saturday, December 12, 1987-8:00 p.m.

ACT I Scene I. A Victorian Parlour

Dr. Drosselmeyer, Godfather of Clara and Fritz. Alexander Grant His Nephew (The Nutcracker Prince). Glenn Edgerton Clara
Mayor Stahlbaum
Grandmother
Grandfather
Maiden Aunts
Governess
Guests Jill Davidson, Julie Janus, Valerie Madonia,
Elizabeth Parkinson, Victoria Pasquale, Kim Sagami, Johanna Snyder,
Robert Conn, Brent Phillips, Roger Plaut, Joseph Schnell,
John Sheaffer, Adam Sklute, Tyler Walters
Their Children:
Girls Stephanie Henn, Kelli Jasiewicz, Aimee Langlas, Shanna Morrissey,
Jamie O'Dell, Kristen Richardson, Lisa Stackhouse, Gretchen Zimmerman
Boys Megan Blair, Elizabeth Brown, Chari Davis, James Frankfurt,
John MacMillan, Kimberly Martins, Ryan McBride, Amanda Spillers
Servants
Maids
Mechanical Dolls:
Columbine
Harlequin Jerel Hilding
Vivandiere
Soldier
Scene II. The Magical Battleground
Nutcracker Doll
Nuteracker Prince Glenn Edgerton

The state of the s
Nutcracker Prince
King of Mice
First Battalion of Mice Kyle Ahmed, Erik Chechak, Philip Gardner,
Shane Gregory, Brent Phillips, Joseph Schnell, Adam Sklute
Second Battalion of Mice Elisa Altorfer, Elizabeth Brown, Lindsay Ellsworth,
Amy Estlund, Aimee Langlas, Jessica Lee, Sheilah Lynch, Jeffrey Maxted
Cavalry Mice Megan Blair, Stephanie Henn, Rachael Lu, Gretchen Zimmerman
Officers Robert Conn, Patrick Corbin, Raymond Perrin,
Roger Plaut, Mark Wuest
Soldiers Molly Chehak, Christene Davenport, Chari Davis, Kimberly Durham,
Amy Loffredo, Kimberly Martins, Shanna Morrissey, Jamie O'Dell,



Snowflake Julie Janus. Photo by Herbert Migdoll.



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Dolls under the Tree:	
Spanish Doll	iewicz
Arabian Doll	Millan
Chinese Dolls	cBride
Russian Doll	Rieck
Gingerbread Man	a Sales
Pierrot	
Punch	ankfurt
Coope III The Land of Coope	

Scene III. The Land of Snow

Snow Queen
Snow King
Snow Prince
Snowflakes Cameron Basden, Jill Davidson, Deborah Dawn, Cynthia Giannini,
Kathryn Ginden, Meg Gurin, Jennifer Habig, Julie Janus,
Valerie Madonia, Elizabeth Parkinson, Victoria Pasquale, Kim Sagami
Snow Winds Douglas Martin, Tom Mossbrucker, Roger Plaut,
John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters, Mark Wuest
Snow Trees Vanessa Androus, Rachel Conybeare, Brooke Crowley,
Sara Curtin-Mosher, Erin Engelbart, Carrie Hughes, Lydia Lyman, Maggie Marlin,
Jenna Martin, Sara Olson, Chris Parizek, Bethea Woodsmall

Enchanted Journey to the Kingdom of Sweets

INTERMISSION

ACT II The Kingdom of Sweets

Nutcracker Prince	
Dive	tissements
Chocolate from Spain	Iodie Cates

Christian Tiemeyer, Music Director

1987-88 Classical Season



October 10 & 12 Three Centuries of Genuis Daniel Heifetz, Violinist works by Handel,

Tchaikovský and Brahms



November 21 & 23 Greats - Old and New Juliana Markova, **Pianist** works by Mozart, Grieg and Shostakovich



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works by Brahms and Schubert



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works by Wagner, Beethoven and Rimsky-Korsakov

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String Serenades Oboeist David Hempel plays Vaughan Williams String orchestra performs works by Grieg, Handel, Cowell and Diamond

February 27 Cedar Rapids Community Theatre

Mid-Summer in Mid-Winter

Kenneth Goldsmith, Violin Narrators Richard Barker, Nina Boyle; Soprano soloists Karla Goettel and Jean McDonald; and choruses from Coe and Grinnell Colleges in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" with Mendelssohn's complete incidental music

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Musical Menagerie Jamie Turner, Glass Harmonica & Musical Saw

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Tea from China
Nougats from Russia Linda Bechtold, Patrick Corbin, Carl Corry, Raymond Perrin
Marzipan Shepherdesses
Mother Ginger
and her Polichinelles Megan Blair, Elizabeth Brown, Stephanie Henn,
Kelli Jasiewicz, Danielle Rieck, Amanda Sales,
Lisa Stackhouse, Gretchen Zimmerman

Waltz of the Flowers, a Victorian Bouquet

Pansy Deborah Dawn				
Rose				
Dahlia				
Rhododendron				
Blue Bell				
Carnation				
Clematis				
Columbine				
Cornflower				
Iris				
Morning Glory				
Peony				
Cavaliers Douglas Martin, Parrish Maynard, John Sheaffer, Tyler Walters				
Consorts				
Joseph Schnell, Adam Sklute, Mark Wuest				

Grand pas de Deux

Sugar Plum Fairy	 Dawn Caccamo
Nutcracker Prince	 Glenn Edgerton

Finale

The Entire Cast



We wish to congratulate the following Dance of Iowa City students for being chosen to perform in the premiere of the Joffrey Ballet's THE NUTCRACKER.

Megan Blair

James Frankfurt

Danielle Rieck Amanda Sales

Christene Davenport Stephanie Henn Chari Davis

Talaye Jaeger

Amanda Spillers

Lindsay Ellsworth

Kimberly Martins

Gretchen Zimmerman

CONGRATULATIONS! BREAK A LEG





Mark Goldweber as the Nutcracker. Photo by Herbert Migdoll.

The Nutcracker World Premiere by The Joffrey Ballet on December 10, 1987 at Hancher Auditorium, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Mr. Joffrey and Mr. Arpino extend their special thanks to Mr. Glenn White and Diane Lembo Talley for their invaluable assistance.

Assistants to Mr. Smith: Campbell Baird and Paul Palazzo; assistant to Mr. Ridge: David

Paulin; assistants to Mr. Love: Francis Kane, Christopher Lyall, and Fred Von Tobel; assistant to Mr. Skelton: George Kinney.

Special thanks and acknowledgments to Alicia Brown, associate professor, The University of Iowa Dance Department, for assisting in the rehearsals of the children of Iowa; and to David L. Demand, D.M.A. candidate, The University of Iowa, rehearsal pianist for the children and company.

Special thanks to the Fleisher Collection of orchestral music at the Free Library of Philadelphia and the Glinka Museum of Musical Culture, in Moscow, where the original score of **The Nutcracker** is housed.

The Joffrey Ballet extends its deepest appreciation to Halston Enterprises and Mr. Carl Epstein.

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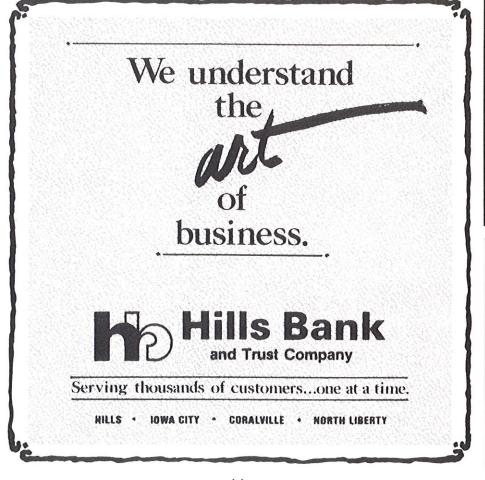
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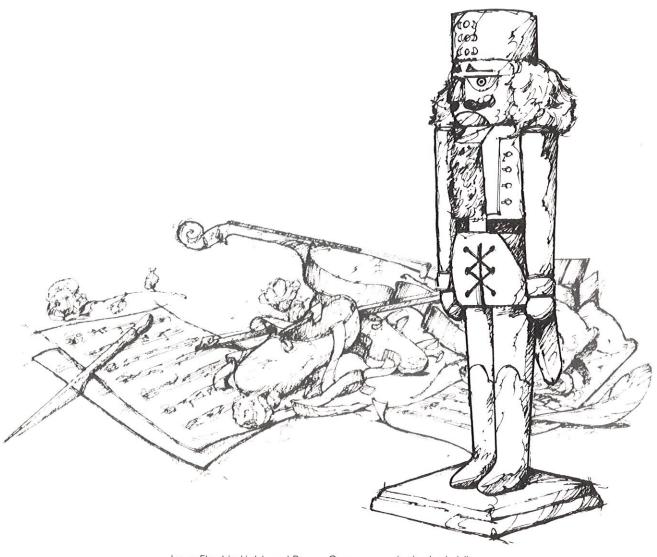
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Mary Barton as Clara and Robert Joffrey. Photo by Herbert Migdoll.

The Nutcracker

The Nutcracker has captured our imaginations and entered our dreams since 1892 when it was first produced at the Maryinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg. Based on the 1844 translation by Alexandre Dumas, pere, of E. T. A. Hoffmann's 1816 tale, *The Nutcracker and The Mouse King*, the ballet was commissioned in 1891 by Ivan Vsevolojsky, director of the Imperial Theaters, from Marius Petipa, the

Maryinsky's leading choreographer, and from Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, the great Russian composer who had collaborated on **The Sleeping Beauty** with Petipa the year before. When Petipa fell ill soon after rehearsals began, the choreography was entrusted to his assistant ballet master, Lev Ivanov. Thus began its journey through many lands and in many versions.

The Joffrey Ballet's **Nutcracker** has been produced in the spirit of the original and after the first American production, the 1940 version that Alexandra Fedorova set for the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, which was itself based on the original. The Ballet Russe production was not only one that I saw performed many times as a young boy, but one in which I had the opportunity to take part, as I was chosen to be the Gondola Boy who transports Clara to the Land of Candy when the Ballet Russe brought their production to Seattle. Later, Mme. Fedorova was my teacher in New York.

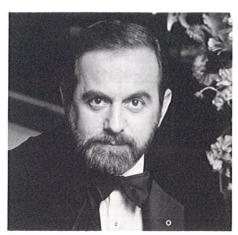
I have set The Joffrey Ballet production in Victorian America, circa 1850. Christmas trees were a relatively new tradition in America then, having been brought to this country in the early nineteenth century by settlers of German extraction. President Franklin Pierce decorated the first White House Christmas tree in 1856, thereby generating national interest in this "new" custom. We have based our designs on Victorian American prints, engravings, lithographs, and woodcuts-even a print of a Christmas reception at the New York City Foundling Home in Washington Square. Oliver Smith's design for the front curtain is based on a nineteenth-century illustration for toys that I have in my collection. A Victorian Christmas card I own was the inspiration for John David Ridge's costumes for the Polichinelles. Kermit Love has designed the battalions and cavalry of mice in medieval martial regalia. And even this is in keeping with a Victorian setting because boys of the period received presents of medieval tin soldiers for Christmas.

This production has been a labor of love. My collaborators have contributed immeasurably, and include my associate director and resident choreographer, Gerald Arpino, who has choreographed two of the most important sections of the ballet, "The Waltz of the Snowflakes" and "The Waltz of the Flowers"; and the two people responsible for the staging—George Verdak, who brings a great historical background to this production, and Scott Barnard, my excellent ballet master.

In our production the "real" family, friends, and toys of the first scene are transformed into characters in Clara's dream, which begins in the second scene. Dr. Drosselmeyer is very important to the action of the story throughout the ballet in my version. He is a magician, a dollmaker, and a clockmaker. He is mischievous, bright, charming, intelligent, and very mysterious. It is through Dr. Drosselmeyer's magic and love that this neverending dream of Christmas transports Clara and enables each of us to revisit the land of innocence—our childhood.

ROBERT JOFFREY

Biographies



ROBERT JOFFREY (Artistic Director) founded the company in 1956-an ensemble of American dancers for whom he taught, choreographed, commissioned original ballets, and reconstructed rare classics. In the process, he built what is now acknowledged to be one of the major international dance companies, a company cited for its virtuosity and its exciting, original repertoire. Joffrey introduced Alvin Ailey, Laura Dean, Anna Sokolow, and Twyla Tharp to ballet audiences; invited Kurt Jooss and Leonide Massine to revive some of their "lost" masterworks; and assembled the largest number of Frederick Ashton ballets in the United States. He was the first American director to present the work of Denmark's August Bournonville, and he is especially noted for his meticulous re-creations of the legendary Diaghilev-era ballets. His own ballets have always been a company cornerstone and indicate his varied interests, from the classical Pas des Déeses to the multi-media Astarte, from the romantic Remembrances to the evocative Postcards. Joffrey was a pioneer in choreographing dance for television, and The Joffrey Ballet inaugurated public television's "Dance in America" series. Although he gave up a promising career as a dancer to form his company, he maintains his early interest in training gifted students and young professionals through The Joffrey Ballet School, which he established in 1953, and The Joffrey Workshop at San Antonio. Among his many dance affiliations, he is Co-President with

Bolshoi Ballet Director Yuri Grigorovich of the International Dance Committee, International Theater Institute; one of three jurors of Denmark's Hans Christian Andersen Ballet awards; and Honorary Chairman of the American Choreographer Awards. His numerous awards and honors include the **Dancemagazine** Award, the Capezio Award, New York City's Handel Medallion, Club 100's Distinguished Artist's Award (Los Angeles Music Center), Dance Notation Bureau's Distinguished Service Award, and Honorary Ph.D. from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington.



GERALD ARPINO (Associate Director) helped Robert Joffrey found the company in 1956 and, for eight years, was a leading dancer. In 1961, he began choreographing. The late Walter Terry said, "He introduced a synthesis of torso-oriented modern movement with classical ballet that was a special quality be gave to ballet." Clive Barnes (New York Post) wrote, "Arpino and his choreography are central to The Joffrey company style . . . the ideal choreographer to maintain a consistent, creative core . . . He can send dancers over the stage like rockets and give them duets like love songs." Martin Bernheimer (Los Angeles Times) has pointed out "the breathless fluidity of Arpino's invention . . . the bravura of his kinetic designs." Anna Kisselgoff (The New York Times) has described him as a "very important choreographer . . . I have often seen newcomers to the ballet seduced into loving the entire art form simply because Mr. Arpino's accessibility seizes their imagination." He is the first American commissioned by a city (San Antonio) to do a ballet (Jamboree), and Los Angeles has commissioned another. His 1986 Birthday Variations was commissioned by Becky D'Angelo of Chicago as a birthday gift to her husband Dino D'Angelo. Arpino's ballets, sought after worldwide, are in the repertoires of the National Ballet of Canada, The Vienna State Opera Ballet, and the Australian, Ohio and Oakland ballets, among others. Honors include his Honorary Ph.D. from Wagner College, Staten Island, the 1974

Dancemagazine Award, and the knowledge that he is the only choreographer to have had four of his ballets performed at the White House. In 1980, he received the American Express "Ammy Award"; and in 1984, he received the "Bravo Award" from the San Antonio Performing Arts Association. In 1987, Arpino was cited by New York's Governor Mario Cuomo for receiving The Distinguished Achievement Award from the National Organization of Italian-American Women.

PENELOPE CURRY (Executive Director), in her 18 years with The Joffrey, has risen from Assistant Stage Manager to Lighting Designer to Production Supervisor to General Manager to Executive Director. While she oversees administrative, operations, marketing, production, and development activities, as well as union negotiations, the role she most cherishes is her close working relationship with Robert Joffrey. Ms. Curry is a key collaborator on the team that works to produce his artistic vision, and she has been particularly instrumental in researching, planning, and acquiring, in recent years, such major ballets as Romeo and Juliet, La Fille Mal Gardée, Le Sacre du Printemps, and The Nutcracker. Ms. Curry's credits as production supervisor and/or lighting consultant include the WNET special "Homage to Diaghilev" with Rudolf Nureyev; The Joffrey Ballet with Diana Ross, and Lena Horne at The Met; working with Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor, Dan Wagoner, and London Weekend Television; and WNET specials (for The Joffrey). She received her B.A. degree in business management from the University of Houston.

SCOTT BARNARD (Ballet Master), a native of Indiana, graduated from that state's Butler University with a B.A. in dance before joining the Alabama State Ballet, where Robert Joffrey invited him to join his company. He performed major roles such as the Torchbearer in Olympics and created roles in ballets such as Confetti, Kettentanz, The Clowns, and A Light Fantastic. Mr. Barnard now assists Gerald Arpino when he is staging all of his works for the company. He also assisted Robert Joffrey when Joffrey choreographed Remembrances and Postcards. When time permits, Mr. Barnard teaches at The Joffrey Ballet School. He has staged Arpino ballets in Ohio, Canada, Australia, and

ALLAN LEWIS (Music Director and Conductor) is celebrating his twelfth season with The Joffrey Ballet. He has conducted most of the repertory, including Robert Joffrey's Postcards, Remembrances and Pas des Déeses; Gerald Arpino's Suite Saint-Saëns, Viva Vivaldi! and Trinity; and the company premieres of John Cranko's Romeo and Juliet and Sir Frederick Ashton's La Fille Mal Gardée. He has worked with the musicians of the

country's major orchestras, including The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra, and The San Francisco Symphony Orchestra. He was conductor for The Joffrey Gala at the Metropolitan Opera House attended by President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan. He conducted Homage to Diaghilev with Rudolf Nureyev on Broadway and Agnes de Mille's Conversations about the Dance on television. For four seasons he also conducted San Francisco Opera's Fol-de-Rol starring Luciano Pavarotti, Beverly Sills, and other notables. Mr. Lewis is a graduate of Yale University and The Juilliard School, where he studied with Jean Morel.

JOHN MINER (Conductor) 1987 marks John Miner's first performances for The Joffrey Ballet. A busy conductor for opera, symphony, and musical theater, his numerous credits include appearances in the opera houses of Zurich (for three productions including Rigoletto and Uwe Scholz's highly acclaimed ballet of Haydn's The Creation), Geneva, Freiburg, and Nuremberg. He has led Porgy and Bess and Evita on Broadway, HMS Pinafore and La Belle Hélène for New York City Opera, La Perichole and The Vagabond King for San Francisco Opera's Spring Opera Theater, as well as conducting the Buffalo Philharmonic and National Symphony orchestras. He has also been a Conducting Fellow at Tanglewood, Musical Administrator for the San Francisco Opera, Julius Rudel Award Recipient at New York City Opera, and on the music staff of the opera houses of Chicago, San Francisco, and the Theatre Royale de la Monnaie in Brussels.

JENNIFER TIPTON (Lighting Designer) is well known to dance and theater audiences alike. She has lit works in the repertoires of most major dance companies, including dances choreographed by Jerome Robbins, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Paul Taylor, and Twyla Tharp, among many others. Her work in the theatre has also won her a Joseph Jefferson Award in Chicago, a Drama Desk Award, an Obie, and a Tony. Her work in dance has won her a Bessie. In 1982 she was awarded The Creative Arts Award Medal in Dance by Brandeis University. She received a Guggenheim Fellowship for the 1986-87 season. Ms. Tipton also teaches lighting at the Drama School of Yale University.

THOMAS SKELTON (Lighting Designer) has been with The Joffrey since its inception, when he created the unique Joffrey lighting concept. In addition to his work with American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Ohio Ballet, and Paul Taylor, among other dance companies, his Broadway credits include Coco, Death of a Salesman, Lena Horne, and Tony nominations for The Iceman Cometh, All

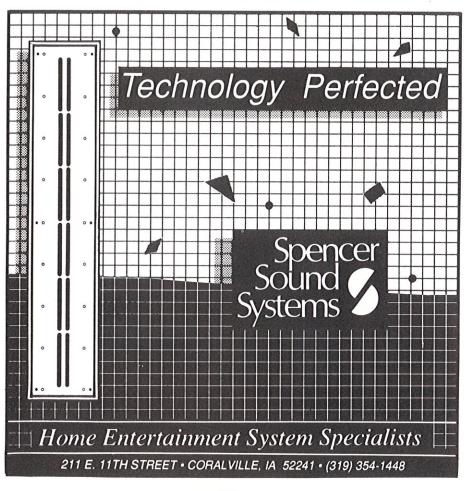
Choreography Observed By Jack Anderson

Noted dance critic Jack Anderson writes about individual choreographers from Bournonville to Paul Taylor and works such as Antony Tudor's *Pillar of Fire* and Alvin Ailey's *Flowers*. "I'm sure many other readers will look at dance with freshly bright eyes after reading this often charming, often provocative collection of essays."—Selma Jeanne Cohen. "Anderson here reveals the beating heart of dance: well done."—*Kirkus Reviews*

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God's Chillun Got Wings, and Indians. He is Associate Director of Ohio Ballet, serves on the board of Dance/USA and on the Board of Visitors of North Carolina School of the Arts, and teaches at Lester Polakov's Studio and Forum of Stage Design.

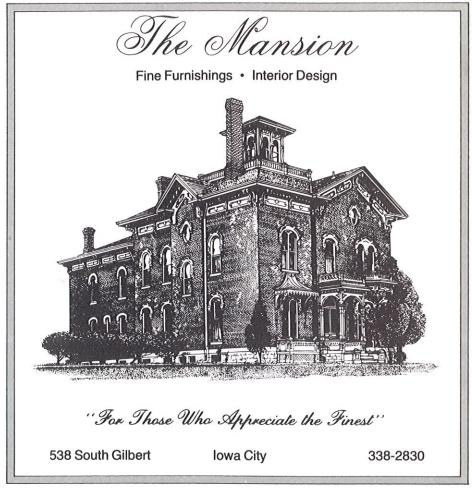
GEORGE VERDAK (Artistic Director for the Indianapolis Ballet Theater) is a collaborator on the choreography for the Robert Joffrey production of The Nutcracker. It's no accident that George Verdak made theater and dance his career-it runs in his blood. His great-grandfather accompanied Pawnie Bill on several private trips into the West where they learned the customs of the Plains Indians. His godfather was a dialect comedian in Chicago who worked with Verdak's three aunts who were dancers in Chicago vaudeville theaters during the Al Capone era. Verdak began his study of dance in the late 1930's as part of Roosevelt's WPA program which employed Chicago dancers as teachers in various communities. He studied art history at the Chicago Art Institute under Boris Anisfeld and later appeared with the Chicago Repertory Ballet. Soon after he joined a musical which starred Tatiana Riabouchinska and went to Hollywood

with that cast. In Hollywood, Verdak joined the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo and danced with the company for nine seasons from 1943 to 1952. Verdak taught privately in Minneapolis and worked with Antal Dorati and The Minneapolis Symphony in a number of dance-oriented projects. In 1958 Verdak joined the faculty of Butler University where he taught classical dance, dance history and choreography, and directed the University Ballet performances. It was here that Verdak initiated a long line of revivals of nineteenth-century ballets which were included in the annual Romantic Festival. Verdak's tenure at Butler University lasted 23 years before he accepted the post of Artistic Director of the Indianapolis Ballet Theater in 1978, a position he currently holds.

OLIVER SMITH (Designer) was born in Waupun, Wisconsin. His first stage designs for ballet were for Les Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo. His professional career was launched with his designs for Agnes de Mille's Rodeo in 1942. Since that time he has designed the sets for Broadway's highly successful West Side Story, My Fair Lady, Camelot, and Hello, Dolly among others. His films include Guys and Dolls, The Band Wagon, Oklahoma!,

and Porgy and Bess. His opera designs include La Traviata for the Metropolitan Opera, and his designs for the American Ballet Theatre include Interplay, Facsimile, Fall River Legend, Giselle, Les Noces, and Swan Lake. Co-Director with Lucia Chase of the American Ballet Theatre from 1945 to 1980, his association began in 1944 when he collaborated with Jerome Robbins and Leonard Bernstein on Fancy Free. Currently on the faculty of New York University's School of Fine Arts, he teaches a master class in scenic design.

KERMIT LOVE (Designer) was born in Spring Lake, New Jersey, and raised in Metuchen. He started making puppets in his preteen years, worked as a WPA puppeteer in 1935, and designed his first Broadway show at 17, going on to design the innovative Broadway musical, Agnes de Mille's Rodeo, followed by Jerome Robbins' Fancy Free, both of which marked an earlier collaboration with Oliver Smith, and One Touch of Venus, again in collaboration with Agnes de Mille. He worked in collaboration with Robert Joffrey, designing The Joffrey production of Rodeo. He has designed costumes for Twyla Tharp, re-created the Picasso constructions for The Joffrey's production of Parade, and is well known





as the creator of Big Bird on television's "Sesame Street." He has designed The Mice, Mother Ginger, and Clara's Horse for The Joffrey production of The Nutcracker.

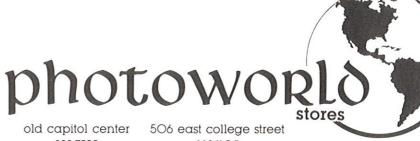
JOHN DAVID RIDGE (Designer) is the costume designer for The Joffrey's The Nutcracker. His previous Joffrey credits include the costumes for Robert Joffrey's Postcards and the re-creation of the costumes for La Fille Mal Gardée from Osbert Lancaster's designs. He has designed for the Santa Fe Opera (La Traviata and Don Pasquale); Broadway shows (including American Dance Machine); Off-Broadway (David Mamet's A Life in the Theater); Field Papers with Dana Reitz for the BAM Next Wave series and the Festival D'Automne in Paris; 18 productions for John Houseman's Acting Company; and the National Theater of Great Britain and several West End productions. In addition to his theater work, he is Vice-President and Design Director for Halston Enterprises.

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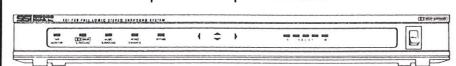
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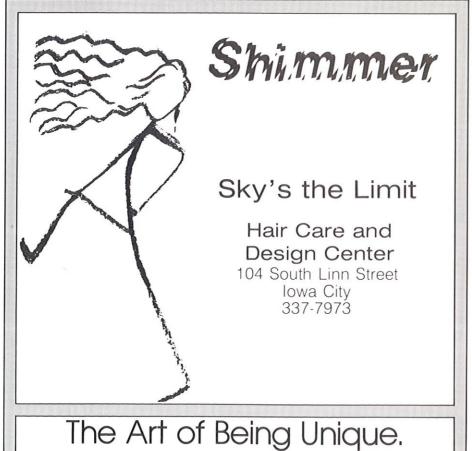
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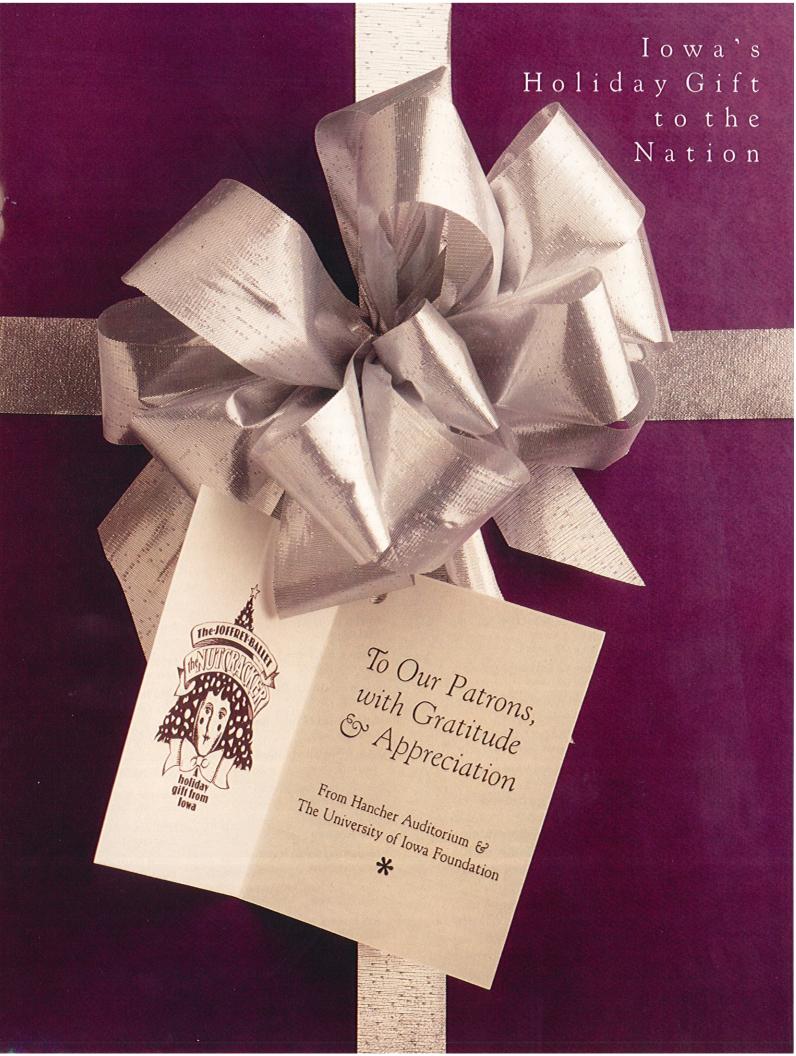
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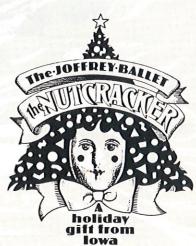
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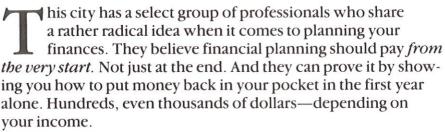




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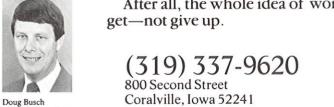
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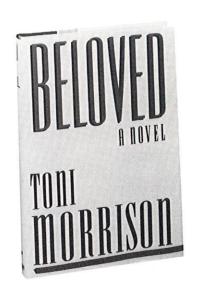
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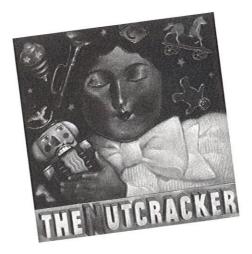
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Visit the Hancher Showcase

The Showcase is open on performance evenings and will open for special Christmas shopping hours on December 13 and 16 from 1-3 p.m. It is staffed by Hancher Guild volunteers, and sales support the arts at Hancher Auditorium.



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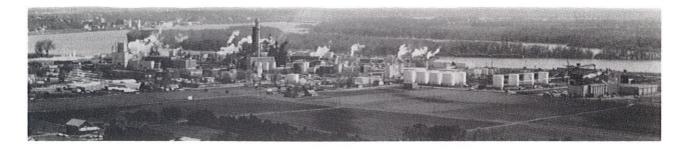
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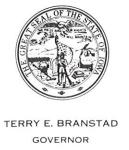
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December, 1987

Dear Friends:

Welcome to Iowa's Holiday Gift to the Nation, the world premiere of a new production of the old favorite, $\frac{\mathrm{The}}{\mathrm{Nutcracker}}$, will be performed by the Joffrey Ballet. We, in $\overline{\mathrm{Iowa}}$, are pleased that the Joffrey considers Iowa its second home.

Thirty-two talented Iowa children from all over the state were chosen to dance in the ballet. They also will dance with the Joffrey when the company performs The Nutcracker at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

The University of Iowa's Hancher Auditorium and the University of Iowa Foundation are co-producers of this new production. Thus, this world premiere represents the contributions of businesses and individuals across the state who are building a center for creative talent at Hancher.

Enjoy this performance, a world premiere of <u>The</u> Nutcracker. And to the Joffrey Ballet, welcome home.

Sincerely,

Terry E. Branstad Governor of Iowa CIVIC CENTER

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ROCLAMATION

- Whereas, the City of Iowa City has welcomed The Joffrey Ballet and Joffrey II Dancers for performances and residencies over a period of thirteen years,
- Whereas, Iowa City has been the site of two previous world premieres by The Joffrey Ballet, leading to national recognition of Iowa City and The University of Iowa as a "creative center", and
- Whereas, The Joffrey Ballet was in residence in Iowa City during June 1987 to create its new production of The Nutcracker, and
- Whereas, The Joffrey's associate director and Nutcracker choreographer Gerald Arpino has stressed that The Nutcracker reflects the influence of Iowa by incorporating Midwestern values of home and family and that the Nutcracker project highlights Iowa as fertile ground for the arts, and
- Whereas, twenty-one children from Iowa City-Coralville will be dancing in performances of The Nutcracker at Hancher Auditorium and fourteen at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and
- Whereas, The University of Iowa and the citizens and businesses of Iowa City have joined forces in generously supporting the Nutcracker project, and
- Whereas, The New York Times has recognized Iowa City as The Joffrey's "home in the Midwest",
- therefore, I, William J. Ambrisco, Mayor of the Now, City of Iowa City, Iowa, do hereby proclaim the week of December 7 - 12, 1987, as

NUTCRACKER WEEK

and confirm the designation of Iowa City as The Joffrey Ballet's "Home in the Midwest".

William J. Churcisco

Signed in Iowa City, Iowa, this 1st day of December 1987.



The Joffrey picnic, June 1987. Photo by John Van Allen.

Confessions of an Iowa Joffrey Junkie

by Larry E. Eckbolt

n 1974, in the midst of a nation-wide energy crisis, The Joffrey Ballet criss-crossed a four-state Midwest region in a federally funded dance experiment that epitomized what is now fondly remembered as "the dance boom of the seventies."

The Joffrey—performing in residencies throughout Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska during the month of January—was earning its title as "the Johnny Appleseed of dance" and planted seeds of dance awareness wherever it performed. In St. Louis, in Ames, in Lincoln, in Wichita, people discovered that unique brand of American dance The Joffrey espouses. And they loved it.

At a time when Americans were learning to cope with \$1-a-gallon gasoline, when the lights were turned off in Times Square, when the first rumblings of Watergate began to shake the White House, The Joffrey Ballet was spreading a simple message: even in troubled times, dance can lift the human spirit.

Nowhere did that message come through stronger than in Iowa City, where The Joffrey performed in the newly opened Hancher Auditorium. Right from the start, one could tell that the seeds being planted by The Joffrey had found fertile soil.

As a young Des Moines Register reporter—whose life and career would be intermingled with The Joffrey for at least the next 13 years—I wrote a story that began, "The Joffrey Ballet fell in love with Iowa City and Iowa City fell in love with The Joffrey." My editors thought the article was pure gush but printed it mostly intact. Only a few superlatives were

But the subsequent years have proven that the love affair between Iowa City and The Joffrey was real. The seeds planted in Iowa City in 1974 produced an orchard that is still bearing fruit.

Item: Iowa City is the only place on the 1974 Mid-America Arts Alliance tour where The Joffrey performs on a regular basis.

Item: No other dance company has appeared at Hancher Auditorium more often than The Joffrey.

Item: More Iowans have attended Joffrey performances in the state than those of any other American dance company.

Box office records and newspaper clippings can authenticate these statements. The real story behind the Iowa/Joffrey connection is harder to prove because it is based on less tangible evidence—the strong emotional ties with The Joffrey shared by many Iowans who have refused

to allow The Joffrey experience to fade away.

Such strong feelings have been engendered by the two forces in The Joffrey Ballet that no other dance company in the world has: Robert Joffrey and Gerald Arpino. Dancers and dance works aside, it is the Joffrey/Arpino mystique that transforms mere dance fans into Joffrey fanatics.

"Joffrey junkies" exist all over the United States—in Los Angeles, New York City, San Antonio, San Francisco, and Clearwater, Florida, to name a few places. Few can match the intensity of the Iowa City branch of the family.

Arpino had worked his magic on many Iowans during The Joffrey's initial appearance in the state. Some of the ballets performed by the company—Trinity, Secret Places, Sacred Grove on Mount Tamalpais—were Arpino works created during The Joffrey's celebrated residencies at Berkeley in the early 1970s. These ballets created a sensation in Iowa. Talk about an "Iowa residency" abounded.

When The Joffrey left Iowa City (leaving a sizeable vacuum for those who found themselves in the swirl of the company's activities), some local residents refused to

let their experiences become mere memories.

Dr. Lewis E. January must be credited with keeping the ball rolling. He and his wife, Eloise—who had been Joffrey fans for several years—started "Iowa Friends of The Joffrey," a support group which sends contributions directly to The Joffrey head-quarters in New York City.

The first sign that I was becoming a "Joffrey junkie" was evident in a letter I sent to Arpino in June 1974 announcing that I would be attending a Joffrey performance at the Ravinia Festival near Chicago later that summer.

"I am boping that you and Mr. Joffrey will have some time to talk to me then regarding any possibility that the company will return to Iowa," I wrote. "I also want to get briefed on just what it would take to get you back, since my executive editor has given me the go-ahead to follow this story through. Iowans want you back!"

By January 1975 I had arranged another meeting with Joffrey officials in New York City to further discuss the idea of an Iowa residency. In a follow-up letter to a Joffrey administrator, I noted that "Gerald Arpino and I talked about the possibility of such a venture and he was very enthusiastic

about its artistic merits. Of course, the financial aspect of such an undertaking is enormous."

I pointed out that in my role as reporter I had talked with officials from the Iowa Arts Council, Hancher Auditorium, The University of Iowa Foundation, the UI Dance Department, and others and found "enough solid interest and enthusiasm to request some specific cost figures for a residency, based on about three weeks of work, followed by three to five performances."

After receiving this information from The Joffrey, my next step was to write a **Register** article which outlined what it would take to sponsor a Joffrey residency—then targeted for the summer of 1977. I was confident that the article would generate the interest that would pull it off.

But the response from William Crawford, then The Joffrey's general administrator, to my inquiry was disappointing. He stressed the prohibitive costs of rehearsal, not to mention performance time and warned that master classes and lecture demonstrations were out of the question.

"Quite honestly, we would much prefer to have Iowa City remember us fondly enough to invite us back for performances rather than to remember



James Kudelka and The Joffrey dancers rehearsing Hancher-commissioned "The Heart of the Matter." Photo by Herbert Migdoll.

us as having been the source of bankruptcy for several local organizations." Not wanting to paint such a dismal picture in the article, I didn't write anything.

In retrospect, Crawford's comments contained a fair amount of irony. A financial crisis—The Joffrey's—figured heavily in the eventual decision to bring The Joffrey II Dancers—The Joffrey's apprentice company—to The University of Iowa campus for a summer residency. And it was Hancher Auditorium's steadfast financial support in 1987 that kept alive The Joffrey's dream to produce its own version of **The Nutcracker**.

What was not considered in Crawford's response to the 1977 residency proposal was the emotional attachment that would continue to grow between Iowa City and The Joffrey Ballet.

In all honesty, at times it seemed that the Iowa half of the relationship was more ardent than The Joffrey half. And long-distance love affairs are difficult to sustain. But each time The Joffrey did return to Iowa, the bond between the two was strengthened.

By January 1976, then-Hancher Auditorium Director James Wockenfuss had booked The Joffrey for what was billed as its "triumphant return" to Iowa. And, in what has become a hallmark of the Iowa/Joffrey connection, Robert Joffrey had singled out Iowa City for a special treat.

Joffrey chose Hancher to be the site of the American premiere of two works by noted German choreographer Kurt Jooss that were being revived by The Joffrey. Jooss flew from Munich to Iowa to put the finishing touches on his works—

Pavane on the Death of an Infanta and A Ball in Old Vienna. For the first time, Iowa City would be listed in The Joffrey's credits indicating the first Joffrey performance of a work new in its repertoire.

In January 1978, adversity helped cement the Iowa/Joffrey bond even more when a severe blizzard crippled much of the nation's mid-section. The fleet of trucks carrying The Joffrey's sets and costumes, bound for Iowa, was stranded in snow-drifts on the Ohio turnpike.

Faced with the choice of canceling the Iowa engagement or pulling off a miracle, Robert Joffrey opted for the latter. Cheering Hancher audiences were witness to three breathtaking performances which proved that Joffrey dancers—even without the customary theatrical trappings—were, indeed, a special breed.

A financial crisis curtailed The Joffrey's 1979-80 touring plans and proved to be a

KODO Sunday, January 24, 3 p.m. THE GUTHRIE THEATER,

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Monday, January 25, 8 p.m.

CAMERATA MUSICA OF THE DDR

Wednesday, January 27, 8 p.m. UCVIDEO

Friday, January 29, 8 p.m.

1940's RADIO HOUR Sunday, January 31, 3 p.m.

PAUL DRESHER ENSEMBLE, SLOW FIRE Friday, February 5, 8 p.m.

MUMMENSCHANZ Sunday, February 14, 3 p.m.

ANTHONY DE MARE Wednesday, February 17, 8 p.m. (Clapp Recital Hall)

DAN WAGONER AND DANCERS Friday, February 26, 8 p.m.

BELGRADE STATE FOLK ENSEMBLE Sunday, February 28, 3 p.m.

BIG RIVER
Tuesday, March 1, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, March 2, 8 p.m.

ANNE AKIKO MEYERS Wednesday, March 2, 8 p.m. (Clapp Recital Hall)





LAURA DEAN DANCERS AND MUSICIANS Friday, March 4, 8 p.m.

PEKING ACROBATS Sunday, March 6, 3 p.m.

BIG BAND GALAXY OF STARS Sunday, March 13, 3 p.m.

THE JOFFREY BALLET Monday, March 14, 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, 8 p.m.

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER Wednesday, March 16, 8 p.m.

THE ACTING COMPANY KABUKI MACBETH Thursday, March 31, 8 p.m.

I MUSICI Sunday, April 10, 3 p.m.

BEAUX ARTS TRIO Friday, April 15, 8 p.m.

NAGOYA ODORI Saturday, April 16, 8 p.m.

TOKYO STRING QUARTET Monday, May 2, 8 p.m.

Tickets available for all performances at the Hancher Box Office; Monday-Friday 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sunday 1-3 p.m. Call (319) 335-1160 or toll-free outside Iowa City in Iowa 1-800-HANCHER. The Box Office will be closed December 19 through January 10, 1988.

pivotal factor in the budding relationship between The University of Iowa and The Joffrey organization. When The Joffrey canceled its scheduled performances at Hancher in 1980, Wockenfuss decided to keep The Joffrey name visible in Iowa by booking The Joffrey II Dancers, the company's so-called "farm team," instead.

Suddenly, the notion of an Iowa residency appeared feasible. Joffrey II, smaller and less expensive than the main company, would be more conducive to such activities as outreach to communities through the state, master classes, and dance workshops conducted by the UI Dance Department.

And a "farm team" in Iowa seemed wonderfully appropriate!

In 1982, The University of Iowa announced that not only would the main company return for more performances at Hancher (in the spring) but that The Joffrey II would be in residence on campus for five weeks during the summer.

Iowa: A Place to Dance! It was an idea whose time had finally come. What has happened since 1982—the solid formation of the Iowa/Joffrey connection—defies the odds and conventional wisdom. If anything, it proves that the combination of The Joffrey mystique and Iowa persistence is a powerful force.

How else can one explain that a major American ballet troupe has been adopted by a college town with a population under 60,000, in a state that almost always ranks at the bottom of per capita tax expenditures for the arts?

How else can one explain how The Joffrey's long-awaited production of **The Nutcracker** became "Iowa's Holiday Gift to the Nation" at a time when the state was barely recovering from the worst farm economy since the Depression?

To enumerate the accomplishments of the last five years is impressive, but it overlooks the important roles that dancers,

volunteers, administrators, contributors, and hundreds of others have played in making this a success story. Nevertheless:

In 1982 The Joffrey II residency gave birth to the Iowa Dance Residencies program, which sponsored two additional Joffrey II summer residencies (1983 and 1985), and residencies by such diverse dance troupes as Nikolais Dance Theatre (1984), Nina Wiener (1987), and Dan Wagoner (1988).

The Joffrey Ballet returned to Hancher for performances in 1984. It was then that Hancher officials began negotiating with The Joffrey about commissioning a new work to be premiered at Hancher. The result was the 1986 premiere of James Kudelka's **The Heart of the Matter**, which received rave reviews from the nation's dance critics and generated the first major media attention regarding the Iowa/Joffrey connection.

In 1986, Wally Chappell, the new director of Hancher Auditorium, and Pennie Curry, The Joffrey's executive director, held their first discussions about a collaboration to produce a new Nutcracker. The result? The unprecedented 1987 summer residency of The Joffrey Ballet and The Joffrey II during which the companies not only worked on The Nutcracker but also began rehearsing the complex reconstruction of the original Le Sacre du Printemps.

In the process of realizing the various UIsponsored projects, nearly a half-million dollars in private contributions were raised to help finance them. Thousands of people shared in the experiences. Myriad memories were formed.

What happens next is anybody's guess.

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Larry Eckholt is Director of Iowa Center for the Arts Development for The University of Iowa Foundation. He was Iowa City Bureau Chief for The Des Moines Register. On several occasions he has contemplated running away with The Joffrey. 11011

"...The Joffrey Ballet has not only recovered a crucial part of our cultural past, but also given us a living treasure for the present and future." — The Washington Post

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The Nutcracker Is a Dream Come True

by Jeremy Johnson

hen Carrie Hughes was only 18 months old, her mother took her to her first ballet. Dressed in a bright holiday red velvet dress and white high-top shoes, Carrie watched the dancers sashay, leap, twist, and turn about the vast stage. It was probably then that Carrie began dreaming that she, too, would someday dance on stage in satin ballet slippers beneath the brilliant spotlights.

Nine years later, Carrie's dream is coming true as she and 43 other talented youth perform in The Joffrey Ballet's world premiere of a new **Nutcracker**. More than 200 children, accompanied by their nervous parents, crowded into the backstage of Hancher Auditorium to compete in the June auditions for the coveted roles. Carrie modestly attributes her successful tryout to the fact that "I was wearing my lucky ballet slippers."

Whether the opportunity came from lucky slippers or budding talent, the chance to dance with the world-renowned Joffrey is the highest point so far in these young dancers' fledgling careers.

The youngsters bring to the production many levels of experience. Kristen Richardson and Molly Chehak have danced **The Nutcracker** five times previously with their dance school, Dieman-Bennett Academy in Cedar Rapids. "But

this Nutcracker is different!," they hasten to say, describing how The Joffrey version takes place in a different time and place, employing special effects and unusual costumes.

Some of the dancers are less familiar with this standard Christmas ballet. Amanda Sales has been dancing since age 5 and admits, "I have never seen Nutcracker but," she quickly adds, "we do have the record at home."

Ryan McBride reveals that he has been dancing for only a year and a half, which makes him the **Nutcracker** dancer with the least dance training. Despite Ryan's lack of experience, his talent landed him a position with the UI Dance Department Talented and Gifted (TAG) program which trains youths who show advanced skill in all areas of movement. "It's really a challenge," reports Kimberly Martins, who, with John MacMillan and Rachael Lu, has also participated in the highly selective and rigorous TAG program.

Even beyond the dance studio, the dancers show extraordinary skill. Rachael Lu is also an accomplished pianist, competing this year in the Baldwin Junior High Piano Competitions. Jeff Maxted, who once played Tiny Tim in A Christmas Carol, has acted in lots of shows at Cedar Rapids Community Theater and Paramount The-

ater. Chari Davis is a professional model and also captain of her school cheerleading team in Cedar Rapids. Despite her experience and proven abilities, Chari explains demurely, "I think I was picked for The Nutcracker because of my smile."

It certainly took more than smiles for this group to get where they are today. Long hours, hard work, and sweat are not strangers to this dedicated troupe. The rehearsal schedule is demanding and conceived as an ongoing educational process. Intensive daily rehearsals began in June during an Iowa summer of record-breaking heat. After a September hiatus, rehearsals resumed on weekends in October. Alicia Brown, director of The University of Iowa Dance Company, and David Demand, accompanist, have maintained the rehearsal schedule while The Joffrey has been performing in Los Angeles and New York.

Have the many hours of long, hot rehearsals dulled the excitement of the dancers about being part of this grand world premiere? Not one bit. Even after the many repeatedly rehearsed scenes, Shanna Morrissey exclaims, "I'm still excited about dancing with such a major company as The Joffrey and traveling to Washington, D.C.," where the dancers will later perform the ballet at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. James Frankfurt comments, "The rehearsals take up a lot of time, but it's worth it."

This Nutcracker presents a special challenge to some of the dancers because of the acting abilities demanded. "There's as much emphasis on acting as dancing," reports Amy Estlund. "If you're a girl playing the part of a boy, you can't just act like a boy—you have to really be a boy," she asserts. "You have to forget who you are," adds Lindsay Ellsworth, who has been "dancing long as I can remember."

Because the ballet is a new production in the process of evolving, many scenes are





Alicia Brown rehearsing the Nutcracker kids. Photo by Tom Jorgensen.

altered or revamped, even in the middle of rehearsals. "It's real exciting," says Paul Mineck. "With all the changes, they work your brain."

The constant reevaluation of certain scenes also means that attendance at rehearsals is vital. "If you miss three rehearsals, you'll be replaced," Kimberly Martins explains. "During one rehearsal the battle scene was completely changed. It's really difficult to catch up if you miss something like that."

At the risk of appearing overzealous, Stephanie Henn announces, "I would even miss school for rehearsals, because dance is more important." Says Gretchen Zimmerman of the heavy rehearsal schedule, "It ruins your weekend, but it's fun."

For Jessica Lee of Ankeny, attending rehearsals requires a special commitment because she lives 120 miles from Iowa City. She travels two and a half hours oneway to reach Iowa City from her hometown north of Des Moines. "My parents drive me to Des Moines where I meet Kathy Sheehan and Amy Loffredo at the Pizza Hut next to Adventureland," says Jessica. "From there we all carpool to Iowa City."

Kathy and Amy are students at the Des Moines Ballet School where they have danced together in **The Nutcracker** and **Cinderella.** "I practice ballet every day of the week except Sunday," states Kathy, who started taking dance "because I was bored." She asserts confidently, "I'm gonna be a dancer."

"Ever since I was little, I wanted to be Clara," reveals Danielle Rieck, referring to the central character of the ballet.

Although she is cast not as Clara but as a

doll, clown, and understudy for the "party scene," Danielle emphatically insists, "Tm gonna dance my best. Then Michael will like it."

Michael Kohli is Danielle's respected dance instructor at Dance of Iowa City, the dance studio where 12 of the young dancers have studied ballet. "I wouldn't be here if it weren't for Michael," says Christene Davenport, speaking of Kohli's strong encouragement to audition and her special emphasis on her pupils' individual abilities.

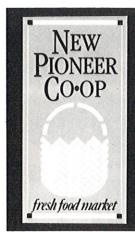
How did this fledgling group get involved in dance? All of the dancers have had previous dance recital experience, and many have taken gymnastics. "Tve danced in recitals but this is my first big thing!" bubbles Sheilah Lynch, who has danced since age 2. Asked what has been the most fun about being in the production, she replies, "Meeting new people and making friends has been the funnest thing. And also learning everything there

is to learn. It's practically amazing!"

James Frankfurt says he decided to study dance after watching his sister take ballet for a year. "It looked like fun. I took it and it was fun. Now it's like cuckoo!" he says, speaking of the strange-sounding French terms his teachers use to indicate the many ballet positions and movements.

Aimee Langlas, member of Metropolitan Dance Professional Company of Waterloo, says of her involvement in **The Nutcracker**, "It's great because you have this feeling that this is like the world premiere right here in Iowa. I don't know why they picked Iowa since it's so boring."

Iowa wasn't boring enough to keep Kimberly Durham from traveling from neighboring Illinois to audition for a part in this ballet billed as "Iowa's Holiday Gift to the Nation." Kimberly, the sole non-Iowan of the group, hails from



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Another out-of-towner, Elizabeth Brown of Marshalltown, got her start in dance at age 3 with dance instructor Catherine Doan. One of the many spritely mice in the production, Elizabeth, along with several of her pre-teen dancer friends, bemoans the fact that "*Tm not on pointe yet.*"

Also not on *pointe* yet is Elisa Altorfer, who plays the part of "a party child," "mouse," and "clown." "But I've danced The Nutcracker before," notes Elisa, one of the five dancers from Dieman-Bennett Academy in Cedar Rapids.

Not all the dancers wish to graduate to the level of *pointe* classes. Says Lisa Stackhouse of Donna's Dance Company in Cedar Rapids, "I enjoy ballet, but my favorite dance is tap."

What are the future aspirations of the group? Some do have hopes of making a career of dance. "I would like to eventually dance in a movie, like A Chorus Line," reports Jamie O'Dell.

Molly Chehak, who numbers this her sixth **Nutcracker**, says she would like eventually to go to a good dance college. Her friend Megan Blair started with gymnastics when she was little but eventually changed to dance. "My coach wanted me to include ballet to gain 'grace'," she says. She's been dancing ever since. Amanda Spillers began dancing at age 4 but says, "I want to be an interior decorator or clothes designer."

"I auditioned because my Mom told me to," admits Shanna Morrissey. "I didn't expect to get the part because I broke my ankle last Christmas Eve when I was hit by a car" reports the now fully recovered dancer. Regarding her dance future, the volleyball enthusiast says non-committally, "Dance may just be a hobby every now and then."

Kelli Jasiewicz thinks she would rather be an actress than a dancer, but the busy child actor, pianist, and basketball player has increasing options. "Tm gonna start playing the flute in January," she announces.

Christene Davenport, dancing on a sensitive knee, says after **The Nutcracker** she will take a break from dancing "because my patella is on the wrong track."

In general, what are they excited about? "Going to Washington, D.C.!" several of them shout. "Dancing with a great company like The Joffrey," others declare. "Making new friends!" several others say.

The down side? "The boys aren't allowed to have their hair cut," reports James Frankfurt, a real sacrifice considering the current popularity of shorter military- or punk-inspired hairstyles.

The rehearsals can also be trying. They are intensive and last all day, taking up weekends when the youngsters say they might otherwise be playing outside with friends. "Sometimes I'd rather be riding our Appaloosa," says petite equestrian Talaye Jaeger of Solon.

Between scenes the dancers busied themselves while waiting for Alicia Brown to call their particular group, the "dolls," "soldiers," or "Mother Ginger's clowns." Some took along books to keep them occupied during the breaks. "I brought mysteries to read," said James Frankfurt. Others filled the spare time talking and walking or running through the corridors of North Hall, where the rehearsals were being held. Some just "crashed" on the floor whenever there was a break, using a gym bag as a pillow, while others constantly stretched limbs and practiced various balletic positions.

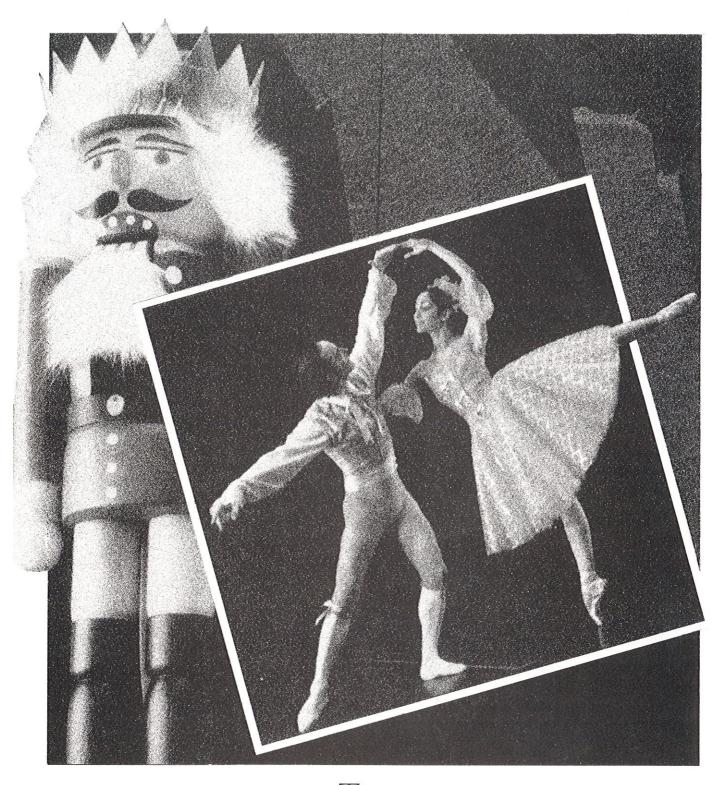
In addition to the 32 original Iowa (plus one Illinois) youth, 11 youngsters were later chosen to perform the roles of trees in the Iowa world premiere performances. All of the children express awe about the

technically brilliant and physically perfect Joffrey dancers. Asked to sum up the experience of working with their older Joffrey Ballet partners they all exclaim, "They're amazing!" For not a few of these youngsters this Nutcracker is definitely a dream come true.

Jeremy Johnson is a graduate student in The University of Iowa Arts Administration Program.







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Our Kids



Erin Engelbart Anamosa "I think being in The Nutcracker is great. I even told my sister about it."



Amy Estlund Cedar Rapids "T've always wanted to go to a Joffrey performance. I finally got the chance."



Elisa Altorfer Cedar Rapids "Tve danced The Nutcracker before. It's always exciting, especially the Mother Ginger scene. It's real active."



Brooke Crowley Anamosa "This is a great Christmas gift."



James Frankfurt Iowa City "Ballet looked like fun. I took it and it was fun!"



Vanessa Androus Kalona "I want to be a dancer. I think this will help me get exposed."



Sara Curtin-Mosher Iowa City "Tm bappy to be in The Nutcracker. I'll do my best."



Stephanie Henn Iowa City "When I was little I jumped on the couch a lot. So my mom said I should take dance."



Megan Blair Iowa City "My gymnastics coach wanted me to include ballet to gain grace. I guess I bave."



Christene Davenport Iowa City "I've been on stage at least once. I think that's why I was picked."



Carrie Hughes Cedar Rapids "The funnest part of being in The Nutcracker is making new friends."



Elizabeth Brown Marshalltown "My parents encouraged me, so I worked real bard to get a part."



Chari Davis
Cedar Rapids
"I would like to dance
professionally, retire,
and then open my own
dance studio."



Talaye Jaeger Solon "Sometimes I'd rather be riding our Appaloosa."



Molly Chehak Iowa City "I'm moving to California after this."



Kimberly Durham Moline, IL "Ballet isn't my only bobby. I like modern dance, and football too."



Kelli Jasiewicz Cedar Rapids "The ballet hasn't been all fun. It's work too. I'm gonna start playing the flute in January."



Rachel Conybeare Iowa City "I may become a dancer, depending on how I feel after this is over."



Lindsay Ellsworth Iowa City "I acted like I was enjoying it. That's why I was chosen."



Aimee Langlas Waterloo "It's great because you have this feeling that this is like the world premiere, right here in Iowa."



Jessica Lee Ankeny "Meeting new people has been the most fun of all."



Kimberly Martins Iowa City "When not dancing, I like being with my cat, biking, collecting dolls, and shopping."



Kristen Richardson Cedar Rapids "Thank you to my parents and teachers for helping me get this far."



Amy Loffredo Des Moines "I think the most fascinating part of this is going to Washington D.C. for Christmas."



Jeffrey Maxted Cedar Rapids "I never really thought I'd make it here, but here I am."



Danielle Rieck Iowa City "When I was little I wanted to be a ballerina. Now I'm gonna dance my best."



Rachael Lu Iowa City "Some say dancing ballet isn't good for you. If it weren't good exercise, I'd be huge."



Ryan McBride Iowa City "T'll be glad to catch up in school when this is done."



Amanda Sales Iowa City "If I weren't here, I'd be home getting into trouble."



Lydia Lyman Iowa City "Tve been doing leaps through the hall to practice for this."



Paul Mineck Cedar Rapids "When it's all over I want to get a haircut."



Kathy Sheehan Des Moines "I was bored so I took dancing and I liked it. It's fun."



Sheilah Lynch Victor "This is my first big thing."



Shanna Morrissey Mt. Vernon "The rehearsals are sometimes boring so I try to think how much fun the real performances will be."



Amanda Spillers Iowa City "Over half of my friends wished me luck to get this part."



John MacMillan Coralville "What I really want to be is a football player or beart surgeon."



Jamie O'Dell Cedar Rapids "I would like to thank Mom and Dad and dance instructors Kathy and Donna."



Lisa Stackhouse Cedar Rapids "This is a great experience. It's the big 'it'."



Maggie Marlin Williamsburg "Tm very, very happy. And everyone else is happy for me too."



Sara Olson Iowa City "Tm so excited. The Nutcracker is wonderful."



Bethea Woodsmall Iowa City "I was a little nervous. But I'm glad I made it."



Jenna Martin
Iowa City
"I saw The Nutcracker
on my birthday when I
was five. I'm really excited about this one
too."



Chris Parizek Iowa City "I'm pretty excited about this. I've only done recitals before."



Gretchen Zimmerman Iowa City "This is the most exciting thing that's ever happened to me."

Photos by Tom Jorgensen.



The Old ... "Waltz of the Snowflakes," Maryinsky Theatre performance, 1892.

The Evolution of a Holiday Classic

by Karlene Beck and Judith Hurtig

It has long been fashionable to attribute the enduring success of The Nutcracker to Tchaikovsky's sumptuous music. But the ballet has become such an intrinsic part of holiday celebrations that, without minimizing the music, further explanations are called for. No less an observer than W. H. Auden, writing in 1954, called The Nutcracker "a festival of joy, a sort of Christmas pantomime."

Arguing against those who have considered it to be a sugar-coated fairytale for children, he went on to say, "only those who have lost their sense of joy and for whom, consequently, ballet is a meaningless art will find that juvenile."

That sense of joy that Auden recognized in the ballet is due in part to the French adaptation by Alexander Dumas of the rather sinister original fairytale, Der Nussknacker und der Mausëkönig (The Nutcracker and The Mouse King) by E. T. A. Hoffmann. In the Dumas adaptation, many of the dark and eerie undertones of Hoffmann's original have been modified and the tone transformed into a bright and joyous tale in keeping with its Christmas setting. For example, the Mouse King, once a monster with seven heads, each foaming at the mouth, evolved into an obese mouse more humorously appropriate to the ballet stage. In other changes, the French writer eliminated many of the German's bizarre and often disturbing images but, in the process, may have oversentimentalized the original source. Marius Petipa, chief choreographer and peerless master of nineteenth-century Russian dance, rightly judged that Dumas' version would be far more acceptable to the Russian audience.

The ballet's premiere on December 18, 1892, in the Maryinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg gave little indication of its future. Tchaikovsky, despite his earlier misapprehensions, was pleased with the production, calling the staging "superb." In fact, his only criticism of the production was that it was "too magnificent—the eye gets tired of so much gorgeousness." His patron, Czar Alexander III, declared himself delighted with the ballet.

Two aspects of the first performances attracted the most comment. While the Italian ballerina Antonietta dell'Era was a technically excellent dancer, she lacked charm and personality. But her pas de deux as the Sugar Plum Fairy was recognized as the choreographic highlight of the ballet. The greatest praise was given to the Dance of the Snowflakes because it was visually spectacular. All the dancers carried wands from which spherical snowflakes hung on quivering wires. On their heads were other wires from which tiny snowflakes dangled. Whirling about the stage, the cast of sixty dancers first formed a star, then assembled into a huge snowball and finally sank into a heap like a snowbank.





The New... The Snowflakes (clockwise from top) Kim Sagami, Deborab Dawn, Julie Janus, Victoria Pasquale, and Elizabeth Parkinson from The Joffrey production. Photo by Herbert Migdoll.

Otherwise, very little about the first performances of the ballet is known with certainty. The project was originally intended as the second collaboration between Tchaikovsky and Petipa. Their first joint effort, **The Sleeping Beauty**, had been an immediate and enduring success.

Petipa became ill soon after rehearsals for The Nutcracker began, and the task of completing the the ballet fell to his assistant, Lev Ivanov. Aside from the very detailed set of instructions which Petipa gave to Tchaikovsky, it is unclear how much Petipa had actually completed at the time of his illness. The Waltz of the Snowflakes, which was choreographed by Ivanov, has been preserved in Stepanov notations. But recreations of the rest of the ballet rely on recollections, descriptions, and sketches.

In addition to the sentimentality of the story, critics were also disturbed by the

ballet's lack of narrative and choreographic focus. Tchaikovsky himself had vigorously raised both of these objections. Traditional ballets almost always have a heroine whose usually tragic life is told in dance. In contrast, the story of The Nutcracker concerns a young girl, Clara, who for most of the second act simply watches a series of dances. This leaves the ballerina role with little to do aside from the one grand pas de deux. Later choreographers have addressed this problem in a variety of ways. Some have fused the role of Clara with the Sugar Plum Fairy, so that she becomes an idealized image of the young girl. Others have tried to amplify Clara's role, thus creating a second ballerina role. It was in the role of Clara that the eighteen-year-old Maya Plisetskaya rose to overnight fame in a Bolshoi Ballet revival. Despite all the tinkering with the ballerina role, it has attracted and sustained the talents of most of the world's great ballerinas, including

Alicia Markova, Margot Fonteyn, and Maria Tallchief. Beginning in the 1940's, largely through the inspiration of Alexandra Danilova's Sugar Plum Fairy, the ballerina role has come to be the epitome of the American *prima*.

Tracing the recensions of the ballet is a fascinating and complex enterprise. The first attempt at reconstructing the original Petipa-Ivanov choreography came in 1909 when Nicholas Sergeyev drew upon the Stepanov notations as well as other materials in the files of the Maryinsky Theatre. Subsequent productions in the Soviet Union have come at regular intervals, most recently in a revival by Yuri Grigorovich for The Bolshoi Ballet.

There were a number of early fascinating versions of the ballet. Anna Pavlova and her company performed ballet excerpts throughout the world. On May 18, 1909, a performance produced by Diaghilev of the Bouffon dance from the last act opened in Paris. In 1921 Diaghilev introduced versions by Nijinska of the Arabian and Chinese dances into his company's production of **The Sleeping Princess**. This production also included a version of the Sugar Plum Fairy role in the prologue.

In 1934 Sergeyev set his earlier production on The Sadler's Wells Ballet. The premiere featured Alicia Markova and Harold Turner. Robert Helpmann was in the Chinese Dance. The Arabian Dance was performed by Elsa Lanchester, certainly not a regular member of the company, but an actress with the Old Vic. After watching her rehearse as Ariel in The Tempest, Sergeyev decided Miss Lanchester was perfect for the Arabian divertissement. The production was revived in 1937 with Margot Fonteyn and Robert Helpmann in the starring roles. Sometimes the second act was performed separately, and the work remained in The Royal Ballet repertory well into the 1940's. In 1951 the same company produced an entirely new version with choreography freely based on Ivanov's by Frederick Ashton, with scenery and decor by Cecil Beaton. In



1960 Rudolf Nureyev again choreographed the ballet, amplifying the ballerina role by combining Clara and the Sugar Plum Fairy in the spectacular *pas de deux*.

The enduring popularity of The Nutcracker is, however, an American phenomenon. It is impossible to determine with any accuracy the number of productions of the ballet each year between Christmas and New Year. In addition to being an essential part of the repertory of most professional ballet companies, the ballet is performed in amateur and student productions everywhere. The early criticism that the major roles were danced by children has become one of the major reasons for the ballet's popularity. The cast can be drawn from local ballet schools. There are a number of nondancing roles for adults, such as Drosselmeyer, which can be filled by local dignitaries or clergymen. And because the second act is a succession of unconnected dances, the major roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and her cavalier can be danced by professionals brought in at the last moment. In these productions, the ballet retains the magic spirit of the holidays and has a local significance by involving the whole community.

The Nutcracker was introduced to America on October 17, 1940, in a shortened version by the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. Alexandra Fedorova, who had been a ballerina at the Maryinsky Theatre and subsequently became Robert Joffrey's teacher, based her ballet on the original Ivanov production. Her production, which starred Alicia Markova and Andre Egelevsky, was designed by Alexander Benois who saw the premiere performance in St. Petersburg and left an extensive description of it. The Ballet Russe production included some important modifications which were again designed to amplify the role of the ballerina. When the family drawing room dissolved into the Snow Forest, Clara and the boy Nutcracker were turned into adult dancers, who in the second act danced the grand pas de deux. In addition to a number of Russian dancers and the children of Russian emigres, the cast included George Verdak, who has helped stage The Joffrey's current production.

The first full-length American Nutcracker was choreographed and staged by Willam Christensen for the San Francisco Ballet in 1944. Christensen was advised by Danilova and by George Balanchine, who had danced the roles of a toy soldier, mouse, the Mouse King, and the Nutcracker Prince in successive years as a student in St. Petersburg. The 1944 Christensen production is preserved by Ballet West, which he founded in Salt Lake City.

On February 2, 1954, George Balanchine premiered his version of The Nutcracker for The New York City Ballet, starring Maria Tallchief and Nicholas Magallanes as the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier. It was the first full-length ballet to be performed by the company, and it became an historic work. Balanchine restored cuts that had been made in Tchaikovsky's music and made some charming innovations. He created another ballerina role by introducing a Dewdrop to lead the Waltz of the Flowers. He also claimed to have reintroduced elements of the original Hoffmann story. Staged in a new production in December 1964 with designs by Rouben Ter-Artunian and costumes by

Karinska, Balanchine's ballet has become an annual seasonal attraction.

Many Nutcracker performances in the United States are related in one way or another. Former members of the Ballet Russe and the New York City Ballet advise and stage performances for companies all over the country. With almost every choreographer influenced by memories of either the Balanchine or "after Ivanov" variations, or both, similarities are inevitable.

But what is perhaps more intriguing is the enormous diversity of interpretations. While **The Nutcracker** has been estab-

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lished as a holiday tradition, the narrative and choreography have remained flexible and change continuously.

Often, the ballet takes on a distinctly regional character, as in Lew Christensen's **Nutcracker** for the San Francisco Ballet which includes a Chinese dragon, the heraldic beast familiar from the city's famous Chinatown New Year celebrations.

The old criticism of the lack of narrative focus continues to motivate new interpretations. For example, in The Pennsylvania Ballet's version, Drosselmeyer exists only in Clara's imagination, is seen only by her, and represents a wise man seeking truth and searching for a child "of truth and purity." The rats have become spirits of evil and the Snow King and Queen symbols of peace. The ballet is transformed into a Christmas allegory of Good Will, with Goodness and Virtue winning out over Evil.

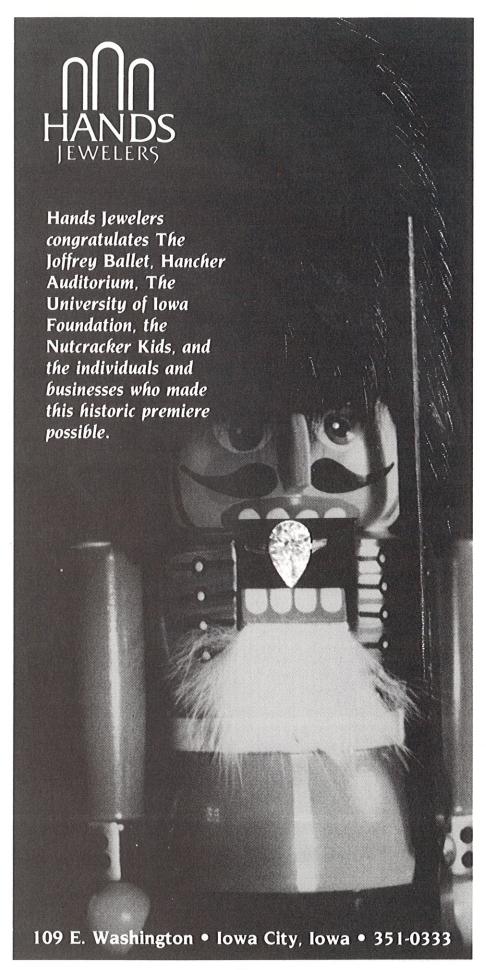
The Birmingham (AL) Ballet turned the Sugar Plum Fairy and her cavalier into Clara's parents. John Cranko of The Stuttgart Ballet went so far as to remove **The Nutcracker** from the Christmas setting, focusing it instead on the events of Clara's birthday. He also changed Drosselmeyer into an eccentric old aunt who is Clara's fairy godmother.

Dancer-choreographer Mikhail
Baryshnikov continued the variation of
featuring an older Clara in the American
Ballet Theatre version. His **Nutcracker** is
concerned with the joys and stresses of
adolescence, that ambiguous time when
adults seem both frightening and alluring.
In this poignant version, Clara discovers
that growing up can bring disappointment
as well as delight.

Tandy Beal, a modern dance choreographer, retained the original plot but abandoned all vestiges of classical ballet. Her 1982 premiere in Santa Cruz featured jugglers, acrobats, and flamenco dancers rollicking across the stage in the fantasy of Act II.

This very lack of an exacting tradition insures that **The Nutcracker** will continue to pique choreographers' interest because they are free to bring their own interpretation to the story.

One returns finally to the early criticisms of the ballet—its lack of choreographic



focus and its sentimentality-in an attempt to understand the enduring place that the ballet has in holiday tradition. Modern dance audiences who are completely comfortable with totally abstract dances are no longer as bothered by the lack of a strong plot line as late nineteenth-century audiences were. In fact, it may very well be that the lack of "plot" in the second act gives the ballet a somewhat contemporary feel. While choreographers have long tried to build up the ballerina role, conforming to Romantic expectations of a heroine, the nature of ballet companies, particularly in the United States, has changed dramatically. It is quite true that The Nutcracker may not be suitable for companies built around a few star soloists. Balanchine always opposed this concept of a ballet company. His ideal was an ensemble in which every member is technically capable of dancing a solo role. The Nutcracker becomes a perfect showpiece for such a company.

It may by now be totally beside the point that some critics consider **The Nutcracker** to be overly sentimental. Its joy, wonderment and, above all, its magic have been so effective with audiences that the ballet has a radiance which transcends criticism.

Karlene Beck is a University of Iowa senior, majoring in Communications Studies. She holds an Undergraduate Scholar Assistantship to work with Hancher Auditorium for the 1987-88 season. Judith Hurtig is Marketing Manager for Hancher Auditorium.



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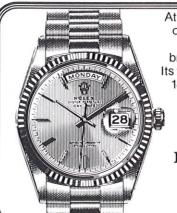
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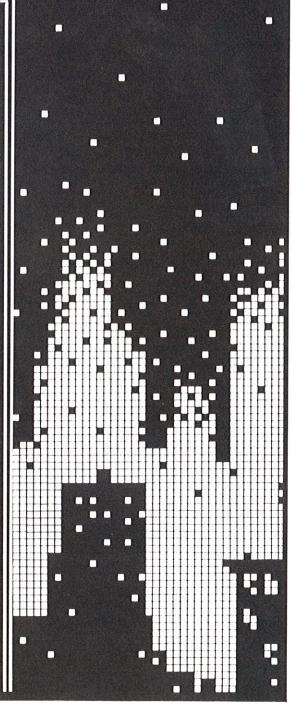
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IOWA CENTER FOR THE ARTS SPRING SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

Performance time is 8:00 p.m., except as noted.

- January 20 Wednesday Robert Moeling, piano; Terry King, cello—Clapp Recital Hall
- January 22 Wednesday Iowa Woodwind Quintet Clapp Recital Hall
- February 10 Wednesday University Symphony Orchestra Hancher Auditorium
- February 13 Saturday Center for New Music Clapp Recital Hall
- February 15 Monday New Music Week Festival recital Clapp Recital Hall
- February 17-20 and 25-27 8:00 p.m.
- February 21 and 28
 "Romeo and Juliet"*
 3:00 p.m.
 University Theatres, Mabie Theatre
- February 20 Saturday Symphony Band – Hancher Auditorium
- February 21 Sunday
 Beaumont Glass Presidential Lecture
 2:30 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall

Percussion Ensemble 6:30 p.m., Voxman Hall

■ February 24 Wednesday Stradivari Quartet—Clapp Recital Hall

Guest Organ Recital Clapp Recital Hall

- March 2-5 and 9-12 8:00 p.m.
- March 6 and 13
 "Miss Margarida's Way"*
 3:00 p.m.
 University Theatres, Theatre "A"
- March 4 Friday Camerata Singers — Clapp Recital Hall
- March 6 Sunday Kantorei – Clapp Recital Hall
- March 7 Monday UI Concert Bands — Clapp Recital Hall

- March 9 Wednesday University Symphony Orchestra Hancher Auditorium
- March 11 Friday

 Iowa Brass Quintet Clapp Recital
 Hall
- April 3 Sunday William Preucil, viola; Kenneth Amada, piano Clapp Recital Hall
- April 4 Monday Johnson County Landmark jazz band Clapp Recital Hall
- April 6 Wednesday
 University Symphony & Choruses
 Hancher Auditorium
- April 6-9 and 15-16 8:00 p.m.
- April 17
 "Barber of Seville"
 3:00 p.m.
 University Theatres, Mabie Theatre
- April 9 Saturday
 "Swing into Spring" Old Gold Singers*
 Hancher Auditorium
- April 13 Wednesday Symphony Band Hancher Auditorium
- April 16 Saturday Center for New Music Clapp Recital Hall

- April 17 Sunday Percussion Ensemble Voxman Hall
- April 18 Monday

 Jazz Bands II & III Clapp Recital Hall
- April 20 Wednesday Stradivari Quartet – Clapp Recital Hall
- April 24 Sunday Lux Brahm, clarinet Clapp Recital Hall
- April 27 Wednesday
 University and Concert Bands
 Clapp Recital Hall
- April 28 Thursday Michael Radulescu, organ Clapp Recital Hall
- April 29 and 30 8:00 p.m
- May 1
 "Cosi Fan Tutte"*
 3:00 p.m.
 University Opera Theater
 Hancher Auditorium
- May 4 Wednesday Camerata Singers — Clapp Recital Hall
- May 6 Friday
 Percussion Ensemble
 3:30 p.m., Voxman Hall
- *Tickets at Hancher Auditorium Box Office. All other events are free.

Hancher Auditorium Information

Box Office: Open from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Sunday. On nights of performances, the box office remains open until 9:00 p.m. If a performance falls on a Saturday or Sunday, box office hours are 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. Telephone: 319/335-1160, or toll-free in lowa 1-800-HANCHER.

Seating Policy: To avoid disrupting the performance, latecomers will be directed to the observation rooms and will be seated during an appropriate break in the performance, at the discretion of the management. If you must leave during a performance and later wish to re-enter the auditorium, an usher will escort you to an observation booth until an intermission or the conclusion of the performance.

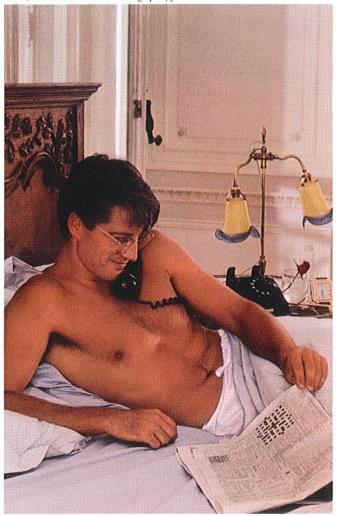
Greenroom: The greenroom, located on the river side of the lobby, is the site of discussions preceding many events and is also a convenient place to meet artists following a performance. Ask an usher or check the lobby sign for availability of performers.

Coughing and Electronic Watches: The auditorium's acoustics amplify the sounds of coughing and other noises. Please turn off your electronic watch alarm. The use of a handkerchief helps to muffle a cough or sneeze, and cough drops are available from the ushers. If coughing persists, you may wish to return to the lobby, where an usher can direct you to one of the soundproof observation rooms.

Smoking: Smoking is not permitted in the auditorium. If you wish to smoke during intermissions, you may do so only in the designated areas of the cafe and of the west end of the lobby.

Cameras and Tape Recorders: In compliance with copyright laws and contractual arrangements with artists, photographs and recordings may not be made during a performance. Please check your cameras and tape recorders with the house manager or an usher.

Restrooms and Drinking Fountains: Located on either side of the lobby and mezzanine. ©1986, Paco Rabanne Parfums. Photograph by Joel Baldwin.



Hello?

Is this the man with the secret tattoo?

Now that you know about it, it's not a secret anymore, is it?

Your tattoo is safe with me. Were you able to get a taxi?

I walked home.

And how was Paris while all the sensible folk were still in bed?

It was grey and drizzling and bloody marvelous. I kept making up poems with your name in them. Also a love song that, for rhyming reasons, ended up being all about your right elbow. I don't think my feet touched the ground once all the way home.

I meant to tell you. I love the way you smell. Most men's colognes make them smell like they take themselves too seriously.

I thank you. My Paco Rabanne cologne thanks you. My mother thanks you.

Your mother would never approve of what you and your Paco Rabanne do to me, so let's leave her out of this. Am I going to see your tattoo again tonight?

That's up to you, isn't it?



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