

The Nutcracker

Famous ballet to be performed in Columbia

The Columbia School of Ballet, under the direction of Sylvia Powell, will present **The Nutcracker** on Friday, December 1st, and on Saturday, December 2nd at the Columbia High School.

Tickets for the ballet, which starts at 8:00 PM, are \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 12. Tickets are on sale at Hinkle's Pharmacy in Columbia, and will also be sold at the door.

The **Nutcracker** is an enchanting Christmas story that was first presented on December 2nd, 1892. It has been performed by the world's greatest ballet companies, including the Kirov Ballet in Russia, the Royal Ballet in England, and of course Balanchine's New York City ballet company.

Mrs. Powell, director of the school, is hoping to make the production a yearly holiday tradition in our area.

The story comes from E.T. Hoffman. The music is by Tchaikovsky, and is among the most famous of classical music. (Most people recognize the tunes when they hear them).

The two-act ballet is set on a Christmas eve, in Nuremburg, Germany. It opens with the family trimming their tree.

Herr Drosselmeyer appears with life-size mechanical toys, which are wound up and then dance for Clara, the family's little girl. He also gives Clara a nutcracker which resembles soldier. Brother Fritz grabs the gift and smashes it on the floor.

Clara goes to sleep and dreams, thinking she is awake. She goes into the tree room at midnight, and mice run out of the walls. The tree begins to grow, and the toy soldiers battle the mice. The soldiers are almost defeated, but the Nutcracker appears, whole again and life size, and engages the Mouse King in hand-to-hand combat. Clara throws the Mouse King off guard by hitting him with a shoe, and the Nutcracker kills him.

At this point the Nutcracker is transformed into a handsome prince. He and Clara travel through the enchanted forest and meet the Snow Queen. Later they reach the Kingdom of Sweets, where they are greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy and the court dances in their honor.

The lovers depart in a walnut-shell boat.

The production staff consists of:

Duane Peters
Richard Powell
Robert Graham
Jeff Pelen
Deb Smith
Rosemary Robinson
Mary Jane Demmy

Robert Graham
Joseph Lively, Jr.
Louise White
Joyce McBride
Carol Snyder

Charlene Blair
Donna Pelen
Carmella Mackison
Mary Lyn Geltmacher
Rita Horn

Carole Hogentogler
Aggi Donnan
Choreographer is Mrs. Sylvia Powell. Director is Mrs. Jane Gray.



Left to right: Theresa Weisser, Lissa Loucks, and Julie Kiehl



Left to right: Sally Nace, Erica Geltmacher, Roseanne Robinson, Emily Carruthers, Donna Donnan, Mary Elizabeth Best, and Ilsa Powell.



Left to right: Channin Hogentogler, Debbie Hughs [kneeling], Janet Clark [standing], Robin Hogentogler, Suzanne Clark, Barbara Horn, and Jennifer Demmy.

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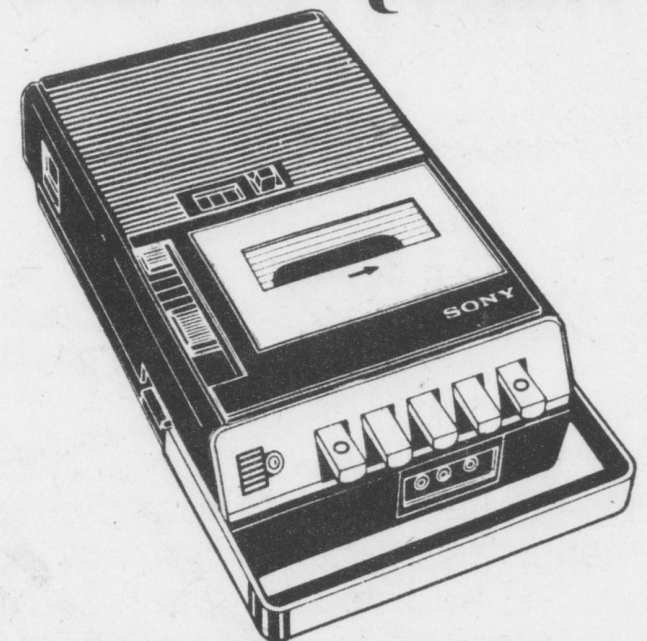
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