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For Immediate Release



Tickets to the Holiday Classic on Sale Now

Goh Ballet's The Nutcracker
December 15 – 18, 2011
The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts

Featuring Principal Dancers from the
American Ballet Theatre
Live Music Performed by Members of the Vancouver Opera Orchestra

Vancouver, BC - The Goh Ballet's critically acclaimed production of the beloved holiday classic, **The Nutcracker**, returns for its third season to **The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts, for six performances from Dec. 15 – 18, 2011**. This magical production is filled with elaborate sets, gorgeous costumes and **live music performed by members of the Vancouver Opera Orchestra**. Featured this year are **Principal Dancers** who are current and former Principal Dancers of New York's prestigious company, **American Ballet Theatre**. They will share the stage with over 200 local dancers. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.ca or by calling 1-855-985-2787. Tickets start at \$28.00.

Besides being Tchaikovsky's most famous composition, The Nutcracker is also regarded as one of the world's most popular ballets. This lavish production is produced by **Chan Hon Goh**, former Prima Ballerina with The National Ballet of Canada, and choreographed by Anna-Marie Holmes, an internationally acclaimed luminary of the dance world.

"**Goh Ballet's** celebrated production of **The Nutcracker** is filled with imagination and something for everyone; whether one is seeing dance for the first time or is a seasoned dance aficionado. Award-winning dancers, gymnasts, ballroom couples and even an illusionist bring the ballet to life with our special guest artists from **American Ballet Theatre**. All of this provides an unforgettable live performance experience that has truly become Vancouver's own Holiday Tradition," stated Chan Hon Goh.

The past two seasons have been huge successes garnering great critical acclaim as well as outstanding sales at the box office. Goh Ballet's **The Nutcracker** will be performed from December 15th – 18th 2011 for six performances at the Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts. Regular ticket prices range from \$28 - \$78 (plus applicable taxes and service charges). Tickets are on sale as of today through Ticketmaster.ca or call 1-855-985-2728. This year's production gratefully acknowledges title sponsors Lugaro Jewellers and Rolex Canada.

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About Goh Ballet

The Goh Ballet Youth Company was established in 1979 by Principal Dancers of The National Ballet of China, Choo Chiat and Lin Yee Goh. Currently under the Direction of Chan Hon Goh, the Goh Ballet Youth Company's objective is the pursuit of technical and artistic excellence in conjunction with raising cultural awareness in the community. This performing group reflects the city's cultural diversity; serves as a magnet to attract talented dancers locally and abroad; and helps to ease the transition from that of a student to professional dancer.

The Youth Company has presented and trained a generation of dancers who garner critical praise, respect and accolades. It has also established an international audience who anticipates impressive new works from this versatile and vibrant organization.

Through its wide-ranging repertoire of classical and contemporary ballet, jazz, character and Chinese dance, the Goh Ballet has touched a diverse audience ranging from the youngsters discovering dance through the Youth Company's educational outreach program to the seasoned dance aficionados attending performances and international festivals. For more information about Goh Ballet and performances, please visit www.gohballet.com.

About Anna-Marie Holmes, Choreographer

Anna-Marie Holmes is an internationally acclaimed luminary of the dance world. Her interpretations of the Russian classics have been staged in more than 30 countries on five continents. In 1997, she received the Dance Magazine award for extraordinary and lasting contribution to the art form. *Le Corsaire*, which she staged for American Ballet Theatre appeared on PBS Great Performances and won an Emmy. She recently staged *La Bayadère* for the National Ballet of Flanders, *Raymonda* for American Ballet Theatre and the National Ballet of Finland, *Laurencia pas d'action* for the Joffrey Ballet, *Swan Lake* for the Norwegian Ballet, *Sleeping Beauty* for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and *Don Quixote* for the Tulsa Ballet. Holmes travels internationally to coach and teach at the Royal Ballet and English National Ballet in London, *Le Ballet du Capitole* in Toulouse, The Royal Danish Ballet and The National Ballet of Finland, to name a few. Holmes became the Artistic Director of the Boston Ballet in 1997 and during her tenure was instrumental in the company achieving national prominence. Holmes is in her 10th season as Ballet Program Director of Jacob's Pillow Dance.

About Chan Hon Goh – Executive Producer

In her illustrious 20 year stage career as Principal Dancer of the National Ballet of Canada, Ms. Goh has employed her delicate lyricism and emotional depth to personify the essence of lead roles in ballets such as *Romeo and Juliet*, *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Onegin* and the title roles in *Giselle*, *Madame Butterfly* and *La Sylphide*. She is known for the vibrancy and elegance she brings to her extensive Balanchine repertoire and has had multiple roles created for her as well as being chosen to perform in the company premieres of works by contemporary choreographers John Neumeier, Christopher Wheeldon, and Jirí Kylián among others.

Ms. Goh was the first Canadian to receive the Silver Medal at the Genèe International Ballet Competition in London, England and was a prize recipient at the Prix de Lausanne. In 2005, she received the New Pioneers Arts Award for her contributions to dance in Canada. Recently, Ms. Goh received the 2010 Mandarin Profile Female Entrepreneur Award and became the only Canadian Recipient of the National Association of Asian American Professionals 100 award

(NAAAP) for her tireless contributions and commitment to a multitude of projects benefiting the Arts communities. She has also been honoured with the 2010 FMA Vancouver Art Achievement Award for her contributions towards enhancing the identity of Canadian Art and Dance. In October of 2010, the Vancouver Sun named Ms Goh as British Columbia's 100 of Influence.

Ms. Goh danced her farewell performance as Giselle to a sold out house on May 31st, 2009 at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto, Ontario. Since retiring from the stage, Ms. Goh directs all aspects of operations for the Goh Ballet and for the 2011/2012 season, she will play the key role as Executive Producer for the Goh Ballet's critically acclaimed production of *The Nutcracker*. www.chanhongoh.com.