



En Pointe

Ballet Hawaii opens 2005-06 Season with *Coppelia* in August

Ballet Hawaii continues its tradition of presenting the finest in full-length classical ballet productions with the debut of *Coppelia* as the culmination of the summer intensive program.

Coppelia is the fantasy story of doddering inventor Dr. Coppelius and his amazing wind-up dolls that come to life. It is choreographed by Magaly Suarez, formerly with the Cuban National Ballet to the music of Leo Delibes. Developed in 1870 it was the last new ballet presented at the Paris Opera House as the city was sieged during the Franco-Prussian war. It borrowed elements from pantomime and acting from La Comedie Francaise, as well as folk dance. Filled with youthful characters, it is a delightful introduction to young audiences and a favorite the world-over with seasoned fans. As Cynthia Gregory said, "Swanilda acting as the doll is the gem of the whole ballet, that little piece in the center that's just so perfect."

Considered the jewel of the classical ballet repertoire, *Coppelia* will star Joan Boada, principal dancer with the San Francisco Ballet, and Honolulu-born Amanda Schull, star of the film *Center Stage* and a company member with the San Francisco Ballet, as well as Tony Award-nominated John Selya from the Billy Joel/Twyla Tharp hit musical, *Movin' Out*. Ballet Hawaii aficionados know all three of these outstanding dancers who have appeared in past productions of "Nutcracker" on Oahu and/or Maui. "What a coup it is to have them return for *Coppelia*," said Pamela Taylor Tongg, BH Artistic Director who heads the summer intensive program and who is helping to stage the production.



*Joan Boada,
Amanda Schull,
John Selya*

Dancers from San Francisco Ballet and Broadway's *Movin' Out* to star.



*Left to right, top to bottom
Rory Hohenstein,
Jonathan Mangosing,
Joanna Mednick,
Mariellen Olsen,
James Sofranco*

There are two performances only: Saturday, August 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, August 21 at 2 p.m., both at the Blaisdell Concert Hall. Tickets are sure to be selling fast, so visit the Blaisdell Box Office or any Ticketmaster location, including Times, for tickets priced at \$25, \$40 and \$55, with discounts for students, seniors and military available. In addition, tickets may be ordered by calling toll free to 1-877-750-4400 or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com. Groups of 20 or more may call Ballet Hawaii at 521-8600 for discount information.

As with *Nutcracker* in December, *Coppelia* is unique among Hawaii ballet presentations in showcasing the live music of the Honolulu Symphony, conducted by Joan Landry.

The production also includes other dancers from the San Francisco Ballet and students from around the globe who have participated in the summer intensive program.

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2005-06**

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BALLET HAWAII WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Board of Directors welcomes the following talented and experienced individuals to the Board.

Marilia Duffles is a person of multiple accomplishments which include being an author, interior designer, artist, world traveler and a former dancer with The National Ballet.

Robert Sandla, is also an individual of many talents. His past experience includes being the General Manager and Board President of the Honolulu City Ballet; member of the Board of Directors of Diamond Head Theatre; Past Executive Director of the Honolulu Symphony, and former Executive Director of the Orlando Symphony Orchestra.



The Board of Directors is pleased to have such qualified individuals join its ranks to continue its mission of bringing the best in dance to Hawaii.

Ballet Hawaii starts its fourth Summer Intensive Program in August. The three-week season offers classes 5-days a week for dancers at the intermediate and advanced levels. Classes include, technique, pointe, modern, jazz, body conditioning, and injury prevention. This program continues to attract dancers from the outer islands, Mainland and Japan. This is the first year that students will have the opportunity to perform in the full-length ballet, Coppelia as the culmination of their summer intensive experience. Master teachers this year are Robert Barnett, Maria Vegh, Michael Vernon and Magaly Suarez. Other guest teachers include Derek Daniels and outstanding local teachers: Peter Rockford Espiritu, Marie Takazawa, Maria Beltrans Rowland. Dr. Robert Durkin, a pediatric orthopedist, will also be available to counsel students on injury prevention. Few ballet programs in the United States can claim the level of experience and skill represented by the Master Teachers who are participating here in Hawaii. Please include Coppelia in your summer plans.

***Summer of Dance
in Hawaii***

Some very special friends

Our ballet ohana keeps growing. In addition to the many parent volunteers who work throughout the year and donors who are our regular supporters, we also have very generous corporate sponsors. We are lucky to have so many businesses that care about the community and the health and welfare of its members!

Kudos and mahalo to Bank of Hawaii, Hawaiian Airlines and Horizon Lines for being the production sponsors of Coppelia and the Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort & Spa and Hilton Grand Vacations Club at the Hilton Hawaiian Village for being seasons sponsor. We also are fortunate to have Starbucks Coffee returning again as the major sponsor of Nutcracker. We appreciate all their help in keeping dance alive and well in Hawaii.



Ballet Hawaii *2005-06* Season

Coppelia

Saturday, August 20, 7:30 pm
 Sunday, August 21, 2:00 pm
 Blaisdell Concert Hall



Beijing Modern Dance Company

Friday, November 4, 8:00 pm
 Saturday, November 5, 8:00 pm
 Hawaii Theatre

NUTCRACKER

Maui Arts & Cultural Center
 Saturday, Nov. 26, 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm
 Sunday, Nov. 27, 2:00 pm

Blaisdell Concert Hall
 Friday, December 16, 8:00 pm
 Saturday, December 17, 7:30 pm
 Sunday, December 18, 2:00 pm



Smuin Ballet

Saturday, April 22, 8:00 pm
 Blaisdell Concert Hall



THREE PHANTOMS *in Concert*

Coming in January
 for a benefit performance

TICKETS

\$10 discounts available:

Students through college with ID,
 Seniors 65+, Military with ID
 (4 tickets maximum per ID).
 For group discount information,
 call 521-8600

Coppelia

Tickets on sale now

Nutcracker and Smuin Ballet

Tickets on sale October 1

at Blaisdell Center Box Office

Monday–Saturday 9 am–5 pm

Charge-by-phone: Toll free 1-877-750-4400

Times Super Markets

Via the Internet at www.ticketmaster.com

Service fees apply

Beijing Modern Dance Company

Tickets on sale October 1

at Hawaii Theatre Box Office

Tuesday–Saturday 9 am–5 pm

Charge-by-phone: 528-0506

Tuesday–Saturday 9 am–5 pm

Via the Internet at

www.hawaii theatre.com

Restoration Fee: \$2 per ticket

Mistletoe Magic

The holidays will be here before we know it...and that means not only Ballet Hawaii's incredible production of Nutcracker but also the return of *Mistletoe Magic*, that enchanting shopping experience when sales benefit our dance company. Thanks to the generosity of board member Jackie Takashita, this event will be held in her magnificent home on Hawaii Loa Ridge. *Mistletoe Magic* will be held for the public on Sunday, November 20 from 10-3 pm.

There will also be a "First Choice" soiree on Friday night, November 18, that will feature the culinary creations of chef Rodney Uyehara of Takashita's Bistro at Century Center, live entertainment and advance shopping at *Mistletoe Magic*. Co-chairs Vivien Stackpole and Ana Meng have assembled outstanding vendors to present their holiday ware, including sparkling handbags from the Wright Collection, koa creations from Island



Treasures, unique Santa Clauses from Over the Koolaus, Christmas trees from Mele's Mood, fashions from Anne Namba Designs, Chinese antiques and jackets from Tradewind East, blown glass by artists Bruce

Clark and Diane Kelly, art pieces from Dolphin Gallery, and jewelry from Meng Dynasty, Tasaki Pearls and L. Rafael Jewelry.

In addition, there will be a Ballet Boutique with dance memorabilia and holiday ornaments, and many handcrafted gift items from Bali. As shoppers enjoy the festivities, they also can sign up for the benefit auction item: an amazing six nights in a panoramic suite at the Shanghai Hilton.

Tickets to *Mistletoe Magic* on Sunday, November 20 are \$30 and available at Ballet Hawaii's studio or by calling 521-8615.

Ballet Hawaii students attend prestigious mainland dance schools

Six students from Ballet Hawaii attended summer programs at San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theatre in Detroit and New York City and Walnut Hill. Unanimously, they all felt it was a great experience and many look forward to doing it all over again. One student said that you work hard in classes "because you are surrounded by other dancers who are just as good or better than you are. It is harder to stand out." Another student said that "you push yourself to get stronger and to perfect your technique because anything less is not acceptable. You realize just how good you have to be to get accepted into the Corps of these companies. The dancers are awesome." It gave all these students a realistic look into the professional world of dance.

Mindy Crow
Walnut Hill, Mass.

Roxanne Cassidy
ABT, Detroit

Benjamin Dorado
San Francisco Ballet



Kelsea Auld
ABT, Detroit

Makena Miller
ABT, New York

Michele Saruwatari
San Francisco Ballet

Ballet Hawaii number one in Macy's Community Day ticket sales!

Ballet Hawaii dance students once again put on a stellar performance by selling the most tickets to Macy's Community Day. Once a year, Macy's allows non-profit organizations to sell tickets for this unique day. Customers receive special discounts and enjoy a day filled with entertainment, promotional gifts, and food and beverage sampling. All proceeds from ticket sales benefit participating organizations.

Over \$10,000 was raised in ticket sales enabling the school to have new costumes for their Spring Showcase performances. Esther Beatty was the first prize winner, with Rece Jose coming in second and Madisyn Sim, third. Congratulations and thanks to all who helped with this project.

A dancers dilemma:

“weather or nod to danz”

Susan Potter

A few years ago the San Francisco Ballet gave an evening performance in Stern Grove, an outdoor stage in Golden Gate Park. Each summer the ballet is invited to perform there and, usually they do. The summers are very unpredictable in SF and often it is quite chilly. The company performed this particular program without the star of the evening. She was a lovely, ephemeral European who was a true diva. On the way to the performance she had announced, while wrapped in several pashminas, that “eef it ees too colt, I do nod danz, and eef eet is too shiny, I do nod danz and eef I can smell zee sheeken on zee peekneek plat, I do nod danz.” Apparently, one or more of those things occurred and she “deed nod danz”. Sadly, she left the company soon after but not without leaving an impression.

Fast forward to the summer of 2005 and SF Ballet is dancing in Paris, by invitation, at *Les étés de la danse* – the first company to perform in what will be a summer festival of outdoor dance for years to come. Each year one company will be featured for three weeks. The company commissioned three new works for their rep programs. Grants were secured to help underwrite the cost. A wonderful temporary theatre was built on the grounds of *Les hôtels de Roban-Soubise*, the classic building and gardens of the French Archives. Two thousand sparkling white seats were installed on a raked platform so all could see. Large quarters backstage were erected for the company. Masseuses and chiropractors traveled with the dancers to help keep their stressed frames in perfect shape. Everyone involved on both sides of the ocean looked forward to this exciting event. Many said, despite any political issues between the US and France, the arts always could “bridge the gap.” When I heard of this unprecedented tour I decided perhaps it was time to be the shameless groupie that I am and fly off to Paris. I timed my one week in Paris to occur right in the middle of the festival so I could enjoy several programs. The company arrived in Paris a week prior to the opening to rehearse and acclimate. I spoke often with my SF Ballet friend and was told that Paris was quite warm – in fact “muggy” I believe was the word that she used. I spoke with her the day after opening night and she said they were quite well received. A few days later, just prior to my departure, we spoke again. I asked how things were going and she said, “Oh, we haven’t danced since opening night. It got quite chilly here and we don’t dance if the temperature drops below 65.” On the second and third nights it was 60.

(The shows did not start until 9:30 pm.) Prior to the second evening the presenters were told by the company manager that it was too cold for the dancers to perform, but they paid no attention. To them, this, was not possible. The DeNeuves and DeGaulles, Jaques and Chiracs, Renoirs and Renaults, etc., all arrived early, (2000 of them) They were sold wine, cheese, souvenir programs, and showed where the lovely gift shop was located. As they entered the seating area they were handed blankets in case it “got a bit severe.” When all were seated and some *vin et chevre* had been enjoyed, the presenter appeared on stage to announce that, alas, there would be no show as the dancers were *froid*. Discontent was noticed, but the crowd finally dispersed when they were told that a make-up performance would be considered. No money would be returned. The third night was a similar story. Presenters told it was too cold, did not want to hear it, and secured several thermometers to measure the stage temperature. They were seen placing the thermometers on top of ladders under the brightest lights. Someone was seen with a lighter and thermometer, but no accusations were made. The presenter declared it warm enough (but not the dancers). The backstage temperature was 59. The audience arrived – *la même chose*. Wine, cheese, programs, souvenirs and blankets. This crowd was not quite as placid when given the “no dance, no refund” news. While dancers shivered in the *froid* backstage, the natives got restless and booed and shouted impolitely. A sympathetic soul (possibly a former dancer) shouted back something like “I’d like to see you get your half naked scrawny *derrières* (perhaps another word and perhaps it sounds better in French) up there and dance. A *petite* riot ensued. The gift shop was ransacked. Police were called. The dancers were herded away to a far tent and then escorted, bundled in their pashminas, to safety. The next day the sun came out, the thermometers were put away and Franco-American relations were saved. The programs were excellent and loved by the audience. I had a delightful time enjoying a week of dance. Perhaps I came home just in time. The weather was getting very, very hot and as I said goodbye I could hear some dancers in the next tent discussing whether they should take a vote as to exactly what temperature they would not dance, should it get any warmer. One, I believe, said something like “well, I tell you somsing – eef eet is too shiny and I smell zee escargot on zee peekneek plat, I do nod danz.” *Zut alors!*

Studio renovations near completion

Thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Strong Foundation Ballet Hawaii has renovated their office and dance studios at the Dole Cannery.

Who would have thought that phones and computers for staff members and fans and electrical outlets would make such a difference? Would you have guessed that it cost \$10,000 to

put in new flooring and surface cover for just one of the studios and that new mirrors would cost over \$5,000?

Board member, Marion Philpotts Miller led the design team and with help from Board President Suzie Schull, the office and dance areas of Ballet Hawaii are now both pleasant and functional. As one parent stated when they saw the changes, "it looks like you are now open for business."



Study area for students to do homework in between dance classes.

Friends of Ballet Hawaii
650 Iwilei Road, Box 221
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

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