



SCB

School of Classical Ballet Presents

THE
NUTCRACKER

An Original Ballet

December 18-20, 2020

Co-Directed by Julia Marble Blass, Leigh Schanfein, and Tiffany Wardell

Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

PRODUCTION CREDIT

Welcome!

This has been quite a year! Despite the sadness, fear, and setbacks of this year, we are so grateful for this opportunity to share the beauty and magic of The Nutcracker Ballet with each of you.

Thank you to each performer who took the time to rehearse, who followed our strict COVID-19 regulations, and who shared this event with others. Thank you to our many volunteers who made this possible.

Thank you to each audience member. We hope you are joyfully transported to happy memories with loved ones as this tradition continues.

Behind the Scenes

Directors Julia Marble Blass, Leigh Schanfein, Tiffany Wardell
Stage Setup..... *ARC: a Montana Dance Collective*
Lighting Tech..... Julia Marble Blass, Kerry Blass
Video Tech..... Maribel Parman
Sound Tech..... Tiffany Wardell
Costumes..... Julia Marble Blass, Allison Shepp

Choreography

JULIA MARBLE BLASS	LEIGH SCHANFEIN	TIFFANY WARDELL
Baby Dolls	Fight Scene	Party Scene
Gingersnaps	Arabian	Snowflakes
Sheep	Waltz of the Flowers	Russian
	Sugar Plum Fairy	

Limited re-staging of SAN DIEGO BALLET choreography by BETTY LOOS
Ballerina Doll, Soldier Doll, Spanish, Mirlitons, Chinese

THE CAST

Party Scene

Clara Claire Foote (Fri Eve & Sat Mat)
Elizabeth Cutright (Sat Eve & Sun Mat)

Fritz Alia Russell

Mr. and Mrs. Stahlbaum Cuyler Harvey, Christina Taylor

Maid Megan Grosso

Godfather Drosselmeyer..... Nile Baker (Fri Eve & Sat Mat)
Kyle Gerry (Sat Eve & Sun Mat)

Party Parents..... Steve and Tina Smith,
Sierra Walsh, Tony Reyes

Party Girls..... Brittyn Boyce, Bella Collender,
Isabel Haub, Madison Low

Party Boys Catherine Cutright, Daisha Olyete,
Rocky Taylor, Natalie Wilson

Mini Party Girls..... Mattie Barrett, Navy Taylor

Baby Dolls Parker Boschert, Rylan Houlihan,
Kate Martin, Cedar Powell

Ballerina Doll..... Emilee Brown (Fri Eve & Sun Mat),
Marlee O'Toole (Sat Mat & Sat Eve)

Soldier Doll Maya Walling

THE CAST

Fight Scene

Baby MiceMadelynn Dimon, Breeze Frewin,
Rylan Houlihan
MiceRihanna Degges, Ansley Houlihan,
Stella Loran, Dacey Oleyte,
Emerson Bowman (Fri Eve, Sat Mat, Sat Eve)
Mouse QueenMadelynn Hust
Lead SoldiersMiranda Boughey, Ivey Brown,
Sacred Degges, Tabitha Holmes
Soldiers Abigail Billstein, Alma Escene, Maezi Harris,
Parker Hust, Reese Robinson, Ayla Swander
NutcrackerNile Baker (Sat Eve & Sun Mat)
Kyle Gerry (Fri Eve & Sat Mat)

Snow Scene

Snow Queen.....Jordyn Walsh
Snowflakes Kayla Christiansen, Rose Johnson,
Audrey Mills, Isabel Reinke, Alia Russell,
Ellie Stratton, Aspen LaMont (Fri Eve & Sat Mat),
Taylor Gasvoda (Sat Eve & Sun Mat)

5 Minute Intermission

THE CAST

Land of the Sweets Scene

Sugar Plum Fairy..... Leigh Schanfein
Spanish..... Jordyn Walsh (Fri Eve & Sat Mat),
Madelynn Hust (Sat Eve, Sun Mat)
Arabian..... Taylor Gasvoda, Audrey Mills, Alia Russell,
Ellie Stratton, Kaylee Swander
Mirlitons..... Emilee Brown, Marlee O'Toole, Jordyn Walsh
Sheep..... Abigail Billstein, Parker Boschert, Elijah Collender,
Madelynn Dimon, Breeze Frewin, Jocelyn Gould,
Parker Hust, Kate Martin, Hannah North,
Cedar Powell, Reese Robinson
Lead Russian..... Meredith Rentz, Maya Walling
Russian..... Isabel Haub, Madison Low, Daisha Oleyte,
Natalie Wilson
Mother Ginger..... Aryn Reid
Gingersnaps..... Mattie Barrett, Catherine Cutright,
Breeze Frewin, Ansley Houlihan, Stella Loran,
Hannah North, Navy Taylor
Chinese..... Madelynn Hust, Marlee O'Toole
Junior Flowers..... Ivey Brown, Tabitha Holmes, Aspen LaMont,
Bella Collender (Fri Eve & Sat Mat),
Brittyn Boyce (Sat Eve & Sun Mat)
Flowers..... Kayla Christiansen, Isabel Reinke, Meredith Rentz,
Emma Riggs, Malie Smith,
Taylor Gasvoda (Fri Eve & Sat Mat),
Rose Johnson (Sat Eve & Sun Mat)
Dew Drop..... Emilee Brown

GUEST ARTISTS



Leigh Schanfein

Leigh Schanfein is a freelance dancer, choreographer, and teacher as well as an independent researcher in the fields of kinesiology and biomechanics. In October, after 11 years in NYC, she relocated her home to Billings, Montana.

Leigh has trained and performed across the USA and abroad in modern, ballet, and contemporary dance. She has performed with companies such as City Ballet of San Diego, Indelible Dance, Christopher Caines Dance Company, Yoo and Dancers, and the Park Avenue Armory, and has guested with Benjamin Briones Ballet, New American Youth Ballet, Lafayette Ballet, and CONNetic Dance. She has performed in commercial productions including on stage with comedian Hannibal Buress as part of the Oddball Comedy Tour, during Fashion Week NYC for designers such as Malan Breton, and for brands such as Xerox, Suave, Oreo, and Estee Lauder. Leigh is a former Director of Dance for Periapsis Music and Dance, where her choreography was described as "gorgeous and lush." She teaches regularly with NYC Community Ballet, has subbed at the major NYC open studios, and has been a guest instructor and choreographer for pre-professional schools in Indiana, Montana, California, Idaho, and Connecticut. She is also a contributing journalist for Dance Informa Magazine.

Leigh received her M.S. degree in kinesiology with a specialization in biomechanics from Purdue University, and her B.S. degree in animal physiology and neuroscience with a minor in dance from the University of California San Diego. As a graduate student, she received multiple awards for her research with dancers including two awards through the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science. Her research has focused on the mechanisms by which humans control balance and how sensory feedback is integrated for the control of posture. For five years, Leigh worked as a research associate at the Harkness Center for Dance Injuries, part of NYU Langone Health. Her research there covered a wide range of topics concerning injury prevention among dancers. Leigh has taught courses in health, motor development, biomechanics lab, and stress at Purdue University, and anatomy at Peridance Capezio Center. In 2015, she joined the faculty at Barnard College as adjunct lecturer of biomechanics in the department of dance, and co-founded Dance Dissection in 2018. She has been invited to join the faculty of MSUB in January 2021.

GUEST ARTISTS



Nile Baker

Nile Baker originally from California, moved to Michigan and trained at the O'Day School of Dance in Detroit, with Sergey Rayevskiy at the Academy of Russian Classical Ballet in Novi, at Wayne State University, and at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

He holds a BFA from the Ailey School/Fordham University. Nile is currently a dancer at the Metropolitan Opera in productions of Madame Butterfly, Der fliegende Holländer, Turandot, Macbeth, and The Magic Flute. Nile has also worked with Bradley Shelver Contemporary Dance Theater, Indelible Dance, Flusso Dance Project, Project 44, LaneCoArts, and Rebecca Kelly Ballet.



Kyle Gerry

Kyle Gerry is a freelance dancer based in New York City. He has worked most recently with the Lucinda Childs Dance Company and with the José Mateo Ballet Theater.

He has also danced dozens of works by Merce Cunningham, both as a guest with the Repertory Understudy Group and in stagings by the Merce Cunningham Trust, performing several of Merce's solo roles. Last year, he curated and performed in an American modern dance concert in Malawi, and taught Cunningham technique in local schools while there. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia University with a degree in Political Science and Economics.