

CLEVELAND BALLET

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**CLEVELAND BALLET DEBUTS A NEW PRODUCTION OF *THE NUTCRACKER*,
RETURNS TO CONNOR PALACE WITH 11 PERFORMANCES**

CLEVELAND, OH – Cleveland Ballet will premier an entirely new production of the beloved holiday tradition, *The Nutcracker*, December 13-22, for 11 performances spanning two weekends at Playhouse Square's Connor Palace. Following the traditional storyline of Clara, her Nutcracker Prince, and their magical journey through the Land of the Sweets, the production will be elevated with new costumes, sets, and choreography for a lavish holiday experience.

Artistic Director Timour Bourtasenkov is debuting new choreography with his own artistic vision of the ballet. Highlighting the strengths of the 2024-2025 company artists, audiences can expect awe-inspiring dances with intricate and technical elements. Bourtasenkov's international experience continues to elevate Cleveland Ballet's performances that audiences have come to expect and appreciate.

The production will debut new-to-Cleveland Ballet sets and costumes. The set design is by Jeff A.R. Jones, who has designed production components for Carolina Ballet, North Carolina Opera, William Peace University, and more. The costumes were designed by David Heuvel, Director of Costume Production Emeritus for Ballet West. These elements will add an additional level of character and charm to the performance.

There will be a variety of special events during the performances of *The Nutcracker*, including a return of the Cleveland Grays for all 11 performances and opportunities to tour the Grays Armory. There will also be photo opportunity meet and greets with select cast members following the Saturday and Sunday matinee performances, as well as Dew Drop jewels for young patrons during the weekend evening performances.

In addition to its regularly scheduled performances, Cleveland Ballet is offering a student matinee and *Pay What You Can* performance opportunity to attend the final dress rehearsal on Friday, December 13 at 10:30AM at the Connor Palace with tickets beginning at \$10.

Tickets for *The Nutcracker* are on sale now. To purchase tickets and see a listing of the special events taking place at select performances, please visit clevelandballet.org/the-nutcracker or call Cleveland Ballet Ticketing at 216.320.9000 ext. 107. Ticket pricing begins at \$30.

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ABOUT CLEVELAND BALLET: The exquisite artistry of Cleveland Ballet has been capturing the hearts of patrons in Northeast Ohio and beyond since 2015. Cleveland Ballet is indebted to its legions of supporters who have secured its position as a cultural gem with critical acclaim and continued patronage. Recognized for its commitment to innovation, diversity, and creativity, Cleveland Ballet is dedicated to nurturing the next generation of ballet enthusiasts through the Academy of Cleveland Ballet, its robust community impact programs, and accessible programs such as *Pay What You Can*. Cleveland Ballet is proud to be among the prestigious ranks of a Playhouse Square resident company.

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